

Spring Board of Management Meeting
Annual Meeting

Proceedings

Kissimmee, Florida

May 19 to 20, 2023



The Pledge of Allegiance

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

The SAR Pledge

We descendants of the heroes of the American Revolution, who by their sacrifices established the United States of America, reaffirm our faith in the principles of liberty and our Constitutional Republic and solemnly pledge ourselves to defend them against every foe.

Recessional

Until we meet again, let us remember our obligations to our forefathers who gave us our Constitution, the Bill of Rights, an independent Supreme Court and a nation of free men.

Constitutional Republic

A Constitutional Republic is a state where the officials are elected as representatives of the people, and must govern according to an existing constitutional law that limits the government's power over its citizens. In the case of the United States Constitution, the body of the Document defines the three separate and distinct parts of government; executive, legislative and judicial, in addition it defines the duties and the obligations each branch must perform. The Bill of Rights and the Amendments define the rights of the individual and are there to prevent tyranny by both the government and the majority.

Sons of the American Revolution Mission Statement

The objects of this Society are declared to be patriotic, historical and educational; to unite and promote fellowship among the descendants of those, who sacrificed to achieve the independence of the American people, to inspire them and the community-at-large with a more profound reverence for the principles of the government founded by our forefathers; to foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom.

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Meeting Agenda

Call to order
Invocation
Pledge of allegiance
SAR Pledge
Introduction of National Officers
Introduction of first time attendees
Certification of a quorum
Approval of the minutes
Endorsements of National Candidates (**Fall BOM**)
Reports of National and State Officers
 National Trustee
 President
 Senior Vice President
 ExComm Member-at-Large
 Northwestern Regional Vice President
 North Central Regional Vice President
 Northeastern Regional Vice President
 East Central Regional Vice President
 West Central Regional Vice President
 Southeast Regional Vice President
 Southwest Regional Vice President
 Secretary
 Treasurer
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Historic Sites
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 Battle of Pensacola
 Battle of Thomas Creek
 Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution
Youth Programs
 Americanism Youth Contests
 Eagle Scout Scholarship
 History Fairs
 George S. & Stella Knight Essay Contest
 Joseph P. Rumbaugh Orations Contest
 JROTC/ROTC
Community Outreach
 Habitat for Humanity
 Patriotic Activities
 Public Service and Heroism
 Publicity
 American History Teacher Award
 Veterans Affairs
Trust Funds
 Endowment Trust Fund Disbursements
 Endowment & Operating Budget Trust Funds
 Election of Trustee (**Fall BOM**)

UNFINISHED Business
NEW Business

Proposed By-Laws amendments (**Annual Meeting**)
Election of officers (**Annual Meeting**)
Nomination of National Trustee & Alt (**Annual Mtg**)
Election of Nominating Committee (**Spring BOM**)

Recessional / Adjournment

Approval of Minutes of the Last Meeting

Scott Breckenridge, Secretary FLSSAR
Len Crame, Recording Secretary FLSSAR

Board of Management Meeting

Date: October 8, 2022

Location: Embassy Suites, Kissimmee, FL

Meeting Called to Order by **President Earl Mathews** at 1305 EDT.

Invocation by David Ramseur in absence of Chaplain Dwight Elam.

Opening ritual completed.

Introduction of guest Dr. Fred Olive III, Librarian General - presented certificate to FLSSAR for recognition of donations (last year and present) to NSSAR Friends of the Library .

Introduction of National Officers.

Secretary Scott Breckenridge confirmed we have a quorum.

Recognition of first-time BOM attendees.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as presented.

Endorsement of National Candidates

Librarian General

Dr. J. Fred Olive III (unopposed) - present and spoke.

Chancellor General

Edmon H. McKinley, Esq. (unopposed) - present and spoke.

SAR Foundation Board

Jeff Thomas (opposed) - present and spoke.

MOTION - Hamp Allen moved to have the FLSSAR endorse all unopposed candidates and noted FLSSAR Chaplain Dwight Elam (absent) will be running for Chaplain General again (currently unopposed). **SECOND** Steve Fields. **PASSED**

MOTION - Don Lanman moved not to endorse national candidates that are opposed and not a member of the FLSSAR. **SECOND** Dave Bussone. **PASSED**

Reports of National and State Officers

President Earl Mathews recommended that all reports listed in the preliminary BOM Proceedings book be accepted as a consent agenda including edits as needed.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee

Treasurer Dick Young, Finance Committee Chairman, led a discussion of potential adjustments that could be made to the FLSSAR budget remaining for 2022 and 2023.

Dick Young presented \$1,000 FLSSAR donation check to Don Lanman for the Florida Veterans Foundation. This is budgeted for the next two years.

MOTION - The Finance Committee moved to have the 2023 budget approved with minor adjustments as discussed. **NO SECOND REQUIRED. PASSED**

MOTION – The Endowment Trust Fund Committee moved to endorse ETF awards proposed changes for 2023 on page 52 of the preliminary BOM Proceedings book. **NO SECOND REQUIRED. PASSED**

Meetings and Arrangements Committee

Senior VP Steve Fields reported the hotel contract for October 2023 and May 2024 BOM meetings was still in progress and not ready for approval.

Executive Committee is working on proposed changes to the FLSSAR by-laws that will be published in the Florida Patriot magazine at least 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting to be voted on by members.

Ten sets of American and Chapter flags (streamers removed and Chapter labeled) with stands will be needed for the 2023 Congress meeting rooms. Scott Breckenridge will coordinate with Chapters.

MOTION - The Historic Sites & Celebrations Committee moved to modify their mission statement by adding functions to coordinate the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution per their committee Appendix C attachment on page 56 of the preliminary BOM Proceedings book. **NO SECOND NEEDED. PASSED**

Old Business

None

New Business

Secretary Scott Breckenridge reported Charlotte Chapter President Jonathan Hunt's home was destroyed by Hurricane Ian and the Charlotte Chapter secretary and treasurer have resigned. The small Charlotte Chapter is in no position to collect dues at this time as communications with members is very difficult. The Charlotte Chapter may fold without help from the FLSSAR.

MOTION - Steve Fields moved to have the FLSSAR not require the Charlotte Chapter pay State dues for the upcoming year 2023. **SECOND** David Hitchcock. **PASSED**

MOTION - Steve Fields moved that the Florida Society pay the 2023 National dues of all currently active primary members of the Charlotte Chapter. **SECOND** Dale Bottom **PASSED**

MOTION - Scott Breckenridge moved that the Veterans Recognition Committee be discontinued with its responsibilities transferred to the existing Veterans Affairs Committee. **SECOND** James Ward. **PASSED**

Dick Young will not seek reelection when his FLSSAR ETF and Operating Budget Trustee 3-year term expires December 31, 2022. Tom Thompson volunteered to replace Dick Young when his term expires. President Earl Mathews asked for vote and Tom Thompson was elected.

MOTION - Steve Fields moved that the Board of Managers grant authority to the Executive Committee of the FLSSAR to pay the 2023 National dues of any active primary member of the FLSSAR if the EXCOM determines there is financial need due to Hurricane Ian. **SECOND** Ron Grove. **PASSED**

President Earl Mathews adjourned the meeting at 1452 EDT.

National and State Officer Reports

National Trustee

Wm Lee Popham, Trustee

Earl F. "Matt" Mathews, Alternate Trustee

Let me start by saying it has been an honor and a privilege to have served these past two years as your National Trustee representative to the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

I attended the 2023 NSSAR Spring Leadership Meetings at the Brown Hotel in Louisville KY during 1-5 March 2023, and there are a few topics and Agenda items from those Trustee Meetings you should be aware of:

2023 Congress – 14-19 July – Rosen Plaza Hotel, Orlando Florida:

You don't want to miss this one! There will be plenty of discussion about our Florida Congress at this Spring BOM and Annual Meeting, so I will print the link here, and let you submit your hotel reservations and Congress Registration:

[FLORIDA CONGRESS 2023 \(sar2023floridacongress.org\)](https://sar2023floridacongress.org)

2024 Proposed Dues Increase – The first in Nine YEARS:

At the 2023 Orlando Congress, you will be asked to vote in favor of a National Dues Increase, which will increase your annual National Dues from \$35 to \$50. During the period from 2003-2015, your National Dues were increased by the same \$15 amount. As a result of the effects of the Pandemic and runaway inflation since 2020, prices have risen everywhere except at SAR. Now, we have no choice but to follow suit. I have attached a PowerPoint presentation from the March SAR Spring Leadership Trustee Meeting for you to review (See Appendix A).

Genealogy Committee – Expansion of Allowable DNA Documentation Policy:

Until recently, the SAR Genealogy Review Staff members could only review and consider DNA evidence and documentation with respect to Generations 1 and 2 on a New or Supplemental Membership Application. However, a recent Genealogy Policy change allows Compatriots and Prospective Members to provide DNA documentation for earlier Generations by obtaining a certified copy of a Report from a professionally licensed and Certified Genealogist, who has been specifically approved by the SAR Genealogy Committee.

A list of Approved Certified Genealogists will be maintained on the Genealogy Committee website, for easy access to the list. The cost of any such Report – generally expected to be in the \$2,500 - \$6,000 range - must be borne solely by the Applicant.

President

Earl F. "Matt" Mathews

Attended the following events:

- Sep 29th – Oct 1st National Leadership Meeting, Louisville, KY
- Oct 7th-8th Florida BOM meeting
- Oct 22nd – Alabama BOM meeting
- Oct 24th – Panama City Chapter meeting, Panama City, FL
- Nov 12th – Withlacochee Chapter meeting, Hernando, FL
- Dec 9th – Presentation of Gold Citizenship medal to Sen. Rick Scott. Palm Beach, FL
- Dec 10th-South Shore Chapter meeting, Parrish, FL
- Dec 14th-Central FL Chapter meeting, Winter Park, FL
- Jan 11th – Naples Chapter meeting, Naples, FL
- Jan 12th- Caloosa Chapter meeting, Ft. Meyers, FL
- Jan 13th- Charlotte Chapter meeting, Port Charlotte, FL
- Jan 14th- SE Regional meeting w/3 chapters meeting, Davie, FL
- Jan 16th- DAR Chipola Chapter, Marianna, FL
- Jan 29th- "Zoom" NE Regional Meeting w/4 chapters participating
- Feb 4th- NC Regional Meeting w/6 chapters participating, Fruitland, FL
- Mar 2nd-3rd-National Leadership meeting, Louisville, KY
- Mar 11th- 2023, Participated CG & Wreath laying at the "Battle of Mobile", Mobile, AL
- Mar 24th- 2023, Participated CG & Wreath laying at the "Battle of Thomas Creek", Jacksonville, FL
- Mar 31st – SAD "Zoom" Annual Meeting

- Apr 8th – DAR meeting, Tallahassee, FL

Future planned attendance:

- Apr 17th – Pensacola Chapter Meeting
- May 8th – “Battle of Pensacola”, Pensacola, FL
- May 19th-20th Florida Annual BOM Meeting
- Jul 13th-18th 133rd Congress, Orlando, FL

One of my goals was to restart chapter “Zoom” meetings which never came to light. I decided to visit and get a “hands on” picture of the Compatriots of Florida and see how they meet and comradery amongst the chapters. My wife and I enjoyed every chapter meeting, realizing each having its own personality.

Covid-19 and hurricane IAN, hit our society hard, but now all are on the mend again and moving forward.

As Florida continues forward preparing for the 133rd Congress, I remain as the chairperson. We continue to have biweekly meetings, now providing information to several future congress committees.

Senior Vice President

Steven R. Fields

The Florida Society and its leadership have been working hard to fulfill our educational, historic, and patriotic goals. With the bulk of our year behind us, it is great to see all that the society has accomplished. Commemorations of historic battles, celebrations of and service to our military veterans in our communities, collaborative efforts with the CAR and DAV, youth scholarships and awards, recognition of our public service professionals, heroes, lifesavers and educators are just a few of the high points. Despite the daunting task of planning and coordinating efforts as we prepare for the 2023 Congress coming to Orlando July 13-20, the Society, its chapters, and its leadership have been hard at work. The color guard has been front and center in public, committees like JROTC, Rumbaugh, Ethics, Medals and Awards have been busy behind the scenes getting the work of the society done. Veterans Day, Wreaths Across America, and Honor Flights continue to be programs where chapters can support their communities while increasing our engagement with the public – aiding recruiting and public relations. We have attended, supported, and presented the colors at numerous DAR events around the state including Flag Day and Constitution Week. We have celebrated and honored our fallen veterans at parades, cemetery dedications, and civic ceremonies across the whole of the state. This just scratches the surface of what the SAR can accomplish in a season. We have an incredible membership with a depth of knowledge, patriotic passion, and dedication that has tremendous impact on our communities.

The role of the Senior Vice President is to support and carry out the goals and directives laid out by our society president. This year I have had the privilege to support President Mathews by representing him for the state at some of the many officer installations and historic commemorations that come every year. I do this gladly as he desires that chapters across the length and breadth of Florida feel that their contributions are seen and appreciated by their leaders and peers.

Chapters across the state have begun the work of increasing awareness of the ongoing celebrations surrounding the 250th Anniversary of the founding of the United States. The SAR, as a Congressionally chartered partner in the America 250 program, is perfectly placed to fulfil and expand on our educational, historic, and patriotic goals. Every chapter that holds or participates in an America 250 event or program qualifies for a streamer to place on their SAR flag. Members attending, planning, supporting or leading America 250 activities accrue points that go towards earning the Bronze, Silver, or Gold America 250 medals. Members should keep track of their points and report them to their chapter for recognition. All the information on the recognition program as well as resources for publicity, event planning, educational resources and much, much more can be found at <https://america250sar.org/>. I urge every chapter to select a point person for their America 250 efforts to help lay out plans for the celebration period through November 2023. This is perfect chance for chapters to increase their impact and visibility in their communities as well as find opportunities to recruit and grow. Not since the Bicentennial celebrations 50 years ago has there been more potential for success. Check out that website today and see where your chapter and members can start making their mark on America’s future.

The other large portion of my work this year has been around the planning of the 2023 NSSAR Congress to be held in Orlando, FL July 13-20. I was appointed to fill; a vacancy on the five member planning committee after the Spring Board of Management and Annual Meetings. In the months since then, dozens of our compatriots have stepped up to volunteer their time and talent to aid the planning process. The level of detail required to execute an event on this scale is staggering. Just my part handling design and selection for logos, graphics, and materials has been an enormous job. The committee now meets weekly to ensure that when hundreds of our compatriots from around the world arrive in Orlando, they will find themselves at the best Congress that any of them have attended. To ensure this, the Congress Planning Committee needs your help. The success of this event is dependent on 90 to 100 volunteers spread across the entire event period. Some positions are just an hour or two and are inside. Others are more taxing of time and energy. Whatever support you can lend will help ensure the success of this endeavor. To do your part, please visit

<https://sar2023floridacongress.org/> for information on Congress. There is a volunteers tab where you can see volunteer opportunities with when they are needed and what they entail. Even if you aren't planning to attend the Congress per se, you can still be a volunteer. Volunteers will be recognized with a reception and they will receive an official Congress Volunteer Shirt for their work. The success of this Congress will come down to great planning, coordination and communication supported by enthusiastic Florida compatriots and ladies volunteering their time.

The Florida Society is one of the preeminent societies in the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. This is because the state society strives to serve the needs of its membership. We all came to the SAR with different expectations. Some for camaraderie; some for love of history; some to gain a greater understanding of our heritage. The health and growth of the Florida Society in the future is dependent on the Society and the Chapters supporting one another and the members. Stand together or fall apart. We have worked hard this year and we look to continue that work. The future of Florida is brighter today than a year ago. I am excited to see how bright our future will be in the coming years.

Thank you for the trust you placed in me by electing me Senior Vice President. I look forward to seeing where the next years take us all.

Steven R. Fields
Senior Vice President, Florida Society SAR (2022-2023)

A selection of activities participated in since the fall:

NSSAR Fall Leadership - Louisville, KY
Caloosa Chapter Officer installation – Port Charlotte, FL
Miami Chapter Annual Meeting and Officer Installation – Miami, FL
Gold Good Citizenship Medal presentation ceremony – Palm Beach, FL
Saramana Luncheon/Officer Installation –Sarasota, FL
Daughters of Union Veterans guest speaker – Lakewood Ranch, FL
George Washington Birthday Gala (SAR/DAR/CAR) - Sarasota, FL
NSSAR Leadership Meeting - Louisville, KY
The Last Naval Battle of the Revolution, Merritt Island, 1783
Battle of Thomas Creek - Jacksonville, FL

Member-at-Large Executive Committee

Robert W. McGuire

Nothing to report.

Northwest Regional Vice President

Christopher E. Washler

28 May 2022 – Assisted the Aaron Snowden Chapter in presenting an Eagle Scout certificate and patch to Daniel Hahn.
25 June 2022 – Represented the Pensacola Chapter and the FLSSAR at the 100th Anniversary Celebration for the Pensacola Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution
17 September 2022 – Visited the Aaron Snowden Chapter
13 October 2022 – Visit to the William Dunaway Chapter
11 March 2023 – Represented the FLSSAR at the Commemoration of the Battle of Fort Charlotte and Spanish Fort in Mobile, Alabama

Aaron Snowden Chapter

The Aaron Snowden Chapter ceased operations shortly after the first of the year. Three members transferred to the Pensacola Chapter.

Emerald Coast Chapter

Leslie P. Matheson

Continued to meet on the second Saturday of each month (Jan, Feb, March) at 0800 for Breakfast. We meet at the Fort Walton Beach Municipal Golf Course.

Our concern for this time period has been the JROTC Awards program. As in past years we are providing awards (certificates and medals) to Baker (20 April), Crestview (18 April), Fort Walton Beach (20 April), and Niceville High School (26 April) JROTC programs. We had no submission from Choctawhatchee High School. All these schools are in Okaloosa County. We had no response from Walton High School AFJROTC this year.

With the dissolution of the Milton Chapter, we have offered and in the future will take over presenting awards at Navarre High School. The Pensacola Chapter has done the work for this year. In the future we will be responsible for that award. I will be presenting the award this year on 3 May.

We are also tracking down a rumor of a new JROTC program at Paxton High School, in Walton County. If that is true, we will assume responsibility for them as well.

Membership

We have continued to grow our chapter by adding new members. We have added four new members, with at least two additional members pending. We added one new member via transfer from California. Working on getting a Florida state number for him.

Treasury

Treasurer has filed solicitation paperwork renewal with State Dept. of Agriculture. Awaiting confirmation (should be automatic).

JROTC Awards

At the last minute, and at very great expense, The Emerald Coast Chapter WILL be presenting a medal and certificate at Choctawhatchee High School on 2 May

Panama City Chapter

DeCody Brad Marble

Membership: Total 23: {4 Life, 1 Dual (AL), 1 Emeritus & 18 regular}

Prospective Members: Total 06: {All awaiting application completion by Chapter Registrar.}

Ladies Auxiliary: Pres. Jonita Haynes and V.P. Carol Glayre

Meeting – Last Quarterly: 24 Oct 2022, Fourth Monday, (at Marble residence), 11:30 AM

The Chapter's Lady Auxiliary, Jonita Hayne and Carol Glayre served pizza slices, and drinks prior to the meeting.

Pres. Jim Haynes called the meeting to order and welcome the FLSSAR President Earl "Matt" Mathews, for his attendance and participation. President Haynes proceeded with the chapter meeting including a treasury report of a current balance of \$5,697.

SAR Induction Ceremony: Sworn in by Pres. Jim Haynes, Jerry "Benny" Bennett Raffield was born in Panama City. Benny Raffield's Revolutionary Patriot is Joseph Singletary Jr. a Florida Northwest Regional Patriot who filed and collected his pension in Tallahassee, Florida.

New Business: Brad Marble announced and discussed the September 2023 chapter meeting as the '**50th Anniversary of the Panama City Chapter of SAR**'. Marble recommended an early Saturday afternoon anniversary meeting at Rodeo's Steak Pit and Seafood Restaurant on Tyndall Parkway. Jim Pretlow motioned that the proposed September 2023 meeting would include an invitation of a chapter member's wife. The motion was approved and passed unanimously. Marble informed the members that the chapter had adequate funds to pay for the 50th Anniversary Chapter Meeting/Meal.

Guest Speaker: FLSSAR President Matt Mathews spoke about the significance of Florida being the host for the 2023 SAR Annual Congress and challenged the members to support the event financially, by volunteering to assist with preparation and by attending the meeting.

Attendance Total = 11; Members: Jim Haynes, Brad Marble, Jim Pretlow, Matt Bickers and Benny Raffield. Guests: FLSSAR President, Matt Mathews and Ladies Auxiliary, Jonita Haynes and Carol Glare. Applicants: Joseph Meriwether Oglesby, Russell Larry Etchberger and Robert Allen Henry.

Meetings – First Quarterly: 23 Jan 2023, Fourth Monday, (at Marble residence), 11:00 AM

Prior to the meeting a cookout of steak burgers commenced, which the ladies auxiliary served with baked potatoes.

Installation of Officers by FLSSAR President Earl Matthews:

President Matthews installed Brad Marble as President/Registrar and Jim Haynes as Secretary/Treasurer/Chaplain and requested the membership to support them.

Award Presentations: President Marble presented Past President Jim Haynes with the Chapter Distinguished Service Medal and a Certificate of Appreciation for serving as Chapter President for the previous two years. Then, Marble bestowed Haynes a past president's pin. President Marble presented Jonita Haynes, the President of the Chapter's Ladies Auxiliary with the 'SAR to DAR Medal of Appreciation' for her outstanding service to the SAR.

Jim Haynes presented the December 31, 2022, Treasury Report, revealing a balance of \$4,707.65. Haynes states: "I will mass email the Treasury Report & Meeting Minutes to the entire chapter membership".

New Business: Establish Chapter Color Guard & 133rd National Congress Volunteerism

President Brad Marble described his long-held goal for the Panama City Chapter of SAR to have a color guard. Marble discusses the public relationship of the SAR Color Guard, Chapter, State, & National activities, the point system to acquire the medal, and acquiring different types of uniforms. Benny Raffield and Matt Bickers indicated interest in color guard participation.

Compatriot Earl Matthews reminded the members of the importance of the up-coming 2023 SAR Annual Congress hosted by the FLSSAR. Brad Marble stated he would be a full-time volunteer for the entire duration of the 133rd Congress in July.

Attendance Total = 8; Members: Brad Marble, Jim Haynes, Jim Pretlow, Matt Bickers and Benny Raffield. Guests: FLSSAR President, Earl Matthews, Jonita Haynes and Joe Oglesby.

Event: 01 Dec 2022; FLSSAR Panama City Chapter gave 120 Christmas Stockings and a Lobby Wall Banner to the Clifford Chester Sims State Veterans Nursing Homecrafted by Ladies Auxiliary VP, Carol Richard Glayre.

Meetings – Second Quarterly: 24 Apr 2023, Fourth Monday, (at Marble residence), 11:30 AM

The meeting was preceded by a cookout served with a salad bar.

New Business: President Marble announced a new dual member, who will be the temporary assistant registrar to the Panama City Chapter. The Central Florida Chapter, Registrar, Harry L. Rinker. The day prior to the meeting, a mass email sent out the announcement to the FLSSAR Panama City Chapter membership and its SAR applicants with an apology of the backlog.

On a more upbeat tempo, Marble unwrapped a box of three 250th Anniversary, 1776 – 2026, Walnut 7.5 X 10 inch plaques for Panama City Chapter recognition of '**Plus 40 Years Loyal Membership in the SAR**'. Created by David Hall Woodworking, the award plaque will be presented during the '50th Anniversary FLSSAR Panama City Chapter Meeting'. The recipients are Allen H. McCain, James P. Pretlow, and Timothy Sloan.

Six SAR Bronze JROTC Award Presentations by FLSSAR Panama City Chapter, Pres. Marble

April: 12 – Port St. Joe HS – Navy; 18 – Bay HS – AF; 28 – Bozeman HS – Army; 29 – Arnold HS – Navy; and May: 03 – Rutherford – AF; 05 – Mosley – Marine Corp.

Attendance Total = 3; Members: Brad Marble, Benny Raffield and Jim Pretlow

Pensacola Chapter

Christopher E. Washler

The chapter had an exceptionally strong year in 2022 in terms of membership. We ended the year with a 96% retention rate and overall net growth to 51 members at the end of the year. We've continued that growth with the addition of four new members so far this year. We have nearly completed the reactivation of our Color Guard Unit (Nathan Hale Camp), and hope to have the unit fully reactivated by the end of the summer. For the first time in many years, the chapter submitted an entry for the Americanism Award as well as our first ever USS Stark Memorial entry. Participation in our youth contests continues to be a challenge, but we are working on plans to improve that for the next school year. Our 250 by the 250th Flag Recognition program is going strong. To date, we have over 50 nominations in the community, and we are working to get all nominations verified and presented as quickly as possible. As of the BOM, the chapter will have hosted another successful Battle of Pensacola Commemoration in conjunction with the Galvez Day celebration hosted by the Pensacola Heritage Foundation. This year, we are expecting a Color Guard contingent of about 20 Color Guardsmen from Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Tennessee.

Meetings:

17 October 2022 – Karen Nobles, wife of Compatriot Bill Nobles, is a forensic document examiner and gave a presentation on deciphering early American Handwriting.

21 November 2022 – The chapter heard a presentation on the Wreaths Across America program.

19 December 2022 – We started a video series on the American Revolution from the YouTube “History Traveler” Channel. This month’s episode was on the Old North Church. Additionally, the chapter conducted officer elections

16 January 2023 - The chapter continued the History Traveler video series with the Battle of Lexington. We also inducted our 2023-2024 officers.

20 February – We concluded our “History Traveler” video series with “Concord and the Shot Heard Round the World”

20 March – The chapter heard from Joe Epley, a historian from South Carolina, with a presentation on the Battle of Kings Mountain and the Overmountain men. We also inducted 2 new members – Geoffrey Joseph and his son Grant. Grant is officially the youngest Junior member the chapter has inducted at only 18 months of age. We are looking forward to Grant being involved for MANY years to come!

17 April – At our April meeting, FLSSAR President Matt Mathews joined us to talk about the Florida Society as well as the upcoming National Congress in Orlando.

Tallahassee Chapter

“Bill” J. Gladwin Jr

The Tallahassee chapter held a George Washington Birthday Celebration on February 26, 2023 at the American Legion Post 13 with 58 attending. The chapter gave out longevity awards as follows:

5 Years to Vic Hanna and Justin Peel

15 Years to Leon Corbett and Kevin Vislock

25 Years to Roger Champion

30 Years to Don Wilham

40 years to Bill Gladwin

The chapter also awarded the following medals and certificates:

Law Enforcement Award to Clay Fallis - Retired from Tallahassee Police Department

Past President's Pin and Certificate to John Folsom.

Arran Corbett was inducted as a new member into our chapter and SAR.

David Wilson was our speaker who talked about Tallahassee Native Joe Haris killed in the Vietnam War. The American Legion representatives performed a Flag Retirement Ceremony in his honor.

We awarded the Eagle Scout Medal and Certificate to William C. Vislocky at his Eagle Scout Induction Ceremony on March 26, 2023. Will's application to SAR is awaiting approval at SAR National. He is the son of Kevin Vislocky.

We have awarded ROTC Silver Medals to Florida A&M Army and Navy plus Florida State Air Force and Army ROTC units. We have issued two JROTC Bronze Medals to Leon Marine JROTC and Liberty County Army JROTC. We are waiting to hear from four additional high school units so we can award medals and certificates to them. Additionally, the chapter awarded the Sea Cadets Good Citizenship Medal and Certificate on February 18 to the John Paul Jones Chapter based in Tallahassee.

William Dunaway Chapter

Thomas M. Rankin

The William Dunaway Chapter (WDC) continued to hold regular meetings from October 2022 – April 2023 on the 2nd Thursday each month in the civic organization room at Jim’s Buffet and Grill in Marianna, Florida. Since the Fall B.O.M. the chapter has been very active. Two community service projects were started to support veterans including participation in *Wreaths across America* (20 wreaths donated) and providing almost \$700 in gifts for five Veterans residing at the Chester Sims State Veterans Nursing Home in Panama City. The chapter sponsored one of the home’s raised bed gardens this year providing the plants and labor. Other Veteran activities included participation with VFW Post 12046 in the Marianna Veterans Day Parade and assisting in Flag Retirement Ceremonies. A Constitution Day Celebration and a CAR/DAR/SAR Awards Social was co-sponsored with the Chipola DAR Chapter. Three JROTC programs were engaged this year encouraging cadets to participate in the Enhanced JROTC Essay Contest. Three cadets were selected from these schools to receive the Outstanding Cadet Medal. One Enhanced JROTC essay was submitted to FLSSAR (a first for the Chapter) and the Cadet placed 4th in the State Contest. Members of the WDC Color Guard Post have participated in SAR commemorations in Florida at the Last Naval Battle at Merritt Island and the Battle of Thomas Creek and are registered for the Battle of Pensacola, as well. A new item, as part of the 250th Celebration, was added to our monthly meeting agenda with Compatriots presenting a *Patriot Biography* which is then submitted for posting on the National website.

Recruitment efforts have resulted in the induction of one new regular member and one new dual member being added. Three additional applications are awaiting approval at National and ten are being worked on by the WDC Registrar.

Meetings:

13 October 2022 – FLSSAR NW Regional Vice President provided a historical program about the Battle of Pensacola. He assisted in an induction ceremony for John Richner. Dale Macumber was presented with the War Service Medal. City of Bristol Fire Chief Dale Hobby received the Fire Safety Commendation Medal.

10 November 2022 – Matt Mathews received a Bronze Color Guard Certificate recognizing him for his support of Color Guards throughout the tri-state area. Five members were recognized for 15 years of chapter membership. Each compatriot who served who were in attendance provided the group with an overview of their military service. A new member induction ceremony was held for Christopher Franklin.

December 2022 – Matt Mathews received the Medal of Distinguished Service. Staff Sergeant Gregory Hammond, US Army Recruiter presented a program about opportunities and changes provided to new recruits. New Chapter Officers for 2023 were elected during the meeting.

12 January 2023 – Reverend Robert Ott gave his personal account, “How to Catch a Spy”, explaining his service during the cold war to catch traitors who were selling information to Russian spies. New Chapter Officers for 2023 were inducted by Compatriot Neal Spooner.

9 February 2023 – Christopher Langland, Program Director of CHROME, provided an overview of a new residential addictions program in Marianna.

9 March 2023 – Major Chomos, Ret, Vernon High School JROTC Senior Instructor, presented an overview regarding the curriculum and benefits of the JROTC. *Patriot Biographies* presented James Prather by Tom Rankin and Moses Hackett by Dale Macumber.

April 2023 – National’s SAR orientation videos were viewed by compatriots providing an overview for new members of the goals, objectives and structure of society. *A Patriot Biography* was presented for Christian Diehl/Dale by John Richner.

North Central Regional Vice President

David C. Thomas

The North Central Region consists of six chapters being Gainesville , Lake City, The Villages, Lake Sumter, Withlacoochee and Ocala.

I attended

Lake City on Febuary 13 to swear in new officers.

Gainesville on Febuary 21 to aware in new officers

The Villages on April 8 to swear is 5 new members

Lake Sumpter We had our Reginal meeting. In attendance were Florida Society President Matt Mathews and wife Joni , five of the regions Chapter Presidents , Ron Grove , Jerry Byers , Joe Carroll , David Hitchcock and David Thomas.

Withlacoochee: on November 12 2022 This was a real nice meeting besides myself in attendance was Matt Mathews and Joni his wife. Many awards and medals were given to Veterans, The best was I had the chance to see Bod Folk and Larry Sturgeon again which have both been out for medical reasons. Bob was given the Chapter Distinguished Service Medal and Larry received a Rodger Sherman Medal

Gainesville Chapter

David C. Thomas

The Chapter Officers elected in installed in Febuary are David Thomas President

Mike O’Loughlin First Vice President, Lester Burch 2ad Vice President

Jonathan Jensen Secretary, Randal Highsmith Treasurer

Skip Ingley Member At Large, Tim Hoskinson Registrar

The Gainesville Chapter participated in the Wreaths Across America and presented veterans with a Certificate Of Appreciation. In attendance were David Thomas , Sean Tonnielier in colonial attire and Mike O’Loughlin along with numerous DAR.

On March 25th David Thomas attended a Welcome Home Viet Nam Veterans event in Newberry where along with the DAR presented Veteran’s a Certificate of Appreciation

Lake City Chapter

Joseph W. Carroll

The Lake City Chapter has accomplished a few items.

1. JROTC Awards
 - a. Columbia County HS
 - b. Union County HS
 - c. Suwannee County HS
2. On 25 March 2023, the Lake City Chapter performed a Grave Marking at the Price Creek Cemetery, Lake City FL for PVT Theophilus Weeks. PVT Weeks served for over 2 years along with his father as part of the North Carolina Militia.

Lake-Sumter Chapter

Ronald L. Grove

We got off to a slow start this year as hurricane Ian caused us to cancel our kickoff meeting in October. But we have bounced back pretty well.

Our December meeting was our second year of inviting our ladies and our program was about women in the revolution. We treat the ladies to lunch and they each took home a Christmas table decoration.

In February we took off in the Eustis Georgefest parade. Their 121st annual event. The oldest in the USA. This was our chapter's 33^d year participating. Every year since we were chartered.

In November of 2022 we planted a Liberty Tree at Imagine Charter School in Clermont – unfortunately without the bronze plaque telling the story of the Liberty Tree and that we donated this one. That foundry had been trying to catch up due to COVID. This November we finally received it and had a short dedication ceremony to place it at the school.

Even though we didn't have any entries for the Knight Essay contest we did have entries for our second year of having an essay contest for middle schoolers. Ron Toops started this several years ago and it fell by the way but we brought it back last year. Getting them primed for the high school competition.

We had 2 Rumbaugh Oration contestants. Our winner was second in the state competition. She is a junior so looking forward to next year.

We have 3 schools that submitted a poster and 2 that submitted a brochure. Our members will vote at our May meeting for the winner who will go on to the state competition at the BOM.

We had 1 Habitat for Humanity flag presentation earlier this year and 3 in scheduled for the last 2 weeks of April. We have 3 schools in our counties who have created construction academies and they work with Habitat to build the houses. It's been a great effort.

These kids learn valuable skills with some going on to college and others going to work locally. It's great we can be a small part of this!

Ocala Chapter

Lawrence W. Ashton, Jr.

No report submitted.

The Villages Chapter

Jerry P. Byers

Our December 10, 2022 meeting had 49 members and visitors in attendance. We took in two new members, Darrell Coppock and Paul Badura. For our program, we were privileged to hear from First Lady Abigail Adams, as portrayed by Ms. Marcea Oetting, telling about her time in the new White House. Treasurer Lee Duff reported that we donated \$1,000 for purchase of Memorial Day flag replacements. The executive for Bushnell National Cemetery told us that they were able to purchase 1600 flags for our assigned area, Section 402. The Chapter is also giving \$500 to the Wreaths Across America effort. With additional donations of \$840, we were able to purchase 90 wreaths that will be placed at Lone Oak Cemetery on the graves of fallen military soldiers on December 17th at noon.

New officers were installed at our January 14, 2023 meeting by immediate Past President Jim Simpson. These officers for 2023 were: Jerry Byers – President, Don Hanson – Vice-President, Chris Hermann- Associate Vice-president, Richard Smith – Secretary, Mark Boone – Associate Secretary, Lee Duff – Treasurer, Karl Kittinger – Sergeant at Arms, and John Moore – Registrar. Our speaker for the morning was retired history teacher, Mr. James Press, who provided fascinating details of the plans titled Operation Orient between Hitler's Germany and Hirohito's Japan during World War II. Sixty-one people attended the meeting.

On February 11, 49 attendees heard Ms. Beverly Steele speak about the history of her "Community of Royal", which dates back to before the Civil War. General Sherman's Field Order #15 (January 16, 1865) mandated that African Americans who fought with

Sherman's troops be given "40 acres and an army mule" so they could provide for their families. The land was confiscated from former plantation owners. Unfortunately, after President Lincoln was shot, his Vice-President Andrew Johnson became President and rescinded Sherman's order. However, "her people kept their land"! Royal consists of 3600 acres located just west of present-day Wildwood. It got this name because the original residents, some of which were already living in the area before 1848, could trace their lineage to African royalty! We took in one new member, Erik Hansen. Lastly, we presented our Registrar John Moore with our chapter's "Distinguished Service Medal" for his excellent service of researching family histories and bringing in new SAR members.

The March 11 meeting was quite different. Thirty-eight members had a guided tour of the Eisenhower Recreation Center led by Colonel Harry Lumpkin. What a wealth of knowledge Col. Lumpkin is! He is a veteran of three different wars, taught at West Point, and was the Logistics Briefer for General Colin Powell in the Pentagon. The Eisenhower Recreation Center opened in 2013, and over 3000 items were donated by residents for display there. After our tour, we went outside to see the Liberty Tree which was donated to the Eisenhower Recreation Center grounds by Villages SAR, John Bartram DAR, and Puc Puggy DAR chapters on March 10, 2018. This "Winged Elm tree" is similar to the original Liberty Tree in Boston, which served as a rallying point during the years leading up to the Revolutionary War. British Troops cut it down in 1775. Some of our group had their picture taken surrounding the Liberty Tree.

On April 8, sixty-one people gathered to hear Captain Christie Mysinger with the Lake County Sheriff's office speak about our 2nd Amendment, gun ownership, and Florida laws pertaining to it. Regional Vice President David Thomas attended our meeting; he told about the upcoming SAR National Congress meeting in Orlando on July 13-20 and that there was a need for volunteers. Since VP Thomas was with us, I asked that he conduct the induction ceremony for three new members: Eric Kittinger, Gary Miller, and Kellen Smith. Finally, chapter VP Chris Hermann told about placing Memorial Day flags on graves in Section 402 at the National Cemetery in Bushnell, and asked for volunteers.

For our May 13, Mr. John Stewart will portray President Thomas Jefferson, explaining how a youth from rural Virginia came to write the Declaration of Independence. He will also give his views on the US Constitution.

Withlacochee Chapter

David F. Hitchcock

November 12, 2022

Our chapter Inducted Compatriot Charles Wayne Wilson

Compatriot Robert Folk Sr was awarded the Chapter Distinguished Service Medal

Ellie Folk was awarded the Martha Washington Medal Oak Leaf cluster both medals were award for their service to the Withlacochee Chapter of the FLSSAR.

The Withlacochee Chapter was Honored to have Our FLSSAR State President Matt Mathews our guest speaker. President Mathews gave a tutorial on the upcoming 2023 Congress in Orlando Fl. President Mathews gave details on volunteering for the 2023 Congress showing the FLSSAR website how to go about Volunteering.

President Matt Mathews awarded the Silver Roger Sherman Medals to Compatriots Larry Dean Sturgeon and Compatriot Russel Gibson

President Mathews and North Central VP David Thomas along with The Chapters veterans Chairman Compatriot William "Bill" Teater

8 Vietnam Service medals were awarded. 3 Southeast Asia Medals were awarded 2, Afghanistan Medals was awarded. 2 Global war on Terrorism medals we awarded, and 4 Disabled American Veterans Wounded Warrior coins were awarded

Color guard Commander gave a report on the Massing of the Colors at the sevens Rivers Church in Lecanto Fl with approximately 900 residences attending.

December 10th meeting

Nomination of Officers 2023; Compatriot Tom Bowen o Open the floor for the nomination of Chapter offices for the year 2023, no nominations came from the floor. the new officers for the year 2023 are those Volunteer's listed below. o President, David Hitchcock o 1 st Vice President, John Carey o 2 nd Vice President, Stephen Brown, Treasurer, Richard Bailey, Secretary, Tom Bowen

January 14th, 2023

Compatriot William "Bill" Stone was called up to swear in the newly elected officers of the Chapter; David Hitchcock – President, Stephen Brown – 2 nd Vice President, Richard Bailey -Treasurer and Tom Bowen -Secretary. John Carey – 1 st Vice

Three new members were inducted into our Chapter Compatriots Blake Bell, Gene Bell and Mark Johnson

The DAR Fort Cooper Regent Fawn McGee addressed our chapter meeting, inviting us to Present the colors at the Presidents Ball that the Fort Cooper DAR is putting on February 22nd, 2023

Several members of our Chapter attended the Wreath Across America at the National Veterans Cemetery in Bushnell

February 11th meeting

Compatriot Stephen Hohman was inducted into our Chapter and gave a short speech.

Compatriot Eric Linthicum was presented with his Florida Brigade Certificate.

The George and Stella Essay Contest winners were announced. Charles Day gave a speech by video honoring 1 st place Anna Shepard and 2nd Place Rebecca Shepard. Anna Shepard then read her winning essay to the compatriots. She received a round of applause.

President Hitchcock again asked for volunteers to help on various committees and mentioned about participating in the Cloverleaf Farms parade which our chapter does every year and asked for member of the chapter to participate.

March 11th, 2022, meeting

President Hitchcock introduced J. Michael Tomme Sr. as the featured speaker.

Mike has had a sterling career in many Revolutionary War societies. He is a member of 14 Historical and Revolutionary War Societies. He has also served the SAR in many different national offices and a recipient of the Minuteman medal which is the highest award in the SAR. He is also the holder of numerous other medals in the SAR. See March 11, 2023, Withlacoochee SAR Chapter agenda for full details. Mr. Tomme is an expert on SAR Color Guards.

Mr. Tomme gave a highly informative speech on how the Color Guard is the face of our Society. He discussed the need to wear historically accurate uniforms. They can be Continental Army, Navy, Marines or Militia and described the correct parts of a Continental Army uniform. He also discussed the proper salute, using a Safety officer for any discharge of muskets, edged weapons and various flags that you can carry. His speech was detailed and well done and was received well.

President Hitchcock brought up there are educational programs available for a fee. Tom Hellem made a motion that the Chapter approve \$250 for this program. Motion passed unanimously. Richard Bailey - Webmaster will handle the details. These education programs on the Revolutionary War will allow this chapter to get into school systems. Stephen Hohman brought up other modern media such as Facebook for education in our SAR chapter and the Revolutionary War.

April 15th meeting

Compatriot Eric Linthicum was inducted into our Chapter.

The winner of our Chapters poster contest is Jace Mills a 4th grade student of Hernando Elementary School, in the Town of Hernando in Citrus County. The 1st prize was \$100.00 Our Secretary Tom Bowen was our guest speaker . The title of his subject was "Ethan Allen's Journey during the Revolutionary war.

Our first VP was appointed chairmen of our fund-raising committee. Also Chairman of April 11th 2025 re-enactment of the Battle of Lexington/Concord

There will be 6 JROTC medals given out 23 in Hernando County and 3 in Citrus county. Our Color Guard will be at the Floral City Memorial day celebration

Northeastern Regional Vice President

James Y. Gaskins

FSSAR NE Region Zoom Meeting Notes:

FLSSAR President Matt Matthews: commented on the two big upcoming events in the FLSSAR, i.e.,

- the Spring BOM, May 19 - 20, 2023 and
- Congress 2023, July 14-20, 2023.
- He noted that the FLSSAR web site has a "hot button" to take members to the 133rd Congress thence to the pages for Congress and Volunteers.
- He invited our attention to the NSSAR Uniform Regulations as we prepare for BOM and especially Congress 2023.
- He reaffirmed that we still have unsold tickets for a flint lock Pennsylvania rifle and Statue.

FLSSAR First Lady Joni Laramore commented on the need for SAR Ladies Auxiliary and ALL ladies to go to the FLSSAR Congress Volunteer page to support the Ladies Auxiliary in the Spring BOM and Congress 2023

FLSSAR First Vice President Steve Fields commented on the times and places for the FLSSAR Color Guard to muster in support of our Spring BOM and Congress 2023.

He also mentioned the need to review the NSSAR Uniform Regulations as they apply to Color Guard dress and that the NSSAR Color Guard Commander would be giving instruction in new verbal commands, movements, etc. for Congress 2023.

FLSSAR Secretary and Executive Administrator Scott Breckenridge offered the following comments:

- Scott covered upcoming deadlines.
- When you have chapter officer elections, please send me the complete list of elected officers for the term so that I can update the FL and National databases.
- the NE region chapters are the host chapters for the May 19-20, 2023 Spring BOM.

FLSSAR Genealogist Gray Chandler was unable to connect via Zoom, but re-stated his frustration with Issues with NSSAR Registrar regarding processing applications and; inconsistencies in approval of applications.

Compatriot Rene Jewett (via email)

I will gladly complete the **USS Stark Report** for your Chapter and require the following additional information.

For each event provide the following:

Compatriot Jeff Sizemore (via email)

Jeff reminded us that the Earl Marlin Publicity Contest Deadline to submit was March 1, 2023. Submit articles/photos to Jeff for "**Florida Patriot**" publication.

Daytona-Ormond Chapter (President Bill Elder), Flagler Chapter (President Randy Conway), Jacksonville Chapter (1st Vice President Paul Tucker and St Augustine Chapter (President Jerry Hanchett) will present individual respective Chapter inputs to the Proceedings.

NSSAR Past President General Lindsay Brock, Sr. & Lady Billie Brock both placed added emphasis on progress made to prepare for the upcoming Congress 2023.

Ms Billie talked about the need for each Chapter to contribute a "basket" to be raffled off at the BOM as a fund raiser for the Ladies Auxiliary.

FLSSAR NE Region VP Jim Gaskins reiterated three upcoming items:

- The Spring Board of Management meeting to be held in Kissimmee May 10-20 is to be hosted by the NE Region Chapters;
- The 133rd NSSAR Congress 2023 will be held in Orlando July 13-20 July and volunteers are need to go to the FLSSAR website and sign up for open positions;
- The new Endowment Trust Fund has been changed to allow a total of five requests for reimbursement for allowed expenditures from January 1 through November 1 each year. The example given was a gift from a Chapter to a Florida Children of the American Revolution in the amount of \$500 would be reimbursed 100%.

Jacksonville Chapter

Kurt F. Driscoll

Our year started on Thursday September 23, 2022 with the induction of several new members.

On September 17, 2022 our Color Guard participated in the DAR Constitutional Luncheon.

On October 8th the Color Guard and several members of the Chapter participated in the memorial service for Claude "Chuck" Farmer, Past President of the Chapter. It was a very moving event as Chuck had been not only a leader for the Chapter but a very involved individual in his church and community.

On November 13th The Color Guard then participated in the Mandarin Community Center Veterans Wreath laying & Colors Presentation. In addition on that same day, November 13th the Color Guard held a Colors Presentation at First Baptist Church of Jacksonville.

On November 17th the Chapter awarded our annual First Responders medals to individuals within the Counties of Duval, Clay and Nassau.

On November 19th the Color Guard presented the colors at the Tolomato Cemetery St. Augustine Fl.

On December 17th 2022 Jacksonville National Cemetery allowed the Wreaths Across America to place wreaths on markers. The Jacksonville Chapter Color Guard participated with other units to present the Colors during the ceremony. Myself and my wife Sharon Driscoll have been Section 1 leaders for several years. The past couple of years as a member of the Jacksonville Chapter member made it very special to participate in WAA.

Into the New Year and on February 18, 2023 the Chapter Color Guard participated in the DAR presentation George Washington's Birthday Luncheon.

On February 19th our Chapter meeting was held at the Mandarin Community Center conducting a very educational Flag Retirement Ceremony.

On February 25, 2023 the Color Guard participated in Black Powder Training at the National Park Service Kingsley Plantation and NPS Colonial Day Event Program.

On March 3rd the Color Guard participated in the Colors for the Annual DAR State Society.

On March 18th the Color Guard participated in the presentation of the Colors at the Last Naval Battle in Merritt Island, Fl.

On March 25th the Jacksonville sponsored the annual commemoration of the Battle of Thomas Creek. This was a national event and many participants laid wreaths and saluted in honor of the Colonials who fought and died during this battle. There was a very large turnout for this SAR, BSA, DAR, CAR including several state and civil participants.

April 15th the Color Guard participated in St. Simmons Island Georgia program for Ft. Frederica Patriots Day.

During April and May 2023, many of the Chapter members will present awards to JROTC in Schools and other locations throughout Jacksonville during their awards ceremonies going on at the end of the school year.

With the end of COVID restrictions in the Federal Courts, we are again able to attend Naturalization Ceremonies. As these important events occur members of the Chapter attend.

St Augustine Chapter

Jerry M. Hanchett

The Chapter has been busy since the Fall BOM executing the mission and goals of the SAR and supporting community patriotic events.

Chapter members attended the ceremony whereby two WW2 Merchant Marine veterans were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal for their service.

Joined with the DAR to hold the following events: (1) Bells Across America on Constitution Day; (2) Patriot Remembrance Ceremony at Tolomato Cemetery with Compatriot Dr. Roger Smith as featured speaker; (3) attended the formal luncheon to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the Maria Jefferson Chapter DAR..

The Chapter supported the following events: (1) annual 9/11 Memorial Ceremony at the St. Augustine Fire Department; (2) participated in the annual St. Augustine Colonial Night Watch; (3) participated in the annual Wreaths Across America Ceremony at the St. Augustine National Cemetery.

Chapter compatriots participated in several Revolutionary War battle commemorations, to include (1) Hero's of the Hornets Ceremony at Elijah Clarke State Park, GA; (2) Kettle Creek Battlefield Ceremony at Wilkes County GA; (3) the Last Naval Battle Ceremony at Merritt Island, FL; (4) and the Battle of Thomas Creek Ceremony in Jacksonville, FL.

George Washington's birthday was commemorated by a Chapter meeting at the St. Augustine Oldest House Museum that featured George and Martha Washington, Historic Interpreters, Bill and Cara Elders. SAR and DAR members from various Chapters were present, as well as public visitors to the Museum. Martha Washington award was presented to Cara Elders.

Our commitment to youth programs follows: (1) supported a Jacksonville HS JROTC cadet visit to Fort Mose' and the Florida National Guard HQ; (2) presented the NSSAR JROTC Bronze Medal to an outstanding cadet; (3) participated in a Court of Honor where five scouts were advanced to the rank of Eagle Scout.

Cash donations were made to five organizations that support patriotism: (1) \$100 to the SAR Education Center & Museum renovation project; (2) \$150 to purchase wreaths for the Wreaths Across America program; (3) \$100 to a local HS JROTC Booster Club; (4) \$100 to the Fort Mose' Foundation; (5) \$50 to the BOM Wives Auxiliary.

A total of 15 awards were presented to recognize significant achievement as follows: 1 Distinguished Service Medal; 1 Silver Roger Sherman Medal; 1 Bronze Roger Sherman Medal; 1 JROTC Bronze Medal; 2 Meritorious Service Medals; 1 Good Citizenship Medal; 1 Past President's Medal; 4 Martha Washington Medals; 1 Certificate of Achievement; 2 Certificates of Appreciation. Additionally, 7 SAR awards are scheduled to be presented during the next few weeks, to include Life Saving Medal, Fire Safety Commendation, Law Enforcement Commendation, Bronze Good Citizenship Medals.

Chapter participated in breakfast meeting with residents of the Clyde Lassen Veterans Nursing home in St Augustine.

Chapter participated in Vietnam War Veterans Day Ceremony in St Augustine.

Our Chapter Genealogist/Registrar has been busy growing the organization with 23 SAR Applications currently working.

Flagler Chapter

Randall G. Conway

16 NOV 2022 – AS PART OF THE 18TH ANNUAL FLAGLER COUNTY FESTIVAL OF TREES AND WREATHS, THE FLAGLER CHAPTER CHRISTMAS TREE WAS INSTALLED AT THE FLAGLER COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY IN PALM COAST.

17 DEC 2022- FLAGLER CHAPTER PAST PRESIDENT RANDALL MORRIS WAS A KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT THE SUGAR MILL CHAPTER DAR WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA CEREMONY AT SPRUCE CREEK CEMETERY IN PORT ORANGE, FL.

17 DEC 2022- THE FLAGLER CHAPTER SAR WAS ONE OF THE CO-SPONSORS FOR THE WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA CEMEMONY AT ESPANOLA CEMETERY IN RURAL FLAGLER COUNTY, FLORIDA.

27 DEC 2022 – FLAGLER BEACH, FLORIDA RESIDENT STEPHEN GOMBAR WAS PRESENTED THE SAR FLAG CERTIFICATE BY 1ST VICE PRESIDENT JOHN FEIND.

18 JAN 2023 - AT THE FLAGLER CHAPTER ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN PALM COAST, FL THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS WERE ELECTED FOR THE 2023/2024 TERM:

PRESIDENT RANDY CONWAY; 1ST VICE PRESIDENT JOHN FEIND; 2ND VICE PRESIDENT CHARLIE HAYES; SECRETARY RANDALL MORRIS; TREASURER JAY MILLS, II; REGISTRAR RANDALL MORRIS; SERGEANT-AT-ARMS ERICK KULESKI, SR.; CHAPLAIN DON GINGLES; HISTORIAN JEFF SCHALLER; MEMBER-AT-LARGE TOM HOWARD, MD; AND MEMBER-AT-LARGE FLYNN EDMONSON. ADDITIONALLY, APPOINTED ASSISTANT REGISTRARS ARE: DAVE BULL, JOHN FEIND AND CHARLIE HAYES.

01 JAN 2023 - THE NINTH ANNUAL FLAGLER CHAPTER HIKE TO THOMAS CREEK BATTLEFIELD WAS HELD IN DUVAL COUNTY, FLORIDA.

15 FEB 2023 - AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE FLAGLER CHAPTER, THE NSSAR VIDEO FEATURING THE MISSION AND PURPOSE OF THE NSSAR WAS SHOWN.

17 FEB 2023 – PALM COAST FIRE DEPARTMENT DRIVER/ENGINEER CHRIS STROZIER WAS AWARDED THE SAR FIRE SAFETY COMMENDATION MEDAL W/CERT. BY PRESIDENT RANDY CONWAY.

15 MAR 2023 – AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE FLAGLER CHAPTER, THE NSSAR VIDEO OUTLINING THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE NSSAR WAS SHOWN.

18 MAR 2023 – AT THE 240TH COMMEMERATION OF THE LAST NAVAL BATTLE OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION THE FLAGLER CHAPTER WREATH WAS PRESENTED BY PRESIDENT RANDY CONWAY.

24 MAR 2023 – PALM COAST, FLORIDA RESIDENT JOE LICATA WAS PRESENTED THE SAR FLAG CERTIFICATE BY 2ND VICE PRESIDENT CHARLIE HAYES.

27 MAR 2023 – AT MATANZAS HIGH SCHOOL IN PALM COAST, FLORIDA, KEVIN CARTAGENA AND GILLIAN MOISAO WERE AWARDED THE SAR BRONZE GOOD CITIZENSHIP MEDAL W/CERT. BY PRESIDENT RANDY CONWAY.

29 MAR 2023 – AT THE FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF’S OPERATIONS CENTER IN BUNNELL, FLORIDA, FCSO DETECTIVE AUSTIN DALRYMPLE WAS AWARDED THE SAR LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMENDATION MEDAL W/CERT. BY 2ND VICE PRESIDENT CHARLIE HAYES.

03 APR 2023 – AT THE FLAGLER COUNTY VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE FLAGLER COUNTY GOVERNMENT SERVICES BUILDING IN BUNNELL, FLORIDA, COMPATRIOT RANDALL MORRIS GAVE A PRESENTATION ON THE “AMERICA250” PROJECT.

04 APR 2023 – AT FLAGLER PALM COAST HIGH SCHOOL IN PALM COAST, FLORIDA, C/LT CARTER J. WILSON WAS AWARDED THE SAR JROTC MEDAL W/CERT. BY PRESIDENT RANDY CONWAY.

10 APR 2023 – AT BUDDY TAYLOR SCHOOL IN PALM COAST, FLORIDA, DOMINIC SMITH AND SYDNEY ADAMS WERE AWARDED THE SAR BRONZE GOOD CITIZENSHIP MEDAL W/CERT. BY PRESIDENT RANDY CONWAY.

19 APR 2023 – AT THE FIRST BAPTIST CHRISTIAN ACADEMY IN BUNNELL, FLORIDA, JACOB RODRIGUEZ AND EMMA SMITH WERE AWARDED THE SAR BRONZE GOOD CITIZENSHIP MEDAL W/CERT. BY PRESIDENT RANDY CONWAY.

19 APR 2023 – AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE FLAGLER CHAPTER, PRESIDENT RANDY CONWAY DISCUSSED THE CHAPTER COMMITTEE LIST FOR THE NEXT TERM. EVERY MEMBER WAS ASKED TO VOLUNTEER FOR ONE, OR MORE, OF THE COMMITTEES. ALSO, COMPATRIOTS DAVE BULL, THOMAS HOWARD, JACK PETRI AND JOE DALRYMPLE RECEIVED THEIR FLSSAR VETERANS BATTALION MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE FROM PRESIDENT CONWAY.

22 APR 2023 – IN PREPARATION FOR MEMORIAL DAY FLAG PLACEMENTS ON 222 VETERAN GRAVES COMPATRIOT RANDALL MORRIS ASSISTED WITH THE CLEANUP DAY AT HISTORIC ESPANOLA CEMETERY IN RURAL FLAGLER COUNTY.

25 APR 2023 – AT THE FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF’S OPERATIONS CENTER IN BUNNELL, FLORIDA, FCSO CPL JOE BARNETT AND FCSO DEP STEVE PIERRE WERE AWARDED THE SAR LIFE SAVING MEDAL W/CERT. BY FLAGLER CHAPTER PRESIDENT RANDY CONWAY

Daytona-Ormond Chapter

H. William Elder

October 7th – 9th Friday, Saturday and Sunday, attended the BOM.

Saturday, October 12th, marched in Veterans Day Parade in DeLand with the Col. Arthur Erwin DAR of DeLand and Sallie Harrison DAR of Sanford

November 19th, our regularly scheduled meeting at Louie's Pizza House. We honored our Veterans present with a gift and the told of their service. The program was held at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. We awarded a Sea Cadet with his medal and certificate.

December 17th Wreaths Across America with the Sugar Mill DAR and CAR. Following the ceremony, we met at Louie's Pizza House for our regularly scheduled meeting. The program was presented by Dan Friend of the DeLand Historic Trust. He told the story of the WW 2 Army Tugboat made in DeLand that had just returned home from Sweden.

January 14th, we attended the Highland Games in Winter Springs and helped man the SAR recruiting table with the Central Florida Chapter. There were also several DAR chapters and the SAR Auxiliary represented.

January 21st, our regularly scheduled meeting was held at Louie's Pizza House. Randall Morris of the Flagler SAR presented the program entitled, Founding Fathers Usually Left Out of History Books.

January 29th, participated in the NE Regional VP ZOOM meeting.

February 11th, we held our Officers/Directors ZOOM meeting.

February 18th, our regularly scheduled meeting at Louie's Pizza House. Presented our new banner: Support Our Troops and new 250th Flag. Haryy Rinker of the Central Florida SAR presented the program, We Wouldn't Have a United States if it Wasn't for George Washington.

March 4th, we held our Officers/Directors ZOOM meeting and attended the Florida DAR Forum. Participated in color guard and SAR table.

March 11th, our regularly scheduled meeting at Louie's Pizza House. Our program was our Compatriots sharing stories about their Patriots

March 18th, Compatriot Bob Crawford presented the wreath at the Las Naval Battle.

April 6th, ROTC presentation at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Army.

April 8th, we held our Officers/Directors Zoom meeting.

April 11th, Nominations committee met via ZOOM.

April 12th, JROTC presentation at Pine Ridge High School.

April 15th, our regularly scheduled meeting at Louie's Pizza House. Zach Zacharias curator of the Museum of Arts and Sciences spoke about the Forts of Florida and signed his book, Florida Forts on the Edge of Empire. The Celtic Fest in Ormond Beach was attended by a member. We had a potential recruit that has been contacted by our membership and registrar. The Capt. James Ormond DAR and Sugar Mill DAR participated. They provided a tent and table to assist with recruiting.

April 18th, JROTC presentation at Spruce Creek High School.

April 21st, JROTC presentation at DeLand High School.

April 25th, ROTC presentation at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Air Force.

May 18th, JROTC presentation at Deltona High School.

May 19th-22nd, BOM*May 27th, our regularly scheduled meeting at Louie's Pizza House. Nominations and Election of officers will take place. RVP, Jim Gaskins will preside over the induction ceremony.

May 29th, Memorial Day service at the Spruce Creek Cemetery will be with the Sugar Mill DAR and CAR.

Attended FLSSAR/DAR Chapters throughout Florida

Inducted 2 new members-a 3rd is on deployment, 1 transfer, and have 3 more applications for membership received by our registrar.

Supported the local CAR with the induction their of their officers

Invited the CAR, DAR, friends and families to our meetings; some attended most.

Supported the NSSAR 123 Congress by buying blankets, and raffle tickets

Have a FaceBook page up and running with announcements and many pictures

East Central Regional Vice President

Jeff L. Sizemore

Submitted EC Region chapter reports below.

Brevard Chapter

Joel A. Etherton

The Brevard SAR Chapter meets at 11:00 AM on the third Saturday from Oct through May at the Tides Club at 1001 North Highway A1A South Atlantic Avenue in Satellite Beach, FL.

For October 2022, the 1992 Brevard Past President Carl Green passed away September 05, 2022. Due to family health, services took place on October 4th Carl received military honors at Cape Canaveral National Cemetery. The Brevard Chapter also unveiled its 250th Anniversary Flag. Compatriot Ryder received his SAR Certificate, Indian River Past President Ireland received his 3rd Supplemental Certificate. Jensen and Mihora attended in full period attire, and Etherton was in Class A attire.

In November 2022, the chapter participated in the Veterans Day Observance at VMC, theme was “Celebrating Veterans throughout History”. President Joel Etherton made a presentation of War Service and Military Service Medals during the ceremony, linking three Compatriots to their respective Patriots. Compatriots William Cole, WSM, 1st Vice President Christopher Ratzel, WSM, Mark Russell MSM. The DAR 250th Plaque was unveiled with many DAR in Colonial Attire with Compatriots Bisset and Desmarais in period attire. At the November chapter meeting, we honored 15 FLSSAR Veterans Battalion members present for Veterans Day Jensen and Bisset attended in full period attire, and Etherton, Desmarais and Ashdown were in Class A attire.

The December’s meeting was held a week early to accommodate WAA. Meeting was centered to the holidays, no business or speaker. The annual Christmas Ornament exchange was the highlight of the day. Compatriot William “Monty” Atwater passed away on December 13th. He is laid to rest at the Cape Canaveral National Cemetery. The Brevard Chapter also donated several books about the American Revolutionary War Period to the December 14, to the Veterans Memorial Center Library. Members participated in the annual Wreaths Across America at the Cape Canaveral National Cemetery and at Veterans gravesites across the county. Stark Report was compiled and submitted. Mihora attended in full period attire.

In January 2023, the 2023 Eagle Scout contest winner attended our meeting and presented his Essay to the chapter. Parents and Scoutmaster were present. Compatriot Jeff Rogers received his SAR Certificate. Compatriot Lou Stocks received his Grandson’s SAR Certificate. Service Awards were presented to: Carl Ohemann 20yr, Ray Norman 15yr, Brian McWaters 10yr. Military Service Medal presented to: Carl Ohemann Eller and Jensen were in period attire.

In February 2023, Sgt Joseph Plumb Martin Young Member supporter medal was presented to Nic Mihora, and the Service Award was presented to Norm Desmaris 10yr. The meeting theme was Women in the Revolutionary War. Compatriot Bisset gave an excellent presentation relating to the role of women who served during the war. F.S.C.A.R. Conference Orlando: Supported by Compatriot Jensen.

FLSSAR Genealogist Meeting: 1st FLSSAR Genealogist meeting was held. Purpose is to aid in the efficiency of processing applications and exchanging resources for research. Bisset and Mihora were in period attire.

In March 2023, the DAR State Conference Orlando: Jensen attended manning the SAR table and provide Color Guard support for the Annual meeting Presentation of the Colors. At the Last Naval Battle for 2023, we had 210 in attendance for this year’s services. It was an honor to have Compatriot Larry Tidwell, a descendant of Captain John Green present. More DAR and C.A.R. chapters were in attendance. Weather was good and we appreciate all chapters who traveled to participate.

At the Battle of Thomas Creek, Compatriot Jensen attended the 246th anniversary of the Battle of Thomas Creek in Jacksonville FL.

At the April meeting, the chapter voted to various changes to their Constitution and By-Laws; as well as, announced the slate of officers for the upcoming term. The chapter also announced a resolution called the “Tricorn Hat Resolution”. There is details in this resolution to establish Class A attire, Class B attire, and Class C attire as related to members that can voluntarily wear such attire and be recognized in Color Guard events that may not be able to participate in the full Colonial Color Guard attire. The Brevard Chapter voted and approved this resolution. It will also be brought up for consideration at the FLSSAR Spring BOM/Annual meeting, and at the NSSAR 2023 Congress that will be held in Orlando, Florida this year.

Central Florida Chapter

Philip B. Markoe

The Central Florida SAR Chapter meets at 6:00pm on the 2nd Wednesday Oct through May at the Winter Park Elks Club off of Lake Howell Road in Winter Park, FL.

In January, the chapter set up a recruitment booth at the Scottish Highland Games in Winter Springs, and at the Longwood Art Festival. The chapter also had two students that participated in the chapter Knight Essay contest. Out speaker this month was Compatriot Burt Fairchild who spoke on James Otis.

At the February meeting, Compatriot Harry Rinker gave a presentation called the “Antique Road Show”. He also appraised various antique items that was brought to the meeting. Since Compatriot Rinker also serves as the chapter’s registrar, he mentioned

that for 2022, the chapter had added 61 new members upon which he was instrumental in getting these applications reviewed and approved by NSSAR. Members also assisted at the Florida Society DAR Spring Meeting that was held near Sea World.

In March, the chapter learned of the passing of Richard Hoffman, past chapter registrar, after a long battle with cancer. This month's presentation was by Compatriot Scott Cook and the Ft. Gatlin CAR Chapter who did a presentation on Taxation without Representation.

Member of the chapter and the chapter color guard participated in a grave marker dedication at the Lakeview Cemetery in Sanford, Florida, the Last Naval Battle Ceremony in Merritt Island, Florida, and the Battle of Thomas Creek in Jacksonville, Florida. Some members of the color guard are also planning to attend the Frederica Naval Operations in Saint Simons Island, Georgia.

During the month of April and May, members of the chapter will be presenting ROTC Awards at the various ROTC ceremonies in Orange, Osceola, Seminole, and Volusia Counties. For the month of April, our speaker was Compatriot Harry Rinker who gave a presentation titled "Research Techniques to Learn More About Your Patriot".

It is planned that the May meeting will be the election of new chapter officers; as well as, presenting chapter awards. Members of the chapter are also gearing up to serve as volunteers at the NSSAR 2023 Congress that will be held in Orlando in July.

Okeechobee Chapter

Donald P. Hanna

The Okeechobee SAR Chapter meets at 10am on the 2nd Saturday Oct through May at the Brown Cow Sweetery in Okeechobee.

The Okeechobee Chapter SAR provided color and honor guard for the Highlands County Heritage Day at the Pearce Estate. The Pearce Estate was settled on the banks of the Kissimmee River in 1874 by Confederate veteran John Mizell Pearce. The Okeechobee SAR color and honor guard are pictured in front of the 450 year old Liberty Tree.

St Lucie River Chapter

H. Hall Riediger

No report submitted.

West Central Regional Vice President

A. Parks Honeywell

No report submitted.

Clearwater Chapter

Walter B. Arnold

Total Members ~140

Deceased Members 3, most notably Dan R. Hooper, George C. Pratt and Larry Paterson all were active at the State and Chapter level We meet every third Wednesday of the month with a summer break from June – August. Since the Fall BOM meeting we have had the following topics discussed at our meetings:

October: (Members Attended Meeting 37 plus another 17 Guest)

- Public Safety Award to Trooper Daniel Cole & Mark Woodhouse in dealing with a "wrong way driver" and averting any loss of life.
- Inducted New Member Ron Egger and Blake Verville

November: (Members Attended Meeting 30 plus another 13 Guest)

- Lt Col Rene Jewett talked about "Our Patriots of Color"
- Election of new officers for 2023
- Parks Honeywell awarded the Gold Liberty Metal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters
- Bob Anderson awarded the Military & War Service
- Terry Taylor was awarded Military Service

December: (Members Attended Meeting 33 plus 11 Guest)

- Pat Niemann inducted the New Officers for the 2023 season:
 - Walter Arnold President

- Tim Shaner 1st Vice President
 - Harry Fuller 2nd Vice President
 - Larry Patterson Secretary
 - Tom Hancher Treasurer
 - Parks Honeywell Registrar and Genealogist
 - George Youstra Chaplin
- Certificates of Appreciation were given to:
 - Jim Grayshaw, Doug Williams, Marcy Moore, Rob Moore, Margaret Harris, Marjorie Wetherbee, Susan Grayshaw, Carry Martin
 - Bronze Roger Sherman award was given to:
 - Russell Pebworth, Larry Patterson, Parks Honeywell, George Youstra & Jim Gibson
 - Color Guard participated in the Belleair Christmas Parade along with the Clearwater DAR Chapter

- January 2023:** (Members Attending Meeting 35 plus 17 Guest)
- Don Green, PhD History and SAR Member 2009; reported himself as Ben Franklin and told of his many stories during the Revolutionary War and took questions at the end.
 - Bob Anderson and Rob Moore wore “kilts” in honor of the Scottish Poet Robert Burns
 - Ron Egger received the War Service Medal
 - Walter Arnold received an Oak Leaf Cluster for his continued work on NSSAR PRS.

- February:** (Members Attending Meeting 32 plus 14 Guest)
- President Walter Arnold started a three-part letter to the Membership on “Recruitment, Retention and Reinstatement”. In the first part he challenged current Members to bring in at least 1 New Member by year end.
 - Color Guard joined the Tampa Color Guard at the St Pete Airport to welcome home the Veterans from their “Honor Flight.”
 - Robbie Robinson gave a presentation on the many different Revolutionary Army/Navy and Militia uniforms.
 - President Arnold gave a short presentation on the “Three Easy Steps” for Supplemental Applications
 - Lewis Dale was inducted into the Chapter as a New Member
 - Had Zoom call with Tampa and St Pete Chapters to plan for Washington Birthday, Feb 22, 2024; to form a major 3 Chapter event.
 - Read a Memorial for Dan Hooper

- March:** (Member Attending Meeting 32 plus 9 Guest)
- President Arnold continued his 3 part letter to Members on the 3 Rs, this time talking about the importance of “Retention”!!
 - Patriot Medal Winners were honored in the Chapter Newsletter; Parks Honeywell, Pat Niemann, Jim Gibson and Dan Hooper
 - Russell Pebworth gave a presentation on the different weaponry of the Revolutionary War.
 - Ask for volunteers to form a “Genealogy Committee”; got three Members to sign up
 - Read a Memorial for George Pratt

- April:** (Members Attending Meetings 35 plus 11 Guest)
- President Arnold concluded the 3Rs this month with “Reinstatement” with emphasis on “Retention” to keep the number of Member dropped to a minimum. But if needed try and find out “why” they “dropped” their Membership?
 - Jim Grayshaw gave a presentation on the history and founding of SAR and SR.
 - Read a Memorial for Larry Patterson
 - Inducted a New Member Dwight McEntire
 - Started a new tradition of reading off the Names with Birthdays for the Month
 - Ron Moore gave Military Awards to Arthur Hays and Freeman Stalions
 - Dwight McEntire was named the Acting Secretary for the Chapter
 - 1st Annual SAR/DAR Clearwater Picnic had about 45 attended.

Lakeland Chapter

Jarrell D. Burchett

No report submitted.

Maj. John DeVane Chapter

David W. Knox

No report submitted.

South Shore Chapter

William M. Adkins, Sr.

The South Shore Chapter meets the second Saturday of each month (September through May) at the Plaza Club located at 3932 Upper Creek Drive in Sun City Center, Florida 33573. Board of Governor meetings are held on the previous Tuesday.

Membership

Current chapter membership as of 4/1//2023 totals 50 compatriots. We enjoy an active new member search program, headed by Registrar Bill Barron, that currently has 14 applications in process and 11 prospects identified.

Programs

We actively support local Eagle Scout and high school JROTC programs with member presentations of medals and financial awards. We have an active interface with the Col. George Mercer Brooke DAR Chapter in support of their project to display the American Flag on Sun City Center's major thoroughfare during patriotic events.

Meeting Activities

September. A total of 37 members/guests in attendance. Membership certificates were presented to 4 new compatriots. The 2022 chapter yearbook has been completed and is being distributed to all current members. Period costume reenactors Bill and Cara Elder provided a program concerning Washington's role in the framing of the Constitution.

October. A total of 28 members/guests in attendance. One new member was presented his membership certificate. Registrar Bill Barron received his third Lafayette Volunteer Service Award and DAR members Kay Adkins and Jan Bassett were presented Martha Washington Medals. Guest speaker Robert Yarnell's topic was "A Revolution Not Made But Prevented"

November. A total of 30 members/guests in attendance. Two new members were recognized. The proposed 2023 officer slate was presented. Guest speaker Gil Neely provided a program about his experience as a "USS Constitution" crew member.

December. A total of 26 members/guests in attendance. The new 2023 chapter officer group was sworn in by special guest Florida State SAR President Earl "Matt" Matthews. President Matthews spoke on current status of our organization and Parks Honeywell emphasized the critical role of membership recruitment and retention.

January. A total of 27 members/guests in attendance. Registrar Bill Barron was presented with his fourth Lafayette Volunteer Service Medal. DAR member Jan Bassett presented a program about the history of Ft. McHenry.

February. A total of 27 members/guests in attendance. One new member was recognized. JROTC Chairman Don Gunn has distributed medals to 11 schools for upcoming award ceremonies. No speaker.

March. A total of 24 members/guests in attendance. The 2022 audit report was presented and accepted. SAR War Medals were presented to compatriots Doug Roderick and Ken Wavell. Ed Perkins received the SAR Military Service Medal. Speaker Dr. G. Patrick O'Brien presented a program outlining efforts of enslaved women in maintaining family ties during the Revolution.

April. Meeting scheduled for 4/8/2023

May. Meeting scheduled for 5/13/2023

St Petersburg Chapter

Douglas R. Maddox, Jr

Nothing to report.

Tampa Chapter

Garald K. Robinson

2022 Officers:

President: Charles Klug

1st VP: Garald K. (Robbie) Robinson

2nd VP: Roger Roscoe

Secretary: Robert Yarnell

Treasurer: Will Wagner-Hart

Chaplain: Matthew Balencie

Sgt at Arms: Darren Acosta

Immediate Past President: David Bryant

2023 Officer Installation in January 2023 by Parks Honeywell, West Central Regional VP:

President: Garald K. (Robbie) Robinson

Vice President: Roger Roscoe

Recording Secretary: Robert Yarnell

Treasurer: Will Wagner-Hart

Registrar: Richard W Young

Chaplain: Matthew Balencie

Sgt At Arms: Darren Acosta

Immediate Past President: Charles Klug, Jr

Membership:

start of 2023:

Regular: 74

Dual: 7

Junior: 6

Life: 1

Monthly Summaries of events/mtgs/speakers:

Meetings are held on the third Saturday on the second floor of the University Mall at 2201 Fowler Ave in Tampa, starting at 11:30am. After admin time, we break about noon for lunch. We hold our meetings right next to the Food Court at the Mall, and resume our meetings at 12:30pm for our speakers' presentations.

October 2022: Presentation by Robbie Robinson on the Battle of Bunker Hill.

November 2022: Held Law Enforcement Commendation ceremony (see below). Meeting speaker was David Maxwell, who gave us a presentation on political state of the Korean Peninsula. Color Guard supported the Veteran's Day ceremony at Tampa's American Legion Post 5 on 11 November.

December 2022: Color Guard supported the Christmas parade at Safety Harbor on 3 December. Provided Color Guard to DeSoto DAR Chapter for their Christmas meeting and Robbie Robinson gave a presentation on Revolutionary War uniforms on 9 December. Supported Wreaths Across America at the Tampa American Legion Post 5's cemetery with Color Guard and laying wreaths on 17 December.

January 2023: Installation of new officers by Regional VP Parks Honeywell at Bahama Breeze. See below for medal presentations.

February 2023: Presentation by Mr Bill Adkins about "the Turtle," a mini submarine developed in the Revolutionary War.

March 2023: EMT Awards (see below) and presentation by Mr. Jerald Hurwitz about the Battle of Ft Griswold in New London, CT, led by Benedict Arnold as a British officer.

April 2023: ROTC Recognition awards to be awarded. Speaker will be Alexander Rose, author of "Washington's Spies."

List of any chapter medal / certificate recipients:

Law Enforcement medals to the following at our November 2022 meeting:

Sergeant Josh Malloy

Trooper Eric Schaub

Trooper Sergio Pearce

Trooper Chris Nottingham

Trooper Wesley Kelly

Trooper Deryck Lewis

In January 2023, Distinguished Service Medal was awarded to our outgoing president Charles Klug; his wife Victoria Klug received the Martha Washington Medal

EMT medals to the following at our March 2023 meeting:

Chief Gilbert Reyes

Captain Peter Dzuibinski

List of new members over the past year:

Walter Oswald Dec 22
Jared Knisley Jan 23
Gregory Bell Feb 23
Kimball Reyher Feb 23
Paul Whitscell Feb 23
Joseph Lubinski Mar 23

Southeast Regional Vice President

William R Wicks III

During the period October 2022 to mid April 2023 SE Regional VP attended:

Color Guard Events: City of Miami and Coconut Gove American Legion Post 182 Veteran's Day Salute and Parade starting at Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church in Coconut Grove, FL; representing the Miami Chapter and S.E. Regional VP participating in Color Guard and bringing greetings; Miami Chapter President's Luncheon at Miami Shores, on February 18, 2023.

Chapter Meetings: Miami Chapter attendance (Six); Miami Chapter Meetings Monthly Luncheons (Five) including the President's Annual Luncheon and Installation of Offices with FLSSAR VP Steve Fields as installing officer; and Monthly Board of Directors Meetings (Six). West Palm Beach Chapter Monthly Luncheon meeting in October and Ft. Lauderdale Chapter Luncheon meeting in November bringing greetings on behalf of President Matthews, the FLSSAR, and speaking regarding FLSSAR events and NSSAR National Congress.

State Meetings: The 2022 FLSSAR Fall Meeting and BOM, at the Embassy Suites South Lake Buena Vista, in Orlando.

The Southeast Regional Meeting, combining the Miami, Ft. Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach Chapters held January 14, 2023, at the Davie Outback Steakhouse. Additional Zoom conferences with the Ft. Lauderdale Chapter to discuss their organizing a Color Guard.

Ft Lauderdale Chapter

Charles A. Adams, II

The Fort Lauderdale Chapter typically meets the third Saturday of every month, except August and December, starting at 11:30 a.m. at the Outback Steakhouse, 2725 South University Drive, Davie, FL.

The Fort Lauderdale Chapter membership grew 18% -- from 50 as of January 1, 2022, to 59 on December 15, 2022. Here are some other 2022 highlights:

- The Chapter's media relations are carried out through the maintenance and updating of the Chapter website which can be found at www.fortlauderdale.sar.org. The Chapter's meeting schedule and contact information is published quarterly in the SAR magazine.
- The Chapter contributed \$900.00 to the Swamp Fox Society C.A.R. and provided senior leadership and representation at four C.A.R. meetings held in 2022.
- The Chapter awarded 68 medals and/or certificates to participants in the various youth programs it supports. The breakdown: Bronze Good Citizens Medal – 7 to JRROTC recipients and 3 to Sea Cadets; JRROTC Bronze Medal presented to 31 recipients; and 27 certificates were presented to recently approved Eagle Scouts.
- The Chapter awarded a Law Enforcement Medal and Certificate and a Fire Safety Medal and Certificate to recipients employed by the Broward Sheriff's Office.
- The Chapter received approval on eight new member applications. We also received approval on six supplemental applications.

For 2023, as of April 30, 2023:

The Chapter presented a Law Enforcement Medal and Certificate to Judge Bertila Soto. She has been a judge in Miami-Dade County since 1997 and served as the Chief Judge of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit County from 2013-2020.

We inducted five members approved in or at the close of 2022. Also, we have received approval on the applications of four new members. Currently, in the NSSAR application pipeline, are five regular, one supplemental and one memorial.

On March 11, 2023, the Fort Lauderdale Chapter made a \$1,776 donation to the SAR Foundation to support the completion of the SAR Education Center and Museum.

At the close of this reporting period, we have or will shortly award Military Service or War Time Service Medals to eight qualifying Chapter Compatriots.

Miami Chapter

George K. Wysong

The Miami Chapter meets at the Coral Gables American Legion Post 98 building located at 303 Alhambra Circle, in Coral Gables Florida 33143. The Miami Chapter has its monthly luncheon meetings at the American Legion Post 98, 303 Alhambra Circle, Coral Gables, Florida on the third Saturday of each month.

We have met in person at the Post and are simultaneously using Go-To-Meetings, virtual video meetings, for compatriots who do not want to or cannot attend in person. We have had a monthly meeting every month since the Fall BOM. The cost of the Miami Chapter monthly luncheon is \$20, and we use a third-party vendor to deliver the catered meals for the luncheon at the Post, which includes complimentary parking in the rear of the building. All members, guests and interested prospects are welcome to attend.

Membership:

At 15 April 2023, the Miami Chapter had 96 Compatriots, up from 92 at 01 January 2023. We currently have 70+ persons comprising our "1776 Corps.," whose membership applications are in process of documentation and completion.

96 Members at 31 December 2021

1 Member Transferred Out

3 Members Non-Renewed on 01 January 2023

92 Members at 01 January 2023

(1) Member Deceased

2 Members Reinstated since 01 January 2023

3 New Members since 01 January 2023

96 Members at 15 April 2023

We hope to be able to reinstate several of our non-renewals and inactive Compatriots from prior years. We have recently purchased and installed the Club Express membership database software, and we are testing it on behalf of the Florida Society Chapters. We believe it will have a significant impact on our future Reinstatements, and also help to reduce the number of Non-Renewals.

We mourn the recent death of **55-year Compatriot** and Past President **COL John "Jack" Thomson**.

New Members since 01 October 2022:

Mark Hicks

Cash Richard Mix

Walker William Mix

Charles John Yearwood

At the 6-8 October **FLSSAR 2022 Fall BOM**, the SAR Miami Chapter was represented by Miami Chapter President Bill and Kerry Wicks, Youth Awards Chairman Rene Jewett, and by Secretary-Treasurer and Past President Wm Lee Popham and Laura Zavalia. During the Awards presentations from the National Society that were distributed during the weekend, Compatriot Popham was recognized with his second Liberty Medal (top-line signer for 10 new members), three Lafayette Medals (each representing forty hours of volunteer service to the National Society, for his volunteer work with the Patriot Records System – "PRS"), and the Samuel Adams Bronze Congress Medal for his participation on the 2022 Savannah Congress Committee.

The **2023 SAR Spring Leadership Conference** was held at the Brown Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky, during the period 2-4 March 2023. The Miami Chapter was represented by Secretary-Treasurer and FLSSAR National Trustee Wm. Lee Popham Sr. It was there announced that Compatriot Popham will be installed as a member of the Minuteman Class of 2023 at the upcoming Orlando NSSAR Congress on Monday, 17 July 2023 at the Rosen Plaza Hotel in Orlando FL.

President's Annual Luncheon and George Washington's Birthday Celebration:

Compatriot Steven R. Fields, FLSSAR Senior Vice President, was our featured installing officer and keynote speaker for our Annual Luncheon and Washington's Birthday Celebration, which was held at the Miami Shores Country Club on Saturday, 18 February 2023. The luncheon was attended by Thirty-eight Compatriots and their family members.

Installation of 2023 Miami Chapter SAR Officers:

Immediately following the presentation, the following officers were installed for the 2023 year:

President: George K Wysong, III

1st Vice President: Rene Jewett

2nd Vice President: Benjamin Groff, Jr.

Secretary-Treasurer: Wm. Lee Popham, Sr.

Recording Secretary: William R. Wicks, III.

Registrar: Robert A. Sileo

Chaplain: Benjamin Groff, Jr.

Historian: William S. Replogle

Genealogist: Wm Lee Popham, Sr.

Immediate Past President: William R. Wicks, III

Commander, Thomas Payne Co. David B. Mitchell, Esq.

The following Medals and Recognitions were awarded at the Annual Presidents' Luncheon:

Medal / Certificate	Name of Recipient
Bronze Good Citizenship Medal	Donald D. Slesnick
Chapter President Ribbon and Badge	George K. Wysong III
Past Chapter President Pin and Certificate	William R. Wicks III
Eagle Scout Medal and Certificate of Appreciation	Steven R. Fields
55-Year Membership Pin	John "Jack" Thomson.
40-Year Membership Pin	Donald D. Slesnick
30-Year Membership Pin	Benjamin E Groff, Jr.
20-Year Membership Pin	Saul Montes-Bradley
10-Year Membership Pin	Wm. Lee Popham Sr.
5-Year Membership Pin	George K. Wysong III
5-Year Membership Pin	George E. Cadman IV
5-Year Membership Pin	Rafael T. Rodriguez
8 Supplemental Patriot Ancestor Stars	George K. Wysong III
6 Supplemental Patriot Ancestor Stars	Wm. Lee Popham Sr.
1 Supplemental Patriot Ancestor Star	William S. Replogle
Eagle Scout Medal and Outstanding Citizenship Cert.	James E. Popham
SAR-DAR Medal of Appreciation	Laura Zavalia
Martha Washington Medal – 1 st Oak Leaf	Liga Replogle
Lydia Darragh Medal – 1 st Oak Leaf	Kerry Wicks
C.A.R. Medal of Appreciation	George E. Cadman IV
C.A.R. Medal of Appreciation	Dana Outlaw Pezoldt
C.A.R. Medal of Appreciation – 1 st Oak Leaf	George E. Cadman V
Chapter Medal of Distinguished Service	Rene Jewett
Chapter Meritorious Service Medal	William S. Replogle
War Service Medal - Vietnam	Bryson Thompson
War Service Medal – Vietnam	Donald D. Slesnick
Military Service Medal	Claude Nolan
Service to Veterans Medal + Silver Oak Leaf + Bronze	George E. Cadman III
Bronze Roger Sherman Medal	Rene Jewett
Bronze Roger Sherman Medal	George K. Wysong III
Bronze Roger Sherman Medal	J. Edward Beals
Bronze Roger Sherman Medal – 3rd Bronze Oak Leaf	Wm. Lee Popham Sr.
Bronze Roger Sherman Medal – 1st Bronze Oak Leaf	Benjamin E. Groff, Jr.
Bronze Outstanding Young Member Medal	Matthew Scott Bunch
Bronze Good Citizenship–History Teacher of the Year	Matthew Scott Bunch

Compatriot Fields was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for his participation in our ceremonies and fellowship, and for serving as Installing Officer from the Florida Society SAR. He was also recognized with the Eagle Scout Medal, which the Miami Chapter awards to all Compatriots who are also Eagle Scouts.

Distinguished Service Award Certificates were issued to all 2022 elected officers, and to Youth Awards Chairman Rene Jewett:

2022 Officers receiving Certificates were:

William R. Wicks III
 Robert Anthony Sileo
 Benjamin E. Groff, Jr.
 William S. Replogle
 Wm Lee Popham, Sr
 George K. Wysong, III
 David B. Mitchell, Esq.
 Rene Jewett.

Certificates of Appreciation were issued to all Presenters at monthly Chapter Meetings, as follows:

Steven Ray Fields – Installing Officer and Keynote Speaker
 Matthew Scott Bunch - Presenter
 George K Wysong III - Presenter x 2

William S Replogle - Presenter
Benjamin E Groff, Jr. - Presenter
J. Edward Beals - Presenter
Wm. Lee Popham, Sr. - Presenter

Americanism Report for 2022:

3,325 Americanism Points Reported
7,010 President General's Streamer Points Reported

Thomas Payne Company Color Guard:

Color Guard Commander Compatriot David B. Mitchell, Esq. led our Thomas Payne Company in the opening flag ceremony at our Annual Meeting. Our Color Guard also participated in Independence Day, Veterans Day, and Constitution Week ceremonies; as well as the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Change of Command ceremony – where Compatriot Mitchell was installed as SUSG-Aux District Commander.

C.A.R. Activities and Support:

Compatriots George E. Cadman IV and Wm. Lee Popham, Sr. are serving as a Senior Officers of the Tequesta Society C.A.R. for 2023. In addition, Compatriot James E. Popham serves as Tequesta Society Registrar. SAR Miami Chapter Compatriots currently have a total of 12 children and grandchildren who are members of the Tequesta Society C.A.R. The Chapter has presented the Tequesta Society C.A.R. with a donation check for \$500.00.

DAR Activities and Support:

Several officers and members of the SAR Miami Chapter have been supporting the local DAR Societies. Compatriot Wicks brought Greetings at the Constitution Day Bell-Ringing Ceremony of the Coral Gables DAR in October, while Compatriots Wicks, Jewett, Replogle, and Popham participated in our Thomas Payne Company flag ceremony at the DAR annual Constitution Day luncheon. Compatriot Cadman IV was also a featured Speaker at that luncheon on behalf of the Tequesta Society C.A.R.

Miami Chapter Ladies Auxiliary:

The Miami Chapter Ladies' Auxiliary is alive and well, thanks to the efforts of Kerry Wicks, Liga Replogle, Laura Zavalía, and new member Margie Thompson. Volunteer work is being performed at both the 2023 Florida Congress Committee, and at the Veterans' Rest Facility at the Miami International Airport. Our Chapter continues to support the Auxiliary with both volunteer time and donations.

Veterans Support:

The Miami Chapter SAR donates time and money for the services to veterans provided by the Veterans' Administration Volunteer Service (VAVS), and also donates to the Military Hospitality Lounge at the Miami International Airport.

3,000 USS Stark Memorial Award points were reported on our 2022 Americanism Report.

Veterans Battalion Certificates were issued to the following Compatriots:

Bryson Thompson
Claude Nolan
Donald D Slesnick

Youth Activities Reports:

This was an exceptional year for the Miami Chapter Youth Awards programs:

KNIGHT ESSAY CONTEST: A total of five essays were submitted for this year's Miami Chapter competition, all of whom attend Mast Academy in Key Biscayne, Fla. **Chapter Winner Blake Griffiths** received a **Chapter-level Bronze Medal** and neck ribbon, together with a Certificate and \$500. His essay took 5th Place honors in the FLSSAR State-level competition. **Myah Cortez** won the 2nd Place Certificate plus \$250; and **Kush Kumar** won the 3rd Place Certificate plus \$150.

Compatriot Matthew S Bunch also received a **Certificate of Recognition** for his Support of the Knight Essay Contest program – All five of the 2022 entries were received as a result of his participation in the program.

JROTC/ROTC RECOGNITIONS: A total of 38 Medals have been purchased and are being distributed by the SAR Miami Chapter, for recognitions throughout Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties during the months of April and May. JROTC units in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands are also being serviced by the Miami Chapter, as well as the Sea Cadets..

Cadet Steven Abarca of Miami Sr High School won the **1st Place JROTC Chapter-Level Bronze Enhanced Award**, and delivered his essay during our April 2023 monthly meeting. As the winner at the Chapter-Level, Cadet Abarca received the following from the Miami Chapter: \$500, plus the medal on a neck ribbon, and certificate.

Cadet Mia Hockley, of South Miami Sr High School, took **2nd Place** in the JROTC Chapter-Level Enhanced Award competition, and received a check for \$250 with her Certificate. **Cadet Rayan Muamar** of Miami Killian Sr High School took **3rd Place**, and received a check for \$150 with his Certificate.

EAGLE SCOUT CONTEST: Compatriot **James E. Popham** of South Florida Council BSA Troop 941 and O-Shot-Caw Lodge 265 Order of the Arrow Lodge Chief, became an Eagle Scout on 5 December 2022, and submitted his contest entry on 29 December. As the **Miami Chapter Winner**, he received an Outstanding Citizenship Award Certificate, an SAR Eagle Scout Recognition Certificate, a special SAR Eagle Contest Patch, and \$500.

We were recently notified that **Eagle Scout James E Popham** is the Florida Society SAR **State-level Winner** as well. Compatriot James Popham will be attending the FLSSAR Spring BOM and Annual Meeting Youth Awards Luncheon on Saturday, 20 May, to read his Essay and be recognized with the State-level awards.

AMERICAN HISTORY TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD: Compatriot **Matthew Scott Bunch** was selected as our **Chapter-level Winner** of this award at the High School level. Compatriot Bunch teaches American History at Mast Academy, a High School

in Key Biscayne Fla. At our Annual Presidents Day Luncheon, Compatriot Bunch was awarded the **Bronze Good Citizenship Medal** and Certificate in recognition of his selection for this award, together with a check in the amount of \$500.

We have also recently learned that **Compatriot Matthew S. Bunch** has been selected as the Florida SAR **State-level Winner** of the American History Teacher of the Year Award as well. Compatriot Bunch will be attending the FLSSAR Spring BOM and Annual Meeting Youth Awards Luncheon on Saturday, 20 May, where he will be recognized with the appropriate State-level awards.

2022 OUTSTANDING YOUNG MEMBER AWARD: 2022 is the first year that the Outstanding Young Member Medals (for Compatriots under the age of 40) are being awarded at the Chapter, State, and National levels. The award is so new, it was unavailable for purchase at the time it was to be awarded at our Annual President's Day Awards luncheon in February. However, we awarded it anyway – the Miami Chapter-level **Bronze Outstanding Young Member Medal and Certificate** were awarded to **Compatriot Matthew Scott Bunch**.

We have also nominated Compatriot Bunch for the 2022 State-level Silver Outstanding Young Member Medal and Certificate for the upcoming FLSSAR Spring BOM and Annual Meeting. We hope he wins!

Palm Beach Chapter

David D. Bird

Palm Beach SAR Chapter 2023 Vision:

The Chapter continues its focus on *Membership development/mentoring, Youth/Scholarship programs, Veterans' services, Police/First Responder recognition*, and supporting the FLSSAR 2023 National Congress initiatives.

The Chapter continues its proactive membership recruiting efforts inducting **9** new Compatriots bringing its total membership to 177 with an additional **10** member applications in process.

The Chapters 2023 officers were installed to include; *President, David Bird, Vice President, TK Krumenacker, Secretary, Bob Boggs, Treasurer, Peter Johnston, Registrar, Bob Boggs, Chaplain Ben Tidwell, Historian Donald Lanman, Sgt. @ Arms, Greg Parkinson, Officers @ Large.*

Chapter Activities & Events:

The Chapter continued 2023 meetings with a focus on Veterans Services, Youth Programs, Law Enforcement and First Responder recognition awarding **6** medals to police and firefighters.

Compatriot Lanman joined *NSSAR President General Bruce Pickette, Secretary General John Dodd, Chancellor General Michael Elston, FMR President General Lindsey Brock, FLSSAR President Matt Mathews, SVP Steve Fields* and other *Florida SAR leaders* at the home of *Palm Beach Chapter Compatriot Bill Koch* to present the *SAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal* to *US Senator & FMR Florida Governor Rick Scott*. Senator Scott also submitted his application for membership in the *SAR* at the same event.

The Chapter continued its commitment to youth higher education with its Compatriot Alex Dreyfoos History Scholarship program by donating \$2,000 to Palm Beach Atlantic University. The 2023 scholarship represents over 20 years and \$20,000 in scholarships from the chapter.

Chapter Compatriots with local *DAR Daughters* expanded their dedication to patriotic and civic service by attending Patriotic events including the *Missing in America Project* where we inurned, with full military honors, the unclaimed remains of 18 Veterans of WW 1, 2, Korea.

Chapter Compatriots were represented the funeral of WW 2 Army Air Corp Veteran Nicholas Zoller. LT. Zoller was laid to rest with full military Honors at the South Florida National Cemetery. The Chapter joined *DAR Daughters* of the *Garcilaso de la Vega DAR Chapter* to deliver \$1,800 in canned/package goods to the WPB VA to feed homeless Veterans over the holidays.

Chapter Compatriots joined with local *DAR Daughters* with a rededication to *Veterans Service* programs including providing food packages for the local VA for homeless veterans, and delivering Chapter wreaths at *2023 Patriotic* events.

Chapter Compatriot John Annan along with his sister *DAR Daughter Barbara Annan (Rapid City SD DAR Chapter)* were honored with the *Meritorious Service Medal* and *Martha Washington Medal* in recognition of their support of the Chapters Youth Scholarship programs.

Compatriot Edwin A. Ferree passed in January. He was remembered at a Chapter Memorial Service as a devoted Husband, Father, Grandfather, Professional, Civic Volunteer, Huguenot Society member and esteemed SAR Patriot.

Chapter Fundraising:

Compatriot/Author/Philanthropist & SAR Gold Citizenship Medal winner Alex Dreyfoos continues to offer his two award winning books, *Passion & Purpose & A Photographic Odyssey* to the Chapter as a fundraiser for its *Youth & Scholarship* programs. Both autographed books are available @ \$49.00 (retail \$90) with all proceeds going to the Chapter. To date dozens of books have already purchased representing \$2,000 for the scholarship fund. (Inquiries dlanman258@aol.com)

Southwest Regional Vice President

Hampton E. Allen, Jr.

The Southwest Region consists of five Chapters, Caloosa, Charlotte, Highlands, Naples, and Saramana. Although some of the chapters are still in the process of recovering from the effects of Hurricane Ian, all of the chapters remain very active and are growing their memberships.

During the period October 2022 thru April 2023, I have attended to following:

- 13 Oct – Hickory Bluff NSDAR Chapter Meeting
- 3 Nov – Hickory Bluff NSDAR Chapter Meeting
- 11 Nov – Charlotte Chapter Meeting
- 11 Nov – Veterans Day Celebration – Port Charlotte- WR Gaines Veterans Park
- 12 Nov – Caloosa Chapter Meeting
- 19 Nov – Saramana Chapter Meeting
- 13 Dec – Caloosa Chapter Meeting
- 16 Dec – Charlotte Chapter Meeting
- 17 Dec – Saramana Chapter Meeting – Guest Speaker-Installed New Chapter Officers
- 12 Jan – Caloosa Chapter Meeting – Assisted FLSSAR President Mathews with Installation of new Caloosa Chapter Officers
- 13 Jan – Charlotte Chapter Meeting
- 21 Jan – Huguenot Society Meeting
- 9 Feb – Joint DAR/SAR/CAR Meeting hosted by Hickory Bluff Chapter NSDAR
- 18 Feb – Highlands Chapter – Guest Speaker
- 21 Feb – Jamestown Society Meeting
- 22 Feb – Caloosa Chapter Meeting – George Washington Birthday Celebration
- 9 Mar - Naples Chapter 50th Anniversary – Guest Speaker-Installed new Chapter Officers
- 9 Mar – Hickory Bluff NSDAR Meeting
- 10 Mar – Charlotte Chapter Meeting
- 15 Mar – Groundbreaking Veterans Memorial Tower-WR Gaines Veterans Park
- 8 Apr – Caloosa Chapter Meeting
- 14 Apr – Charlotte Chapter Meeting
- 27 Apr – Presented Bronze JROTC Medal to Cadet Harrison Darke at Charlotte High School, Punta Gorda, FL
- 5 May -- Presented Bronze JROTC Medal to Cadet Maxwell Goodman at the Lemon Bay High School in Englewood, FL
- 6 May – Presented the SAR Eagle Scout Certificate and Patch to Eagle Scout Neale M. Bachman at the Masonic Lodge in Punta Gorda, FL

The Caloosa Chapter continues to be a strong vibrant chapter with a lot of enthusiasm being demonstrated by President Tom Thompson and the members of the Caloosa Chapter.

The Charlotte Chapter continues to grow and becoming a more active chapter under the leadership of President Jonathan Hunt.

The Highlands Chapter has continued to grow and become a more active chapter and is heavy engaged with the local community. They are currently working on plans with a local historical to celebrate their annual Patriot's Day Celebration to be celebrated April 15-16, 2023.

The Naples Chapter having one of the nicest meeting venues in the area continues to attract new members and under the very capable leadership of their dedicated members and officers continues to thrive and continue to recover from the effects of the past pandemic.

The Saramana Chapter has been very active and continues to grow and be involved with their local community.

Caloosa Chapter

Thomas J. Thompson

The Caloosa Chapter has shown its resilience this reporting period. After Hurricane Ian devastated Ft. Myers at the end of September, we were able to resume our monthly meetings in November at Famous Dave's BBQ in Ft. Myers.

Our December meeting was our annual chapter business meeting. The slate of officers was presented and unanimously accepted by the membership. Compatriot Phil Theiler of the Naples Chapter gave an excellent presentation on the Battle of Waxhaws.

At our January meeting FLSSAR State President Earl Matthews attended and installed our officers, Thomas Thompson, President/Historian, Edward "Mike" Buff, Vice President, David Hudspeth, Secretary/Sergeant at Arms, Jeffery Brunelle, Treasurer,

Christopher Jenner, Registrar, Dr. Ronald Peck, Genealogist, Robert McGuire, Member-at-Large. President Matthews also gave an update on the State Society and the upcoming 2023 Congress.

Our February meeting was our annual George Washington Birthday Celebration that was held on February 22. The chapter color guard unit, Lighthouse Harry Lee Camp #15, presented the colors for the occasion. Our speaker was author and Compatriot Mark Barie. Compatriot Richard Parfitt was inducted into the Society. In February our Secretary/Sergeant at Arms had to resign due to hurricane-related issues.

In March the Executive Committee created a 50th Anniversary planning committee. The monthly chapter meeting was held, and chapter Chaplain Dwight Elam gave a presentation on the Last Naval Battle. Two new members, Compatriot James Cameron and Compatriot Joseph R. Topper Jr. were inducted into the Society.

Color Guard Commander Mike Buff, Jeff Brunelle, Bob McGuire and Dr. Bill Sharp participated in the Last Naval Battle ceremony in Merritt Island Florida. Our Ladies Auxiliary members Anne McGuire, Jan Brunelle and Dona Sharp presented wreaths at the ceremony. The color guard also participated in the Beirut Towers Veterans Memorial Tower groundbreaking ceremony in Port Charlotte. Additionally in March, color guardsmen McGuire and Brunelle participated with the Sons of Liberty color guard at the opening banquet of the DAR Annual Meeting in Orlando.

Compatriots Dwight Elam and Thomas Thompson attended the NSSAR Spring Leadership meeting in Louisville, Kentucky.

In April, the 50th Anniversary Planning Committee met and is planning a fall gala to celebrate the occasion. The committee voted to make this a fundraising event with the proceeds going to Hearts and Homes for Veterans Inc., a non-profit charity whose primary mission is to end homelessness and assist low-income veterans in Southwest Florida.

At our April meeting Compatriot Richard Parfitt was installed as Chapter Secretary. Compatriots John L. Maier Sr. and Milton McKelvie were inducted into the Society.

April was also our annual Youth Contest Award Winners meeting. Our winners this year were:

Elementary School Poster Contest

First Place: Ezrah Hogsed. Second Place: Aya Havlykke. Third Place: Abe Hogsed.

Sgt. Moses Adams Memorial Middle School Brochure Contest

First Place: Ari Hogsed. Second Place: Parker Russo. Third Place: Daniela Etchin

Honorable Mention: Elysianne Davis, Bowen Davis

George S. & Stella M. Knight Essay Contest

First Place: Jones E. Hogsed. Second Place Bennett R. Davis

Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest

First Place: Jones E. Hogsed

On May 9th the Chapter will hold its final meeting prior to our summer break. We hope to induct five new compatriots at that time if they are able to attend. We will also award Cape Coral Policeman Michael Jackson with the life saving medal and Florida State Trooper David Blake with our Law Enforcement Commendation Medal.

Our chapter continues to grow stronger as evidenced by our meeting attendance average exceeding pre-pandemic numbers. Our future growth is also looking bright, we have had six new membership applications approved this year, and two more are currently at NSSAR headquarters being reviewed for approval.

The Caloosa Chapter is proud to have three members in key positions for the 2023 National Congress to be hosted by Florida this year. Compatriot Chaplain Dwight Elam is the Planning Committee Chair. Compatriot Hampton Allen is Chair of Registration and Credentials as well as Committee Reporting Secretary. Compatriot Thomas Thompson is the Chair of the Manpower Committee.

While the Chapter was momentarily set back by Hurricane Ian, this report clearly demonstrates the strength and tenacity of the members of the Caloosa Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution as we continue to honor the sacrifices of our Patriot Ancestors.

Charlotte Chapter

Jonathan D. Hunt

The Charlotte Chapter is still recovering from the effects of Hurricane Ian. Our meeting place still hasn't been repaired and we continue to meet at the iHop Restaurant. Our membership has grown due to the hard work of Compatriot McGuire with submitting applications to NSSAR. Compatriot Reynolds P. Cushing was presented the Distinguished Service Medal for longstanding hard work and dedication on the Chapter Newsletter. FLSSAR SVP and Charlotte Treasurer Hamp Allan will be presenting Bronze Jr ROTC Medals to cadets 1- from Lemon Bay High School in Englewood and 1 - Charlotte High School in Punta Gorda.

Highlands Chapter

James T. Dean

The Highlands Chapter continues to be very active within the community of Sebring and Highlands County. July 4, 2022: James Dean and Kevin DePuy, both in colonial uniforms, assisted the Sebring Historical Society, selling food and drinks at the Historical Society Museum, prior to the fireworks display. This was a patriotic public service event that gave the SAR publicity, but generated no media coverage.

September 11, 2022: James Dean and Kevin DePuy, both in colonial uniforms, assisted St Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church in Lake Placid, with their annual flag disposal and dedication ceremony, which is an annual patriotic event at the Church. Other Church members including veterans took part. The Highlands News Sun newspaper article was a half page, with four photos, showing the Reverend Robin Reed receiving the Flag Certificate, and Kevin and James in uniform, and describing SAR. This was a patriotic and religious event that generated positive newspaper coverage, and will be repeated every year.

January 25, 2023: Speech at DAR monthly meeting. Patriots Chapter DAR invited James Dean to speak at their January meeting about the original Boston Liberty Tree, the Pearce-Lockett Liberty Tree, and the history of the Pearce Homestead. The resulting speech summarized legends from 1725 to today and included the history of the Revolution, the War of 1812, the Seminole Wars, Florida history, and historical preservation today. It has been typed, as requested by the DAR, and will be used in future historical publications. It did generate a newspaper article.

Every activity of the Highlands SAR over the last year was included in an invitation to the DAR to participate, and has generated positive publicity for the DAR. This has increased the visibility of the DAR and brought them new members. The Flag Ceremony in Lake Placid inspired two church members to join the DAR. Assisting the DAR will benefit the SAR as they encourage family members to join the SAR.

Mark Barie, member and noted historical author, initiated a patriotic essay contest for students, and had it approved by all three county schools. Unfortunately, it appears that school administrators did not promote it, and no students submitted essays. He plans to expand the essay project in the year ahead and overcome the laxity of the school administrators to encourage independent historical research and writing.

The Highlands County Chapter of the SAR will continue to work with the DAR in the year ahead. Other Chapters and Color Guard Units have been invited to participate in the Patriots Day events on April 15-16, 2023, at the Pearce Homestead.

An inquiry was received this week to assist the Pensacola Chapter to dedicate an ancient Live Oak Liberty Tree on the FSU University grounds. The Highlands Chapter will not take part, but is offering assistance and advice to make this happen.

Naples Chapter

W. Douglas Gibbens

The Naples Chapter meets at noon at Tiburon Golf Club on the second Thursday of each month October – May, except for December which is a joint meeting with the Big Cypress Chapter NSDAR.

On 10 November 2022, President Philip R. Thieler called the meeting to order at 12:02 PM. There were 34 members and guests present for the luncheon/meeting. President Thieler welcomed NSDAR Big Cypress Chapter Officers and members, SAR Compatriots, Applicants and Guests including from the US Army Recruiting Command SFC Mayra Arroya and SFC Michael Smuk. He introduced FLSSAR Chaplain Dwight Elam. President Thieler inducted our new members Ted McMullen and John Frye, accompanied by their wives. Doug Gibbens will be Ted's mentor, Jim Meerpohl will be John's mentor. President Thieler presented Joseph Ulrich with his supplemental – Patriot John Swarr. Past President Len Crame discussed the various Youth contests for NSSAR and our efforts to gain more applicants. President Thieler spoke about our volunteerism, mentor program, speakers' bureau and the

need for new recruits and opportunity to serve on our board. After lunch Compatriot Chaplain Elam made his presentation of “The Missing Man Table”.

1st VP Doug Gibbens conducted a roll call of veterans present and their branch of service. President Thieler conducted his presentation, with handouts, of the Battle of Waxhaws as part of his Historical Tidbit series. President Thieler reminded everyone that our next meeting would be the joint DAR/SAR meeting on 10 December at Cypress Woods Country Club.

On 10 December 2022, President Philip R. Thieler co-hosted the DAR/SAR annual Christmas meeting with Big Cypress Regent, Donna Shands. The meeting presented the Big Cypress Chapter to present the DAR President General’s Report and the DAR National Defense Report by DAR National Defense Chair, Carol Berning. The Guest Speakers were Bill and Carol Elder who provided the members with an intimate view into the lives of General George and Martha Washington. President Thieler provided overview of the Chapter’s initiatives over the past year: The Chapter Mentor Program; The Historical Tidbits series focusing on major battles of the Southern Campaign and the creation of the Chapter’s Speaker’s Bureau.

On 17 December 2022, President Philip R. Thieler supported Wreaths Across America (WAA) Wreath laying ceremony at Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Fort Myers, Florida. The Guest of Honor was Major General Dozier, USA (Ret.). President Thieler supervised the laying of more than 400 wreaths in the northern part of the Memorial Garden Cemetery. In total, the Lee County WAA Representative, Kristina Shira, oversaw the laying of over 1,700 wreaths. In her welcoming remarks, Kristina Shira recognized the support provided by the Naples Chapter.

On 17 December, 2022, First Vice President W. Douglas Gibbens, along with the Naples Chapter Color Guard, consisting of Compatriots Leonard Crame, Brian Bennett, Michael Garey, John McCullough, and Anthony (James) Meerpohl, supported the Wreaths across America ceremony at Cambier Park in Naples. The ceremony was led by Daughters of the Big Cypress Chapter, NSDAR. Gibbens laid a wreath representing the United States Army, and the Color Guard presented the colors prior to the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem. The chapter was well recognized by the Big Cypress Daughters for their support and participation. This was the first Wreaths Across America ceremony for Naples.

On 11 January 2023, President Philip R. Thieler called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM. There were 70 members and guests present for the luncheon/meeting. President Thieler welcomed everyone to the Public Service Awards luncheon and briefly discussed the history of our recognition and its purpose. He welcomed members of NSDAR Big Cypress Chapter Officers and members, NSDAR Lady Washington Chapter (Houston, TX) member Joanne Bennett, SAR Compatriots, our guest speaker Sheriff Kevin Rambosk, senior leaders and awardees from the Public Service Community. President Thieler made a brief presentation about the SAR, our chapter, our speakers bureau, and the 250-anniversary upcoming in 2026. President Thieler inducted our new member Bob Stiles, accompanied by his wife, Susan. Tom Woodruff will be Bob’s mentor. Compatriot Stiles received his Certificate, Rosette, and Military Service Award and Medal. After lunch Compatriot FLSSAR President Matt Matthews provided remarks about his travels around the state, FL place in the revolution (14th Colony), and our upcoming National Congress in July. Compatriot Acey Edgemon, chairman of the Public Service Awards Committee conducted the recognition ceremony and made presentations to our Public Service awardees. Sheriff Kevin Rambosk made remarks principally about the 100th centennial year for Collier County. The first sheriff was installed in May, 1923 at Everglades City, current location of the Rod & Gun Club. President Thieler provided a presentation on the Battle of Camden as part of his Historical Tidbit series. President Thieler reminded everyone that our next meeting would be our JROTC recognition on February 9, 2023 at the Tiburon Golf Club.

Naples Chapter Speaker’s Bureau

President Philip R. Thieler established the Naples Chapter Speaker’s Bureau on January 1, 2023. The essence of the Speaker’s Bureau is to conduct a Chapter outreach program that will allow specific Chapter members to conduct briefings on the history and purpose of the Sons of the American Revolution or Historical Battles from the Southern Campaign of 1780. In order to ensure credit on the Americanism Spreadsheets, the Chapter markets the Speaker’s Bureau on the Chapter Website under a Speaker’s Bureau tab.

Speaker’s Bureau Events:

Organization	Topic	Type of Program	Date	Non-SAR	Period Attire	Attendees	Presenter Name
Bonita Springs Rotary Club	History of SAR	Educational	1/24/2023	Non-SAR	No	45	Thieler & Gibbens
Naples Chapter SAR	Battle of Camden Presentation	Historical	1/11/2023	SAR	No	70	Thieler
Pelican Bay Rotary	Battle of Camden/SAR	Historical	2/3/2023	Non-	No	50	Thieler

Club				SAR			
Naples Chapter SAR	Battle of King's Mountain	Historical	2/9/2023	SAR	No	48	Thieler
Naples Chapter SAR	Battle of Cowpens	Historical	3/9/2023	SAR	No	43	Thieler
Bonita Springs Rotary Club	History of SAR	Educational	3/16/2023	Non-SAR	No	25	Thieler
North Side Naples Kiwanis	History of SAR	Educational	3/23/2023	Non-SAR	No		Gibbens

On 9 February 2023, President Philip R. Thieler called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM. The program was followed as printed with the exception of Doug Gibbens leading the Pledge of Allegiance and President Thieler providing the JROTC Awards. There were 48 members and guests present for the luncheon/meeting. President Thieler welcomed everyone to the luncheon and briefly discussed the history of our recognition and its purpose. He welcomed NSDAR Big Cypress Chapter Officers and members, SAR Compatriots, our honorees from the JROTC, and their instructors. He also recognized our guest speaker, Tom Gilmore from the American Battlefield Trust. President Thieler made a brief presentation about the SAR, our chapter, and our speakers bureau. President Thieler inducted our new member Howard Ashley Pulsifer. John McCullough will be Howard's mentor. Compatriot Pulsifer received his Certificate, Rosette, and Military Service Award and Medal presented by Doug Gibbens, our Veterans Committee chairman. During lunch Tom Gilmore presented, via Zoom, information on the American Battlefield Trust. The organization was established to purchase or restrict land where American battles have been conducted from the American Revolution through the Civil War. After the presentation President Thieler awarded a Certificate of Appreciation and a \$200 donation to the Trust. President Thieler, assisted by Compatriot Mike Garey conducted the recognition ceremony and made presentations to our JROTC awardees. Cadet CPT Rachel Dills from Gulf Coast High School and Cadet CPT Sara Henao Blandon presented their essays. The judges adjourned briefly to select a winner and returned with unanimous approval of Cadet CPT Blandon on her experience and challenges as an immigrant at 7 years old and path to citizenship and JROTC leadership. President Thieler provided a presentation on the Battle of Kings Mountain as part of his Historical Tidbit series. President Thieler reminded everyone that our next meeting would be our Charter Day, 50th anniversary celebration on March 9, 2023 at the Tiburon Golf Club. A commemorative coin has been ordered for the occasion.

On 9 March 2023, President Philip R. Thieler called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM. The program was as follows: Posting of the Colors, Invocation by Chaplain Robert Matthews, Pledge of Allegiance lead by Brian Bennett, American's Creed by Tim West, and SAR Pledge by Tom Woodruff. There were 48 members and guests present for the luncheon/meeting. President Thieler welcomed everyone to the luncheon and briefly addressed the topic of Volunteerism and how it serves as the lifeblood of any organization. He further stated that it was also fitting to recognize some Volunteers for their service to the Chapter and by virtue of their initiatives, enhanced the Chapter's image in the community. In special recognition of the Chapter's 50th Anniversary, President Thieler introduced the Chapter's 50th Anniversary Commemorative Coin. President Thieler welcomed NSDAR Big Cypress Chapter Officers and members, Hickory Bluff Honorary Regent, and Lawrence Kearney Honorary Regent, SAR Compatriots, our guest speaker RVP-SW Region FLSSAR, Compatriot Bob McGuire who volunteered to participate in our Color Guard, other visitors, and guests. President Thieler presented Awards and Recognition of volunteer efforts on behalf of the chapter:

- Linda Rosenthal-Certificate of Appreciation for Election Precinct support
- Jane Woodruff- Certificate of Appreciation for Art for Democracy judging
- Chapter Coins to each of the Board Members and one Past President
- Mike Lyster-Chapter Meritorious Service Medal
- Jim Meerpohl-Chapter Meritorious Service Medal
- Tom Woodruff-Chapter Bronze Roger Sherman Medal
- Bob Matthews-Chapter Bronze Roger Sherman Medal
- Three Chapter Coins to our Tiburon support team and servers

President Thieler introduced our Guest Speaker, RVP Hamp Allen who spoke about the life's story of Peter Francisco, the Virginia Giant, Secretary Mike Lyster conducted the Election of Officers-the nominating committee report was adopted unanimously:

- President Doug Gibbens
- 1st VP Acey Edgemon
- 2nd VP Tim West
- Secretary Len Crame
- Treasurer Jim Meerpohl
- Chancellor Mike Garey

RVP Allen installed the officers. As part of his Historical Tidbit Series, President Thieler provided a presentation on the Battle of Cowpens. Newly installed President Gibbens reminded everyone that our next meeting would be April 13, 2023 at the Tiburon Golf Club.

On April 13, 2023, President Douglas Gibbens called the meeting to order at 12 Noon sharp. The program was as follows: Posting of the Colors, Invocation by Chaplain Robert Matthews, Pledge of Allegiance lead by Howard Pulsifer, American's Creed by Thomas Philbrick, and SAR Pledge by Edward Ferguson Jr. There were 29 members and guests present for the luncheon/meeting. President Gibbens welcomed everyone to the luncheon and briefly update the attendees on the activities of the Board of Directors, including the appointment of Brian Bennett and Robert Stiles as Board members at large. Gibbens also mentioned that the Board of Directors had approved the application for the chapter to become Vietnam Commemorative Partners, and that the application had been received by the Department of Defense and already had been approved. Gibbens also told the membership of the upcoming unofficial social time to be held from 4:30 – 6:30 PM on April 27th. The event is informal, spouses and friends and particularly prospective members are encouraged, and will be held at Seed to Table, at the NE corner of Immokalee Road and Livingstone Boulevard. President Gibbens welcomed NSDAR Big Cypress Chapter Officers and members, Compatriot Tom Thompson, president of the Caloosa Chapter, SAR Compatriots, our guest speaker Mr. Michael Maiback, other visitors, and guests.

President Gibbens presented Years of Service awards to the following: Compatriot Thomas Philbrick, 30 years; Compatriot Edward Ferguson, Jr., 20 years; and Compatriot (Chaplain) Robert Matthews, 15 years.

President Gibbens then introduced our guest speaker, Mr. Michael Maiback, who spoke about the Electoral College and how other Republics Select Their Leaders. Mr. Maiback took several questions at the end of his presentation.

After reminding people of our next meeting on May 11th, President Gibbens closed the meeting with a benediction by Chaplain Matthews and the SAR Recessional by Compatriot Robert Stiles.

Saramana Chapter

S. Preston Adams, III

Saramana Luncheon November 19, 2022

Attendance: 7 Officers, 1 Past president 7 additional SAR members and 16 guests for a total of 31 attendees

Guest Speaker: Hampton Allen, SW regional Vice President

Election of new officers for 2023 was conducted.

Entertainment: Marcea Otting & John Stewart as Abigail & Thomas Jefferson.

Saramana Luncheon Meeting December /17, 20/22

Attendance: 6 Officers, 1 Past president 1 Governor and an additional 5 SAR members, 15 guests for a total of 28 attendees.

Awards:

Robert Collins received Viet Nam Veterans Certificate and Medal.

William Leach received the Viet Nam War Service Certificate and Medal.

The following Compatriots received Bronze Roger Sherman Medal; Richard Mahaffey, Preston Adams, Wally Goulet, Jr., John Heyer, Howard Randolph, Jr. David Purviance, John Fitzpatrick and Chris Romine.

The Martha Washington Certificates and medals were presented to Sharon Milligan and Sherry Erb for their tireless efforts they make for our chapter.

Steve Fields received a picture of a Revolutionary War Soldier for his dedicated service to our chapter.

Hampton Allen, SW Regional Vice President was our featured speaker with the story of Peter Francisco.

Hamp Allen also installed our newly elected Officers for 2023.

President Preston Adams was presented with Chapter Sword and Gavel and was given the Oath for the Presidency.

Saramana Luncheon Meeting January 28, 2023

Attendance: 7 Officers, 1 Past president, 1 Governor and an additional 8 SAR Members and 20 Guests for a total of 37 attendees.

Guest and DAR member Kathy Holler advised of a function representing the 214th Birthday of Abraham Lincoln and a Civil War Ball and invited everyone to attend.

Clayton Taylor an elected member of the Sarasota Chapter Review Board advised of many openings of Precinct Committeeman and Committee Women from all political parties.

Our featured speaker was Steven Ray Fields, Sr. Florida Society Vice President. Steve reported on many upcoming activities. His main topic was the history of Samuel Whitmore's exploits in the Revolutionary War.

Saramana Luncheon Meeting February 25, 2023

Attendance was 6 Officers, 1 Past President, 2 Governors and an additional 8 SAR Members and 18 Guests for a total of 35 attendees.

Past President Tim Milligan was called to the Podium to present our Treasurer John Boll with the Chapter Certificate and

Distinguished Service Medal for his outstanding service.

Florida Society Senior Vice President made a presentation and inducted Timothy Charles Deforest into membership in our Saramana Chapter and Tim received his SAR pin.

Guest Speaker: Our speaker was SAR Compatriot Tim Ashby. Tim's topic was the history of his Patriot George Ashby of the 8th Regiment.

Saramana Luncheon Meeting March 18, 2023

Attendance: 4 Officers, 2 Governors and an additional 8 SAR members and 10 guests for a total of 24 attendees. President Adams advised of the “History in the Park” event and our Chapters participation on march 25th. Kevin Kuhens was called to the podium for some remarks. Kevin advised of his history with the SAR and his professional background with the Pentagon in Naval Intelligence. Kevin gave a short introduction to his new book “Terrors Sword” and advised that he is furnishing every attendee with a signed copy. Guest Speaker: William H. Hild Jr. topic was the history of the “Society of the Cincinnati”. He also reported on the Anderson House in Washington, DC and encouraged all to visit if given the chance.

Secretary

M. Scott Breckenridge

- **FLSSAR membership** total (as of 5/1/2023) is 2,350, including Youth, Memorial, and Dual members. The Annual Report and Reconciliation was completed on time with NSSAR. The results for 2022 are:
 Beginning of 2022 Total = 2,084
 New Members = 301
 Adds from reinstatements or transfer = 133
 Deceased = 41
 Losses from transfer = 9
 End of 2022 Total = 2,468
 Drops due to non-payment = 286
 Beginning of 2023 Total = 2,182
- **Chapter Challenge Contest:**
 The Florida Society Chapter Challenge Contest is designed to recognize chapters for various activities that meet the goals of the SAR. Chapters are judged against each other based on size (small-red, medium-white, large-blue). The top three winners in each category are recognized at the FLSSAR Annual Meeting. The contest period is the calendar year, January 1st to December 31st. The winning chapters for 2022 are:

Red 1st Place – William Dunaway	White 1st Place – Pensacola	Blue 1st Place - Miami
Red 2nd Place – St Petersburg	White 2nd Place – Ft Lauderdale	Blue 2nd Place - Naples
Red 3rd Place – Daytona-Ormond	White 3rd Place – Flagler	Blue 3rd Place - Clearwater
Red Hon Mention – Lake City	White Hon Mention – St Lucie River	Blue Hon Mention – Lake-Sumter
- A word about **BOM members:**
 Not everyone that attends a Board of Management Meeting is entitled to vote. I’ve reprinted the relevant section from the FLSSAR ByLaws here and bolded the parts that pertain to chapters.

Section 1 Membership

The membership of the BOM shall include only persons who are members in good standing of the FLSSAR, and who are listed in at least one of the following categories:

- a. persons who are lifetime members of the BOM by virtue of being a past President of the FLSSAR, a recipient of the Patriot Medal, or an incumbent or past elected officer of the NSSAR;
- b. persons who are members of the BOM by virtue of being, and while being, an elected officer of the FLSSAR; appointed incumbent FLSSAR Committee Chairman; an incumbent National Trustee from Florida; an incumbent Chapter President; and the most recent Past President of a chapter, i.e., the person who preceded an incumbent Chapter President in office; if a chapter has no most recent Past President it shall name another of its members to serve on the BOM;
- c. persons who have been appointed by chapters having more than forty members on the basis of one additional member of the BOM for each forty chapter members or fraction thereof more than the first forty, the term of office of such additional members of the BOM to be coterminous with that of the Chapter President incumbent at the time of their appointment to the BOM.

A member of the BOM who is unable to attend a meeting may name, in writing, another member of the FLSSAR to attend and act in his stead; provided, however, that no person may have more than one vote. Members of the FLSSAR who are not members of the BOM may attend and participate in debate but may not vote.

Treasurer

W. Richard "Dick" Young

As of April 30, 2023, the Florida Society had approximately \$283,900 in the bank, as follows:

Operating Fund	\$183,300
Meeks Fund	\$ 37,100
2023 Congress Fund	\$ 63,500

Since the last BOM, your Treasurer attended the National SAR Spring Leadership Conference in Louisville, primarily as part of the FLSSAR Congress Committee. The 2022 Checkbook and related reports were delivered to the Financial Review Committee whose report is in the BOM Proceedings. The IRS form 990 EZ was prepared and filed within the May 15 deadline. A copy will be available for inspection during the BOM. The cash/budget reports for calendar year 2022 and for the first four months of 2023 were presented to the Finance Committee for their review and are made available to the BOM under the Finance Committee Report. Your Treasurer is also active in the Tampa Chapter. Since the October BOM, I have participated in four National Color Guard events with the Tampa Chapter as well as one State event and one Chapter event.

Registrar

Ray C. Lantz

FLSSAR Application Stats 03 Sep 2022 – 20 Apr 2023

	Application Type				Totals
	Regular	Supplemental	CAR Transfer	Junior	
Submitted To NSSAR	178	67	3	26	254
Approved* By NSSAR	157	29	4	28	218
254 Pended* By NSSAR	8	4	0	3	15
Pended By FSSAR	32	13	0	2	47
DAR Finder Approved Total Year to date			2022 = 55 and 2023 = 18		

* Approved and Pended by NSSAR stats are generally not related to the Submitted to NSSAR stats, as the majority of the stats apply to applications reported as submitted on the previous report period.

NSSAR & FLSSAR Pended Reasons:

- Unofficial transcript(s) of will(s) submitted instead of required legible copies of court recorded or original will.
- Proof documents are too poor quality to be fully legible.
- Proof documents are not a copy of the entire page. Page snippets cannot be used alone there must also be a legible full-page copy of the page the snippet was taken from.
- Proof document title page and copyright page not submitted for one or more documents.
- No proof submitted for one or more generations to connect lineage from one generation to the next.
- Incorrect check amount required for NSSAR and or FLSSAR fees and dues.
- Unproven/unaccepted information used on application from a previous SAR, DAR and/or CAR application record copy.
- Service reference section contains wrong information.

Recommended Application Submission Improvement Areas:

- NSSAR application checklist either long or abbreviated checklist no longer required to be submitted. HOWEVER, it is strongly recommended for use in verification of an application prior to submission to the FLSSAR Registrar for review.
- Ensure all required signatures and dates are present as required for type of applications being submitted.

- Do not submit NSDAR web site printouts from the “Descendants Database Search” or NSDAR “Patriot Index” information. This information is not acceptable for either lineage or service and NSSAR does not want this unacceptable information included with any application.
- **Ensure ALL applicable information contained on all submitted proof documents is recorded in the applicable sections of the application. Do not list references that are not being submitted and list all documents that have been submitted.**
- **Ensure all known spouse information is included when known for each generation even when the spouse is not in direct lineal descent. This will prevent applications from being pended when two persons of the same name are living in a given area and this information would assist in identification of the correct person used on the application.**
- Only one set of proof documents are required to be submitted with each application. This also applies when submitting more than one application under the family plan criteria. One set of proofs only for the common documents used by all the applications in the group. This does not apply to multiple supplemental applications submitted at the same time. Supplemental applications are always considered separately and require complete sets of documentation.
- **Use a red pencil to underline applicable data on all proof documents and DO NOT USE any type of highlighter.**
- Copy of entire legible original census page must be submitted when using a census as a proof document. Ancestry.com census transcription pages cannot be used in lieu of the original census page but, it may be used in addition to the original page.
- Never use nick names on an application unless an acceptable proof document has been submitted that validates the nickname.

Notes of Interest:

- NSSAR acceptance policies very recently changed significantly DNA Evidence please be certain you have fully read the new guidelines and have complied with the same to the fullest extent prior to submitting DNA proof evidence!
- **New NSSAR Application/Genealogy Policy and Prep Manuals**
New versions of these manuals are available for download from the NSSAR website.

Chaplain

Dwight D. Elam

No report submitted.

Recording Secretary

Leonard W. Crame

Minutes of the previous BOM meeting are found beginning on page 6.

Chancellor

Thomas J. Thompson

Nothing to report.

Genealogist

J Gray Chandler

Genealogy Committee Presentation at May BOM

- Focus on “First Contact” by a Registrar
 - a. Recruiting Leads
 - b. Initial contact
 - 1) Letter
 - 2) Maintaining contact during application process
 - c. Encouraging applicants to attend chapter meetings.
 - d. Applicant fact sheet

Setting Goals for Future Zoom Sessions

- Encourage greater attendance for future Zoom meetings.
- Continue to address concerns expressed by FLSSAR Ray Lantz
- Mini Master Class – Pended Applications
- Mini Master Class – Supplemental Applications
- Set up a shared procedure so that registrars facing research issues can draw on the expertise of more experienced registrars.

Sergeant at Arms

Jeff F. Brunnelle

No report submitted.

Historian

Jonathan D. Hunt

The records of the society continue to be preserved digitally. It's a timely process as they have to be organized prior to scanning. Expected date of completion is July 2024.

Editor, The Florida Patriot

Jeff L. Sizemore

As a reminder, please remind your chapter members that a subscription to the FLSSAR printed issue is \$12.00 per year. For anyone that is interested, please make out your check to the "FLSSAR Treasurer" and send it to Scott Breckinridge (Florida Society Secretary). Note that subscription submittals are typically done at the time that annual dues are collected.

The deadline for submitting articles, reports, and announcements for consideration into the upcoming issues of the magazine are as follows:

Summer 2023 Magazine Submittal Cutoff	= June 15, 2023
Fall 2023 Magazine Submittal Cutoff	= September 15, 2023
Winter 2023 Magazine Submittal Cutoff	= December 15, 2023
Spring 2024 Magazine Submittal Cutoff	= March 15, 2024

Be advised that when submittals are sent in late, it delays the publication of this magazine and makes it hard to deliver a good issue to our membership. If you want to submit your chapter newsletter as a submittal, please submit it in either MS Word or MS Publisher format.

General and historical articles also are appreciated so that our members get a variety of materials in each issue. All articles need to also be sent in MS Word format. The email addresses that can be used to submit your material for the magazine are as follows: swampfoxsar@gmail.com.

Webmaster

E. Scott Bushnell

There has been relatively little activity on the website. Just some Password requests, an issue with Flagler's picture insert ability.

Statutory Committee Reports

Executive Committee

Earl F. "Matt" Mathews, Chairman

The Executive Committee has met the following times since the last BOM.

- 9/8/2022
 - Approval for FLSSAR participation in National test of ClubExpress for dues collection. No expense at this time.
- 12/10/2022
 - Review and approval of Emeritus-3 requests for 2023.

Finance Committee

W. Richard "Dick" Young, Chairman

The Finance Committee had the opportunity to review the IRS Form 990 EZ as it was filed. They also reviewed the calendar year 2022 checkbook and related reports before they were delivered to the Financial Review Committee. The Committee also had the opportunity to review the 2023 checkbook and related interim reports for the four months ended April 30, 2023 prior to the BOM meeting. The 2022 and the interim 2023 cash basis budget report with comments from the Treasurer are included as part of this Finance Committee Report for review by the BOM.

The Finance Committee will have budget related recommendations in the form of motions to be presented at the BOM meeting for discussion and consideration.

Budget Review for 2023 Through April

Not much happens within the Florida Society that requires payment during the first part of the calendar year. Many of the Youth Contests are finalized, but most of the award money is not distributed until the Annual Meeting.

- Dues collections for 2023 were on budget, and about the same as 2022. Dues payment to National was about \$1500 more than expected.
- The first quarter distribution from the Operating Budget Trust Fund has not yet been received.
- The quarterly stipends to the Secretary, Registrar and Executive Administrator were paid as budgeted, except only 50% of the Executive Administrator's second quarter stipend was paid, pending the appointment of that position by the Executive Committee at the Annual Meeting.
- The commemorations of the Battle of Thomas Creek and the Last Naval Battle have been held. The sponsors of Thomas Creek have been reimbursed as much as the budget will allow. The sponsors of the LNB have not yet submitted a request for reimbursement. The Galvez Day celebration was the first weekend of May.
- The second of three BOM approved annual contributions of \$1,000 each to the Florida Veterans Foundation was made.
- The annual \$1,000 contribution to the Florida Society C.A.R. was made in conjunction with their Annual Conference in February.
- The \$500 budget for the State of Florida History Fair was again, not used.
- The Treasurer continues to look for affordable liability insurance.
- Congress Fund receipts and disbursements will be distributed and discussed at the BOM Congress Committee Meeting. At this time, it is believed that the funds raised by the Congress Committee will be sufficient to cover the expenses of the Congress.

See detailed reports in Appendix C.

MOTION – The Finance Committee moved that unused President expenses be moved to the 2023 Congress fund. **PASSED**

MOTION – The Finance Committee moved that unused Secretary expenses be moved to the 2023 Congress fund. **PASSED**

MOTION – The Finance Committee moved that late reported SVP expenses for 2022 be moved to the 2023 budget. **PASSED**

MOTION – The Finance Committee moved that if there are unexpected Congress expenses, or budget overruns, that the Treasurer and Executive Committee members not on the Congress Planning committee be authorized to approve those expenditures.

PASSED

Compatriot Brad Marble presented a personal donation of \$2,000 to the Congress fund.

Financial Review Committee

David E. Bussone, Chairman

The Financial Review Committee is responsible for conducting an annual internal review of the books and financial records of our Society. We are not responsible for conducting, or causing, an audit to be conducted.

The Treasurer provided the committee with sufficient materials for us to review the activities, transactions, and financial assets of the FLSSAR. (N.B. This report does not address the ongoing receipts, expenses or assets of the SAR's upcoming 2023 Congress.)

After reviewing the data and materials provided by the Treasurer, the Committee is satisfied that the records accurately reflect the financial position of The FLSSAR.

Recommendations:

- 1) As of 1/1/2024 the Committee recommends that the Treasurer adopt a commercially available bookkeeping program such as Quicken or Quick Books, or another equivalent software program. Such a program should allow the Treasurer to produce requested reports, as well as accurately reflect an up-to-date checkbook. A check printing function would also be desirable. The software should be paid for by the FLSSAR and be available for transfer to future treasurers.
- 2) The Bylaws Committee should be charged with reviewing the purpose and functions of the Financial Review Committee. Despite BOM conversations over several years, the language in use is still confusing. For example, the word "audit" is found in several places. It has been agreed at past BOMs that the Committee is not responsible for audits.

Respectfully submitted; David Bussone, Pat Niemann, Wm Lee Popham

Medals and Awards Committee

Hampton E. Allen, Jr., Chairman

The NSSAR Handbook (Volume 5) was updated in Dec 2022 and effective as of 22 Dec 2022. It included a number of newly authorized medals and also realigned the precedence of all the medals. I would encourage all Chapter Presidents, Secretaries and compatriots to review the newly updated handbook to acquaint yourselves with the medals and awards that are available and at what level they can be presented. Pages 5 thru 8 list all of the medals that can be awarded to compatriots and reflects the updated precedence for wearing them. Don't forget the ladies that support both our chapters and the society. They deserve recognition as well. Pages 9 thru 10 list all of the ladies medals and their precedence.

While the presentation of medals and awards should never be treated lightly, it is one way that we have to recognize the contributions of our compatriots for their service to both the chapter and our state society. Judicious consideration should always given to the presentation of medals and awards to ensure that the presentation is in keeping with NSSAR principles.

Nominations for award of a medal or certificate at the state level should be submitted to the FLSSAR Medals and Awards Committee at least 60 days prior a meeting of the Board of Management. This will ensure that the request can be properly evaluated and the certificate and/or medal will be available for presentation at the BOM.

Nominating Committee

Dwight D. Elam, Chairman

For the 2022 – 2023 term, the Nominating Committee consisted of Dwight Elam (chairman), David Ramseur, Jim Gaskins, Jonathan Hunt, and James Ward.

The list of candidates proposed for your consideration for 2023-2024 officers are:

President – Steven R. Fields

Senior Vice President – James Y. Gaskins

Treasurer – W. Richard Young, Sr

Secretary – M. Scott Breckenridge

ExCom Member-at-Large – Robert W. McGuire, Jr

Recording Secretary – Leonard W. Crame

Registrar – Raymond C. Lantz

Sgt. At Arms – Jeffrey F. Brunelle

Chaplain – Dwight D. Elam

Chancellor – Thomas J. Thompson

Genealogist – J. Gray Chandler

Historian – Joel A. Etherton

Editor The Florida Patriot – Jeffrey L. Sizemore

Webmaster – E. Scott Bushnell

NE RVP – Charles R. Hayes
NW RVP – Christopher E. Washler
NC RVP – David C. Thomas
EC RVP – Jeffrey L. Sizemore
WC RVP – A. Parks Honeywell
SW RVP – Hampton E. Allen
SE RVP – William R. Wicks III
National Trustee – Earl F. (Matt) Mathews
Alternate Trustee – Steven R. Fields

Patriot Medal Committee

Patrick J. Niemann, Chairman

Awardees have been selected and will be announced at the Saturday night banquet.

NSSAR Affairs

SAR Education Center and Museum Committee

Chairman - none

National Society Library Committee

Chairman - none

FLSSAR Affairs

2023 Congress Planning Committee

Earl F. "Matt" Mathews, Chairman

No report submitted.

Archives Committee

Earl F. "Matt" Mathews, Chairman

No report submitted.

By-Laws Committee

Steven R. Fields, Chairman

The following proposed by-laws changes, as published in the Winter 2023 Patriot Magazine, will be presented at the Annual Meeting.

Authority to hold EXCOM meetings by members other than the president will be clarified.

Article V, Committees, Section 1, Executive Committee, second paragraph, recommended change to the first sentence: "Three members shall constitute a quorum, which may or may not include the President."

MOTION – The By-Laws Committee moved that the proposed change be adopted as presented. **FAILED.**

Removal of FLSSAR Officers

Article III Officers: Add a new Section 9, Removal of Officers, with the following wording. "In accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, Article VI. - Officers and Management, paragraph (C), states that "the Board of Management shall have control over all officers and committees, and for good cause may declare any office vacant." This declaration of vacancy shall include authority to remove FLSSAR elected officers for good cause.

In accordance with Article I, Section V, Special Meeting, paragraph a., the President shall call for a Special Meeting of the BOM to consider the removal any FLSSAR elected officer below the President.

For good cause, it shall be the responsibility of Senior Vice President to hold a special BOM meeting in accordance with Article I, Section V, to vote on the President's removal. A vote of two thirds of the BOM membership will be required for removal."

MOTION – The By-Laws Committee moved that the proposed change be adopted as presented. **FAILED.**

Appointment to State Positions of At-Large Members

Article III, Officers, Section 3, Additional Offices, recommended change: Add sentence that states, "No person who is a member-at-large (i.e. not a member of a chapter) shall be appointed to any FLSSAR office or committee."

MOTION – The By-Laws Committee moved that the proposed change be adopted as presented. **FAILED.**

BOM Meetings

The ability to change the agenda of the BOM at the time of the meeting will be addressed.

Article II, The Board of Management, Section 3 Meetings, recommended change to first paragraph, as follows: "The currently elected President of the FLSSAR shall normally preside over the BOM meetings, but alternate officers are authorized to preside at these meetings if the President is unable to fulfill these duties for any reason."

MOTION – The By-Laws Committee moved that the proposed change be adopted as presented. **FAILED.**

Annual Elections

Article III, Officers, Section 2 Nomination and Election of Officers, paragraph C. current wording states: "Elections will be held at the Annual Meeting."

Recommended change: "Elections will be held at the Annual Meeting by those in attendance. Electronic voting and proxies are not authorized."

MOTION – The By-Laws Committee moved that the proposed change be adopted as presented. **FAILED.**

Appointment of State Elected Officer Positions

Current wording: "If any elected officer shall be unable to serve his full term because of a death, resignation, or disability or other cause, there shall be an appointment by the President for the unexpired portion of the term, subject to confirmation by the Executive Committee (by phone conversation, e-mail or letter, with formal confirmation at the next scheduled BOM per Article II - Section 2.F.)"

Recommended change: "...subject to confirmation by the majority of the Executive Committee members..."

MOTION – The By-Laws Committee moved that the proposed change be adopted as presented. **FAILED.**

Public Statements Regarding FLSSAR Business Matters

The process to make or release public statements regarding FLSSAR business matters will be clarified to ensure statements are fully sanctioned

Article VIII Miscellaneous, Section 2, Authority to Speak for the FLSSAR, recommended change:

Add sentence, as follows: "Members of any FLSSAR authorized committee shall obtain approval from their respective committee chairman before releasing any report to the general membership of the FLSSAR. Due to possible legal repercussions, all reports, findings, or other written documents generated as a result of any FLSSAR committee which may adversely reflect on the organization or an officer of the FLSSAR shall be reviewed by the EXCOM for approval prior to release."

MOTION – The By-Laws Committee moved that the proposed change be adopted as presented. **PASSED.**

Electioneering

By-Laws do not address electioneering. Suggested change to Article III, Section 2, Nomination and Election of Officers, paragraph A. Nominations, (2) Nominations from the Floor, to the following: Add sentence, which states: "Nominations via electronic media, mass mailings, etc. in advance of the Annual meeting to the FLSSAR membership for alternate names or an alternate slate of FLS-SAR officers shall not be allowed."

MOTION – The By-Laws Committee moved that the proposed change be adopted as presented. **FAILED.**

Schedule of BOM and Annual Meetings

Article II, Section 3, Meetings, currently states, "One meeting will occur on the day before the date fixed for the opening of the Annual Meeting of the State Society, to be known as the Spring Meeting."

Recommended change to the following: "One meeting will occur on the day before, or on the date fixed..." This will allow for flexibility in scheduling the BOM and annual meeting.

MOTION – The By-Laws Committee moved that the proposed change be adopted as presented. **PASSED.**

Chair Positions

Article III, Section 6, Holding Multiple Offices, currently states, " Any member except the President may be elected to, and concurrently hold, more than one, but not more than two, of the offices listed in Section 1 of this Article. "

Recommended change: Add an additional sentence that states, "The currently elected President will not hold or chair any committee other than the Executive Committee."

MOTION – The By-Laws Committee moved that the proposed change be adopted as presented. **FAILED.**

FLSSAR Contracts

The current By-Laws require the Treasurer to hold all contracts. Over the years, the practice has evolved that the Secretary now holds contracts.

Article IV, Duties of Officers, Section 4, Secretary, paragraph g., as written, states, "Sign documents for official certification; sign checks as authorized; arrange for bonding of officers as directed by the BOM; and maintain the archives of original records of the FLSSAR; including all corporate resolutions...."

Recommended wording: "including all corporate contracts and resolutions..."

MOTION – The By-Laws Committee moved that the proposed change be adopted as presented. **PASSED.**

FLSSAR Assets

The By-Laws will be updated to address who will hold FLSSAR assets.

Section 12, Sergeant-at-Arms, current wording includes the following clause, "custody of the paraphernalia belonging to the FLS-SAR..."

Recommended change to include the words "other assets" after "paraphernalia."

MOTION – The By-Laws Committee moved that the proposed change be adopted as presented.

Scott Breckenridge moved to amend the wording to "and other assets". **SECOND** Doug Gibbens. **PASSED.**

Scott Breckenridge moved to amend the wording to "and other physical assets". **SECOND** Doug Gibbens. **PASSED.**

The motion **PASSED** as amended.

Number of Members Needed for New Chapter

At May BOM, the topic of number of members required for a new chapter was raised. The By-Laws will state that the number of members must be a minimum of 15.

Article I, The Society, Section 2, Chapters and Regions, recommended new paragraph, as follows:

New FLSSAR state chapters may be authorized, provided a minimum of 15 existing FLSSAR members in good standing located in the area where the new chapter intends to hold meetings agree to support and participate in the new chapter. Petitions for a new chapter will include a statement that coordination with existing chapters within the region, as defined by boundary of the applicable Regional VP, has been conducted to ensure conflicts will not exist regarding community related activities, such as JROTC, etc. (updated revision)

MOTION – The By-Laws Committee moved that the proposed change be adopted as presented. **FAILED (21 nay to 20 aye).**

Transfer of Members

The By-Laws will formalize the process for transferring membership from one chapter to another so that each chapter and the FLS-SAR are aware of the changes.

Article I, The Society, Section 3, Members, new paragraph c. as follows:

"c. Members may request to transfer from one FLSSAR chapter to another by submitting a written request to the current chapter Secretary. The member's current chapter Secretary will coordinate the transfer with the Secretary of the new chapter. The new chapter Secretary will ensure the transfer is noted by the FLSSAR state secretary." (updated revision)

MOTION – The By-Laws Committee moved that the proposed change be adopted as presented. **PASSED.**

NEW: Reference to Committees:

Current By-Laws has an error. Currently, Article V, Committees, Section 6, Other Committees, (a) 1, states "Statutory Committees are established by, and its mission statement is set forth in, the By-laws (see Article VIII - Section 3 below). However, Article VIII, Section 3 addresses Amendments.

Recommended change to (a) 1: "Statutory Committees are established by, and their mission statements are set forth in, the By-Laws (See Sections 1-5 above). " (new change)

MOTION – The By-Laws Committee moved that the proposed change be adopted as presented. **PASSED.**

NEW: Financial Review Committee

Article V, Section 2, Financial Review Committee wording does not mention any chairman for this committee. All other statutory committees mention a Chair, appointed by the President.

To avoid confusion, and ensure the President does not chair this committee, the following wording is submitted. Recommended change: "The President shall appoint, and name the Chairman of, a Financial Review Committee...."

MOTION – The By-Laws Committee moved that the proposed change be adopted as presented. **PASSED.**

Article V, Section 6

Replace all references to "mission statement" with "charter".

MOTION – The By-Laws Committee moved that the proposed change be adopted as presented. **PASSED.**

Education Outreach Committee

Chairman – none

Ethics Committee

Jonathan D. Hunt, Chairman

Nothing to report.

Genealogy Committee

J Gray Chandler, Chairman

See Genealogist report.

Meeting Arrangements-BOM Committee

Steven R. Fields, Chairman

No report submitted.

Membership Promotion and Retention Committee

Christopher E. Washler, Chairman

Nothing to report.

New Chapter Development Committee

Jeff L. Sizemore, Chairman

At the Spring BOM/Annual meeting, the number of members to start a chapter is part of the items that will be voted on as part of the changes to the Society Constitution and By-Laws. This is being updated to reflect survivability of a new chapter. We want a new chapter to continue once established.

Once the update has been adopted, the preliminary new chapter form will be uploaded onto the members only of the FLSSAR website.

Newsletters and Periodicals Committee

Jeff L. Sizemore, Chairman

At the present time, the committee is reviewing this year's submittal for the Newsletter Contest. The winners for this past year will be announced at the Spring BOM/Annual meeting. It is interesting to note that we have had some submittals from chapters that have not participated in this contest. Note that the winners will receive a monetary award.

The stated deadline each year for the National Newsletter and FLSSAR State Society Contest is December 15, 2023. To enter, please send a pdf version of year newsletter to the committee.

Strategic Planning Committee

Wm Lee Popham, Chairman

The FLSSAR Strategic Planning Committee will meet at the 2023 FLSSAR Spring BOM on Friday, 19 May 2023, from 2:30pm – 3:30pm in the Cypress Meeting Room at the Embassy Suites Orlando Lake Buena Vista South hotel. This meeting will be simulcast online – Here is the link to the meeting:

FLSSAR Strategic Planning Meeting

Fri, May 19, 2023 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM (EDT)

<https://meet.goto.com/842830685>

You can also dial in using your phone.

(For supported devices, tap a one-touch number below to join instantly.)

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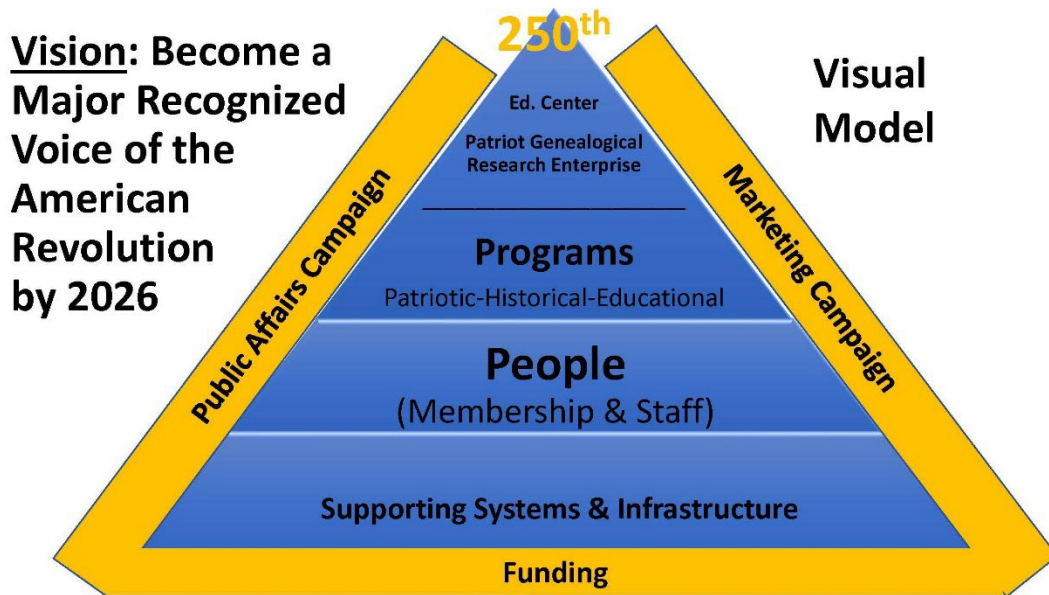
During this meeting, two very important topics will be presented and discussed:

I. THE AMERICA 250 NSSAR 5-YEAR OPERATIONAL PLAN

The NSSAR Executive Committee APPROVED the 5-Year Operational Plan through 2026 at the 3 March 2022 meeting during the 2022 Spring Leadership conference in Louisville KY.

SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

I. FIVE-YEAR UPDATE – OPERATIONAL PLAN THROUGH 2026



Goal #1 of the five-year operational plan through 2026 is to OPEN THE SAR EDUCATION CENTER AND MUSEUM during the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution. A video presentation of the SAR Education Center and Museum will be viewed during the meeting.

II. ONLINE DUES BILLING & COLLECTIONS; AUTOMATIC DUES RENEWALS

One of the stated Goals and Objectives of the 5-year Operational Plan is the streamlining of the Dues Billing and Collection process, and the reduction of Membership Non-Renewals that may be caused by a lack of organized follow-up, or the inability to make Online payments for annual Dues, Fees, Events, and Donations.

FLSSAR and a few Chapters have elected to serve as Beta Testers for CLUB EXPRESS, a potential Statewide canned software system that will allow Online Dues Billing & Collection on a statewide basis. Once fully-implemented on a Voluntary basis, this system could very well be extended to the NSSAR, for a Nationwide Dues Billing & Collection system.

- a. National Dues Billing and Collection from HQ – Online Payment Capability – Automatic annual dues renewals – online payments to Society and Chapter of their portions of dues collected.- elimination of manual reconciliation process.
- b. Other non-profits of similar size and structure have reduced their membership retention “Drops” from 16% per year to 6%-8% by moving to a national billing process.

If you believe your Chapter can benefit from Online Payments and an automatic Dues Billing & Collection process, please be sure to attend this Strategic Planning Committee meeting! – It’s open to everyone! It will also be live online during the Strategic Planning Committee meeting.

Several other recommendations have been made to the FLSSAR Executive Committee, which are under consideration. We will summarize any approved recommendations at the Friday meeting.

Technology Advisory Committee

Christopher E. Washler, Chairman

Nothing to report.

Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade

Steve Fields – Commander

Scott Breckenridge – Vice-Commander

Jeff Brunelle – Adjutant

Commander's report

From a very rocky start in the fall, the brigade has overcome weather, disaster, illness, and a host of other issues to accomplish an incredible number of outings all across Florida. From Leadership in Louisville (twice) to commemoration of two of Florida's Revolutionary Battles to supporting the DAR and CAR, the impact the color guard is having is clear. The individual guardsman is who the public thinks of most often when the Sons of the American Revolution are mentioned. The iconic images of minutemen, continental line, and citizen militiamen raise awareness of the SAR and its goals. Guardsmen educate, energize and promote the Society and its values. And for your sacrifices and service, you have my lasting gratitude.

The Spring Board of Management and Annual Meetings traditionally signal a slowdown of color guard activities in Florida. This year it will not. Just ten days from those meetings is Memorial Day. This is followed quickly by Flag Day, Patriot Sunday, and Independence Day. All of these are getting us in shape for the biggest color guard event to be held in Florida in a generation – the 133rd Congress of the Sons of the American Revolution July 13-20 in Orlando, FL.

SAR members from around the world will descend on the sunshine state to honor their ancestors, celebrate our nation, and come together to shape the direction of our society for years to come. Of the hundreds of compatriots attending, there will be dozens and dozens of guardsmen. Many of them will participate in one or more of the many color guard activities to take place during this week. There is a color guard breakfast, the President General's inspection and review, the annual NSSAR Memorial Service, color postings during various meetings, and even escorting of dignitaries. As host society, the FLSSAR needs you to come out and dress out. The Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade Color Guard will form the backbone during these national color guard activities. There are a host of activities both indoors and outdoors. Some are quick color postings and then you resume your day. Others are large choreographed events led by the national color guard commander and staff. I urge you to visit <https://sar2023floridacongress.org/> and review the volunteer page. See what opportunities are there for you as a Congress volunteer. If you are only interested in color guard events, this same site will host a very detailed schedule in just a few weeks.

Commemoration of the 250th Anniversary of the Founding of the United States continue apace. Chapters around the state are continuing to acquire America 250 Flags from the NSSAR store. These are to fly at chapter meetings and to carry and post with the colors at color guard and SAR events. Holding just one event or meeting with an America 250 flag will qualify your chapter for an America 250 streamer for your SAR flag. These America 250 flags are official and signify that the SAR is a Congressionally recognized partner in the ongoing celebrations. You can get the flags, medals, certificates, and challenge coins from the NSSAR webstore at <https://store.sar.org/categories.aspx?Keyword=250> . Speaking of medals, your guardsmen and chapter members should be keeping track of the 250th related events that they attend or participate in. As you accumulate points, there are 250th Bronze, Silver, and Gold Medals to mark your support. (for more information on America 250 and all the materials and resources see <https://america250sar.org/>) These certificates, medals, and challenge coins can also be presented to outside groups and individuals like DAR, CAR, local LEOs, educators and civic leaders that hold, sponsor, or participate in 250th activities. This makes for great community engagement. Your unit needs an America 250 flag and it should be mentioned whenever it's flown.

In the past few months, several of our guardsmen have completed their requirements for the Bronze and or Silver Color Guard Medals. These awards recognize three years of service to the color guard at the local, state and national levels. Individual guardsmen should be keeping track of their outings and unit commanders should be tracking participation so that guardsmen can get the recognition that they deserve. See the national and state color guard manuals for more information and download the awards nomination forms. Nominating a guardsman is easy with the fillable PDF forms. Several of these awards will be presented at the Board of Management Meetings coming up May 19-20 in Kissimmee, FL.

Here are quite a few color guard opportunities coming in the next few months:

- May 7-8 Battle of Pensacola & Patriot Grave Marking – Pensacola, FL (250th) (National Event)
- May 19-20 FLSSAR Board of Management and Annual Meeting – Kissimmee, FL (250th) (National Event)
- May 28 Spirit of Vincennes Rendezvous Vincennes, IN (National Event)
- Late May National Memorial Day Parade - Washington, DC (National Event)
- 29 May 1 Sarasota Memorial Day Parade – Sarasota, FL (sarasotasteve@hotmail.com – 941-228-6123) (250th) (National Event)
- late May Memorial Day * various (National Event)
- June 11 Battle of Ramsour's Mill - Lincolnton, NC (National Event)
- June 17 Battle of Bunker Hill - Bunker Hill, MA (National Event)
- July 4 Independence Day * various (National Event)

July 13-20	NSSAR National Congress – Orlando, FL (250th) (National Event)
Sept 19	Battle of Saratoga - Stillwater, NY
TBD	FLSDAR Fall Forum (September) – Orlando, FL (State Event)
Sept 21-23	NSSAR Fall Leadership – Louisville, KY (250th) (National Event)
October 1	Point Pleasant Battle Days - Point Pleasant, WV (National Event)
October 7	Battle of Kings Mountain - Blacksburg, SC (National Event)
October 21	FLSSAR Board of Management Meeting – Kissimmee, FL (250th) (State Event)

I've attended a few color guard events myself since the Fall. Some are:

- NSSAR Fall Leadership - Louisville, KY
- FLSSAR Board of Management Meeting - Kissimmee, FL
- Miami Chapter Annual Meeting and Officer Installation – Miami, FL
- Saramana Luncheon/Officer Installation –Sarasota, FL
- George Washington Birthday Gala (SAR/DAR/CAR) - Sarasota, FL
- NSSAR Leadership Meeting - Louisville, KY
- The Last Naval Battle of the Revolution, Merritt Island, 1783
- Battle of Thomas Creek - Jacksonville, FL

In closing, let me say that it has been an incredible honor to serve as Commander of the Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade Color Guard these past two years. Your patriotism, dedication, and self-sacrifice humble me. As command of the Brigade passes on at the upcoming Board of Management meeting, be assured that I will be returning to the ranks. I love the comradery and fellowship. Thank you all for allowing me to serve as Commander.

Steven R. Fields, Commander

1. George Washington Camp # 1, Jacksonville Chapter - Paul Tucker, Commander

Post Covid in person events picked up during this reporting period and increased in January through April 2023. We picked up six new Color Guard Members during this time also. Four of these were new members and two were transferred members. This increase in the Georg Washington Camp 1 is a welcomed increase and expected to be a great help in our event participation and enhance our ability to schedule two events on same day when the circumstances require. In person Naturalization Ceremonies started in October 2022 and continue on a monthly basis through May 2023. Color Guard Members with limited exception are the participants in these Jacksonville, FL new citizens taking the oath of allegiance to our country. All who participate report the excitement and pride in taking part in these events and witness to the happiness of the now legal US Citizens and how proud they are for the achievement. The Jacksonville Chapter has in our tri county area 24 ROTC Organizations. Color Guard Members perform the SAR awards at the respective school award ceremonies with one exception this 2022/2023 season. This is an opportunity to recognize our young ROTC students, their organizations, and to articulate the SAR Mission with possibilities to recruit new members.

Event participation:

September 15, 2022, First Chapter meeting of the season colors presentation by color guard. Participants: Compatriots Josh Jolly, Darryl Ingle, Dick Cardell, Gray Chandler, David Ramseur, & Paul Tucker.

September 17, 2022, DAR Regional Constitution Week Event Colors Presentation. Participants: Compatriots David Ramseur, Scott Breckenridge, Gray Chandler, Ken Norwood, Darryl Ingle, William Ziegenfuss & Paul Tucker.

October 8, 2023, Memorial Service and cremated remains internment for our PAST President, Friend, and Mentor Claude (Chuck) S. Farmer @ Trinity Anglican Church located at Fernandina Beach, Fl. The Family specifically requested Colors Presentations at Ceremony performed by the Jacksonville Chapter Color Guard. In addition, the Color Guard executed a Musket Fire Salute of one volley because that is all the city of Fernandina would extend permission for. Compatriot Farmer's Third Virginia Regiment Replica Flag was included in color Posting for Church Service and internment site service. The Third Virginia Regiment was the service regiment of Compatriot Farmer's Patriot Ancestor. William Boone.

(The third Virginia Regiment Flag is an example of the earliest surviving documented American flag bearing 13 stars. The flag was carried by Lt. Col. Abraham Buford of the 3rd Virginia regiment and was captured on May 29, 1780, at the Battle of Waxhaw in South Carolina by British cavalryman, Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton. The flag was presented to the Society by Lewis A. Pitzer and Andrew C. Pitzer in honor of their ancestor, Gen. Andrew Lewis.)

The flag along with funds, working Flintlock Rifle, complete period Naval Uniforms, Black Powder, etc. was donated to the Jacksonville SAR Chapter by the Farmer Family. Participants: Compatriots Josh Jolly, Darryl Ingle, William Ziegenfuss, Fred Emery, Ken Norwood, Darrel Goss, Barney Thornton, John Roberson, & Paul Tucker

November 13, 2022, Mandarin Community Center Veterans Wreath laying & Colors Presentation. Participants: Compatriots Josh Jolly, Ken Norwood, & Paul Tucker.

November 13, 2022, First Baptist Church Jacksonville, Fl. Veterans Day Colors Presentation and Church annual Veterans Luncheon. Participants: David Ramseur, Mills Ramseur, James Gaskins, Darryl Ingle, Barney Thornton.

November 19, 2022, Tolomato Cemetery St. Augustine, Fl. DAR Wreath and Colors Presentations. Participants: Compatriots Darryl Ingle, Dick Cardell, Ken Norwood, & James McGarity.

November 19, 2022, Ft. Morris Georgia Annual Commemoration, “Come and Take It Ceremony”, Colors Presentations, Musket Firing, Cannon Firing, & Wreaths Presentations. Participants: Compatriots Darryl Goss, David Ramseur, Mills Ramseur, & Paul Tucker.

December 17, 2022, Jacksonville National Cemetery Wreaths Across America Colors Presentation in concert with Young Marines and Civil Air Patrol with Program Theme of The Old Guard, (SAR), The Present Guard, (Civil Air Patrol), and the Future Guard, (The Young Marines). Meet and Greet after Program and Wreath laying. Participants: Compatriots William Ziegenfuss, Gray Chandler, Darryl Ingle, David Ramseur, Mills Ramseur, Ken Norwood, Josh Jolly, Barney Thornton, & Paul Tucker.

February 18, 2023, DAR Regional Colors presentation George Washington’s Birthday Luncheon and program Fernandina Beach, Florida Participants: Compatriots Ken Norwood, Scott Breckenridge, Gray Chandler, William Ziegenfuss, David Ramseur, & Paul Tucker

February 19, 2023, Chapter Meeting at Mandarin Community Center Colors Presentation, & Flag Retirement Ceremony in concert with BSA/CAR/DAR. Participants: Compatriots Scott Breckenridge, Gray Chandler, Ken Norwood, William Ziegenfuss, David Ramseur, Mills Ramseur, James Gaskins, Darryl Ingle, Barney Thornton, & Paul Tucker.

February 25, 2023, Black Powder Training National Park Service Kingsley Plantation and NPS Colonial Day Event Program participation in Black Powder Musket Firing demonstration for volunteers, public and NPS employee attendees, Participants: Compatriots Jerry Herndon, James Gruposso, Josh Jolly, & Paul Tucker.

March 03, 2023, Annual DAR State Society Banquet Meeting Orlando, Florida Sea World Renaissance Hotel. Colors Presentation. Participant: Compatriot Robert Patrick Thomas.

March 18, 2023, Last Naval Battle Commemoration Merritt Island, Florida Colors Presentation, Parade, and Wreath presentation. Participants: Compatriots Josh Jolly, Ken Norwood, David Ramseur, & Paul Tucker.

March 25, 2023, Battle of Thomas Creek Annual Commemoration Jacksonville, Fl. Chapter sponsored National Event in concert with SAR/BSA/CAR/DAR/Civil Officials + Many National & States SAR Attendees. Colors Presentation, Wreath Presentations, and Musket Firing Salute. Participants: Compatriots Josh Jolly, Scott Breckenridge, Barney Thornton, Jim Gaskins, Darrel Goss, Ken Norwood, Robert Patrick Thomas, David Ramseur, Mills Ramseur, William Ziegenfuss, Fred Emery, & Paul Tucker.

March 25, 2023, SAR/DAR assisted 102-year-old Birthday Celebration of Vaughn, (Sam), Humphrey a WWII Veteran of The Battle of the Bulge and Liberator of several Concentration Camps. Participants: Compatriots Darryl Ingle & William Ziegenfuss.

April 15, 2023, St. Simmons Island Ft. Frederica Patriots Day Annual Commemoration Colors Presentations, Parade, Cannon Firing, Musket Firing & Wreath presentations. Participants: Compatriots David Ramseur, Gray Chandler, Josh Jolly, Scott Breckenridge, & Paul Tucker.

The Jacksonville Chapter Color Guard George Washington Camp 1 is looking forward to our May 11 meeting with Colors presentation, Memorial Program and Officer Installations. May 18, 2023, Patriot Day at St. Michael’s Academy Color Guard Presented History of Flag and traveling trunk to the 200 plus student body with day beginning at 7:45 AM and 7 classes through the day. Memorial Day Events May 29, 2023, in two locations. June 17, 2023, Annual Commemoration of Battle of Alligator Bridge at Callahan, Fl. and July 4, 2023, Starke, Fl. Splash Bash celebration of The American Founding Parade.

2. Francis Marion Camp #2, Ocala Chapter – Inactive

3. Cape Canaveral Camp #3, Brevard Chapter – Nicholas Mihora, Commander

October 2022.

1992 Brevard Past President Carl Green passed away September 05, 2022. Due to family health, services took place on October 4th. Carl received military honors at Cape Canaveral National Cemetery. Eller and Jensen in Period Attire.

October meeting, Brevard Chapter unveiled its 250th Anniversary Flag. Jensen and Mihora attended in period attire, and Etherton was in Class A

November 2022

Veterans Day Observance at VMC, theme was “Celebrating Veterans throughout History”. President Joel Etherton made a presentation of War Service and Military Service Medals during the ceremony, linking Compatriots William Cole, WSM, 1ST Vice President Christopher Ratzel, and WSM, Mark Russell MSM to their respective Patriots. The DAR 250th Plaque was unveiled with many DAR in Colonial Attire with Compatriots Bisset and Desmarais in period attire.

November meeting: Honored 15 FLSSAR Veterans Battalion members present for Veterans Day Jensen and Bisset attended in period attire; Etherton, Desmarais and Ashdown Class A attire.

December 2022

December's meeting was held a week early to accommodate WAA. Meeting was centered to the holidays, no business or speaker. The annual Christmas Ornament exchange was the highlight of the day. Mihora attended in full period attire

January 2023

The 2023 Eagle Scout contest winner attended our meeting and presented his Essay to the chapter. Parents and Scoutmaster were present.

Compatriot Jeff Rogers received his SAR Certificate. Compatriot Lou Stocks received his Grandson's SAR Certificate.

Service Awards were presented to: Carl Ohemann 20yr, Ray Norman 15yr, Brian McWaters 10yr

Military Service Medal presented to: Carl Ohemann

Eller and Jensen were in period attire.

February 2023

Sgt Joseph Plumb Martin Outstanding Young Member medal was presented to Nic Mihora.

Service Award: Norm Desmaris 10yr.

Meeting theme was Women in the Revolutionary War. Compatriot Bisset gave an excellent presentation relating to the role of women who served during the war.

Bisset and Mihora were in period attire.

F.S.C.A.R. Conference Orlando: Supported by Compatriot Jensen.

FLSSAR Genealogist Meeting: 1st FLSSAR Genealogist meeting was held. Purpose is to aid in the efficiency of processing applications and exchanging resources for research.

March 2023

DAR State Conference Orlando: Jensen attended in Period attire, manning the SAR table and providing Color Guard support for the Annual meeting and Presentation of the Colors.

Last Naval Battle: 2023 had 210 in attendance for this year's services. It was an honor to have Compatriot Larry Tidwell, who is a descendant of Captain John Green, present at the ceremony. More DAR and C.A.R. chapters were in attendance. Weather was good and we appreciate all chapters who traveled to participate.

Bisset, Bottom, Eller, Jensen and Mihora in period attire.

Battle of Thomas Creek: Compatriot Jensen in period attire attended the 246th anniversary of the Battle of Thomas Creek in Jacksonville FL.

4. Samuel Adams Camp #4, Clearwater Chapter – James Gibson, Commander

Item 1:

On April 15, 2023, the Clearwater Color Guard presented the colors and participated with the Clearwater DAR and members from the Tennessee Chickamauga DAR Chapter in an "Insignia" medal dedication ceremony. The medal was placed upon the grave of American suffrage and supercentenarian Abby Crawford Milton.

Abby Milton was very instrumental in Tennessee by organizing suffrage leagues and making speeches throughout the state and leading the campaign in Tennessee to approve ratification in 1920 and Tennessee thus become the 36th and deciding state to approve ratification of the 19th amendment in the Constitution giving women the right to vote in the United States. After ratification, Abby Milton became the first President of the League of Women's Voters of Tennessee. In addition, she was very involved in the creation of the Great Smoky Mountain National Park and attended many Democratic National Conventions as a delegate at large. In August, 2016 as part of the Women's Equity Day, a monument of Abby Milton and others was unveiled in Central Park in Nashville, Tennessee.

Abby Milton was born in 1881 in Georgia, graduated from Chattanooga College of Law, and died in 1991 at the age of 110. She was a member of the Clearwater DAR Chapter for forty years and is buried in Clearwater Sylvan Abbey Memorial Park between Frances Walker and Corinne Moore, two of her three daughters. Sylvan Abbey Memorial dates back to 1853 when one of the pioneers James P. McMullen decided to name the first school in the area for Sylvan Abbey - the first girl to take classes there. The school was a log cabin and today there are now 10,000 people buried at Sylvan Abbey.

Item 2:

This has been a period of gloom for the Clearwater Color Guard and the Clearwater SAR Chapter. Last year we lost two of our members (David Kitchen and George Pratt) and I regret to report that this year we have lost two more. The family of both decided not to have a service and have not had an obituary published. Dan Hooper (Patriot medal recipient) died on January 27th and four days later his wife Christina died. On April 11th Larry Patterson (Chapter secretary) died. Dan and Larry were both active in the Color Guard and very active in the Clearwater Chapter. They are greatly missed.

5. Yorktown Camp #5, St. Lucie River Chapter – Inactive
6. Marquis de Lafayette Camp #6, Gainesville Chapter – Inactive
7. Nathan Hale Camp #7, Pensacola Chapter – Inactive
8. Nathaniel Green Camp #8, Saramana Chapter – Steve Fields, Commander
 Spring has flown by this year. After the rocky autumn, the chapter has had a great showing at local and national events. Six of our guardsmen have earned their Bronze 250th Medal and several now qualify for their Silver 250th Medal. One is being submitted for their Gold 250th this week. Saramana continues to include the 250th Celebration Flag with the Colors whenever they turn out so as to increase public awareness.
Events:
 09/29-10/01 - NSSAR Fall Leadership - Louisville, KY (250th) (National Event)
 10/07-08 - FLSSAR Board of Management Meeting - Kissimmee, FL (250th) (State Event)
 11/11 - Sarasota Veterans Day Parade - Sarasota, FL (250th) (National Event)
 12/17 - Saramana Luncheon/Officer Installation – Der Dutchman; Sarasota, FL (250th)
 02/25 - George Washington Birthday Gala (SAR/DAR/CAR) - Sarasota, FL (250th) (National Event)
 03/02-04 - NSSAR Leadership Meeting - Louisville, KY (250th) (National Event)
 03/18 The Last Naval Battle of the Revolution, Merritt Island, 1783 (250th) (National Event)
 03/25 - History Day in the Park (SAR info and recruitment - Phillipi Estate Park, Sarasota (250th)
 03/25 - Battle of Thomas Creek - Jacksonville, FL (250th) (National Event)
 In addition to these events, several guardsmen are presenting youth awards in our area as well as continuing to act as speakers and educators in local schools and at local civic groups.
Upcoming Events:
 05/07-08 Battle of Pensacola & Patriot Grave Marking – Pensacola, FL (250th) (National Event)
 05/19-20 - FLSSAR Board of Management and Annual Meeting Kissimmee, FL (250th) (National Event)
 05/29 – Annual Sarasota Memorial Day Parade – Sarasota, FL (250th) (National Event)
 06/10 – DAR Regents Council Flag Day Luncheon – Lakewood Ranch, FL (250th)
 07/12-20 NSSAR Congress Orlando, FL (250th) (National Event)
 Thank you to all our guardsmen (and their Ladies) for their efforts. (Adams, Fields, Fitzpatrick, Garsnett, Goulet, Goulet Jr., Paige, Randolph, Robinson) Some of these guardsmen are close to earning their Bronze or Silver Color Guard Medals and there may even be a Molly Pitcher Medal in the offing as well. We strive to ensure that all our guardsmen keep records of their event participation to ensure that they receive the recognition that they deserve. Special thanks to Mrs. Sherry Erb for being our photographer and always a great booster.
 The camp continues its recruiting. We currently have 9 available uniforms in our quartermaster stores.
9. Thomas Paine Camp #9, Miami Chapter – David Mitchel, Commander
 No Report Submitted.
10. Daniel Morgan Camp #10, Central Florida Chapter – Philip Markoe, Commander
 Members: Philip Markoe, Commander; Scott Cook; Burt Fairchild; Richard Lester; W. Maynard Pittendreigh; Harry L. Rinker; Gary Smith, Andy Showen; Harry Wilklow III
Events:
 SAR Congress, Savannah, Markoe (3 events), Wilklow (3 events), July 15-20, 2022
 FLSSAR – FLSDAR Fall Forum, Markoe, Rinker, September 24, 2022
 FLSSAR BOM, Markoe, Cook, Rinker, October 8, 2022
 St. Augustine Colonial Night Watch, Markoe, Cook, Fairchild, Rinker, October 3, 2022
 Orlando Veterans Day Parade, Markoe, Cook, Fairchild, Pittendreigh, Showen, Wilklow, November 11, 2022
 Central Florida Chapter Meeting, Markoe, Cook, Pittendreigh, Rinker, Wilklow, December 14, 2022
 Wreaths Across American, Winter Park, Markoe, Cook, Pittendreigh, Rinker, Wilklow, December 17, 2023
 Central FL Scottish Highland Games – 2 parades, Markoe, Cook, Rinker, January 14-15, 2023
 FLSSAR, Spring Meeting, FLSCAR, Markoe, Cook, Lester, Rinker, February 18, 2023
 FLSSAR, Color Guard for 1812 Cemetery Plaque Dedication, Markoe, Cook, Lester, Rinker, February 18, 2023
 FLSSAR Spring Forum, Markoe, Cook, Rinker, March 3, 2023
 FLSSAR –Last Naval Battle, Merritt Island, Markoe, Cook, March 18, 2023
 FLSSAR-Battle of Thomas Creek, Markoe, March 25, 2023
 FLSSAR – Frederica Naval Action, St. Simon Island, GA, Markoe, Rinker, April 15, 2023
 FLSSAR -Battle of Pensacola Commemoration & Galvez Day, Rinker, May 8, 2023
11. Thomas Jefferson Camp #11, Withlacoochee Chapter – Bob Thomas, Commander

The color guard presented the colors at the Massing of the Colors held at the Seven Rivers Church, on the 6th of November.
 On the 11th of November the local Veterans Day parade was canceled due to weather so we did not march.
 On the 17th of December the Wreaths Across America ceremony was canceled due to weather so we did not participate.
 On the 22nd of February the color guard led by Bob Thomas, the new color guard commander, presented the colors at the Ft. Cooper DAR event celebrating the birth of George Washington.

12. General Thomas Sumter Camp #12, Lake Sumter Chapter – Inactive
13. Bernardo de Galvez Camp #13, Naples Chapter – Len Crame, Commander
 On October 7-8, 2022 color guardsman Leonard Crame participated in the Florida Brigade Color Guard at the FLSSAR BOM meetings in Kissimmee, FL and received the SAR Silver Color Guard medal at the awards banquet.
 On November 29, 2022 color guardsman Leonard Crame became the Commander of the Naples Chapter Bernardo de Galvez Camp #13 Color Guard with the retirement of Donald Cahill as Commander due to health issues.
 On December 10, 2022 the Naples Chapter Color Guard posted colors at the joint Big Cypress Chapter NSDAR- Naples Chapter SAR meeting at Cypress Woods Country Club, Naples, FL.
 On December 17, 2022 The Naples Chapter Color Guard posted colors at the Big Cypress Chapter NSDAR Wreaths Across America ceremony at the Veterans Memorial in Cambier Park, Naples, FL. Color Guardsmen Crame, Meerpohl, Garey, McCullough and Bennett participated.
 On the second Thursday of each month, except December, the Naples Chapter Color Guard posted colors to open each Chapter meeting at noon at Tiburon Golf Club in Naples, FL.
 On March 9, 2023 Caloosa Color Guard Commander Robert McGuire served as Naples Chapter guest color guard commander (in Leonard Crame's absence) at the 50th Anniversary Chapter meeting at Tiburon Golf Club in Naples, FL.
14. Hillsborough River Camp #14, Tampa Chapter – Dick Young, Commander
 No Report Submitted.
15. General Lighthouse Harry Lee Camp #15, Caloosa Chapter – Mike Buff, Commander
 January: Presentation of colors during State President's visit, Chapter Meeting
 February 22: Presentation of colors Chapter celebration George Washington's Birthday: Chapter Meeting
 March: Last Naval Battle: State/National event Kissimmee, FL
 Groundbreaking for Beirut Towers Veterans Memorial, Port Charlotte, FL
 DAR Annual meeting, Bob McGuire and Jeff Brunelle participated with the Sons of Liberty Color Guard Members for other events Edward Buff, Jeff Brunelle, Bob McGuire and Bill Sharp
16. Gabriel Long Camp #16, St. Petersburg Chapter – Inactive
17. Lake City Chapter Outpost #17, Lake City Chapter – William Pfeil, Commander
 Nothing to report.
18. Lakeland Chapter Outpost #18, Lakeland Chapter – Inactive
19. USS Alliance Camp #19, Charlotte Chapter – Jonathan Hunt, Commander
 Compatriot Robert McGuire, Hamp Allen, Dwight Elam, Ron Peck and Jr. Member Miles R. Tateosian of Camp #19 participated in the DAR/CAR and SAR Joint Meeting held on February 9, 2023 at Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club 4400 Lister St, Port Charlotte, FL 33952

 DAR Florida Annual Meeting help in Orlando March 2 nd to March 5 th Which was attended by Compatriot Robert McGuire and Jeffery Brunelle

 Due to the devastation caused by Hurricane Ian, the Charlotte Chapter lost their meeting place and contact with the American Legion thus the reason for no joint participation. The American Legion Post #110 is expected to be back in operation in the Fall of 2023.
20. William Dunaway Chapter Outpost #20, William Dunaway Chapter – Matt Mathews, Commander
 No Report Submitted.
21. Panama City Chapter Outpost #21, Panama City Chapter – Brad Marble, Commander
 As per FLSSAR Panama City Chapter 2023 Spring (May) BOM Report, on the 23 January, 2023 Panama City Chapter President Marble made a case and pleaded to the chapter compatriots to form a Chapter Color Guard. Three members positively responded in expressing desire to join. The compatriots are dual member James Franklin

Haynes, and new members, Jerry “Benny” Bennet Raffield and Matt Lawrence Bickers. Our intention is to acquire a fifth member in order to become Joseph Singletary Camp # 21. Patriot Joseph Singletary is a Florida Northwest Regional Revolutionary Patriot who made his declaration in Tallahassee, Florida and eventually received a pension. Joseph Singletary is buried just across the Northern border of Florida, South of Cairo, Grady County, Georgia.

In January 2023, Chapter President Marble submitted his Color Guard Events with points covering a six-year period. Marble was approved for the SAR Bronze Color Guard Medal and told he had nearly half the points required for the SAR Silver Color Guard Medal.

Marble has singly; represent the FLSSAR Panama City Chapter, in Color Guard, Militia, Reenactment, Parade and Wreath Presentation events during the following 5 SAR National Ceremonies and 1 State Ceremony:

National Event:

February 11, 2023, 244th Anniv. Battle of Kettle Creek, Washington, GA - (Militia , Parade, Reenactment & Wreath Presentation)

March 18, 2023, 240th Last Naval Battle, Merritt Island, FL, - (CG Parade & Wreath Presentation)

March 25, 2023, 246th Anniv. Battle of Thomas Creek, Jacksonville, FL – (CG March & Wreath Presentation)

April 15, 2023, Frederica Naval Action, Patriot Day, St. Simons Island, GA (Militia, Parade & Wreath Presentation)

May 08, 2023 242 Anniv. Battle of Pensacola, FL – (Color Guard Parade) (Joined by Benny Raffield.

State Event:

March 2-5, 2023, FLSSDAR 121st Annual State Conference (Color Guard)

Training:

May 13, 2023, ALSSAR Black Powder Safety Training at the Confederate Memorial Park, Marbury, AL.

22. Highlands Chapter Outpost #22, Highlands Chapter – James Dean, Commander
No Report Submitted.

Liaisons

C.A.R. and SAR Junior Members Aide Liaison Committee

W. Richard “Dick” Young, Chairman

Your chairman, Scott Cook, Brian Jensen and other compatriots attended the Florida Society Children of the American Revolution Annual Conference on February 17-19 in Orlando. With members from the Central Florida Chapter Color Guard and other compatriots, the SAR joined members of the C.A.R. in presenting the Colors at the opening of the annual Business Session. Sydney Wagnstrom was elected State Society President and Dr. Holly Hamilton will serve the second year of her two-year term as Senior State Society President. The FLSSAR made \$1,000 in contributions to the Florida C.A.R.; \$500 designated as sponsorship for their Annual Meeting and \$500 to use as needed. During the meeting, the FLSSAR presented the SAR Silver C.A.R. Medal of Appreciation to both outgoing State Society President James Hamilton and to JoAnne Welker for their significant contributions to the Florida Society C.A.R.

The State Project for 2023-24 is Project Conservation Right Whale, with funds raised going to the Clearwater Marine Aquarium to support their on-going project to study, protect and conserve the near extinct North Atlantic Right Whale. The C.A.R. will have representatives at our BOM and at Congress with pins, coins and other merchandise to sell to raise funds for their projects. Donations will be gladly accepted, as well.

Each FLSSAR Chapter is encouraged to make contact with the closest local Florida C.A.R. Society.

- Invite them to your meetings, especially when your chapter is recognizing local law enforcement, fire fighters, EMS and Vietnam veterans.
- Ask them to join your chapter’s Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day and other events
- Invite them to join your Color Guard in uniform or colonial attire
- Support them by making donations and buying pins, challenge coins and the Welcome Home dog tags for your own members.
- Make a donation now. Seek them out at the BOM or hand me a check payable to FSCAR and I will make sure it gets to them.

DAR Liaison

Robert W. McGuire, Chairman

I am pleased to say that the DAR Liaison Committee has had a very successful period of rebuilding positive relationships with the Florida Daughters. It is clear that activities going on at both the Chapter and State level are paying big dividends. At the Fall Forum in September 2022 we were pleased to present State Regent Debbie Duay with a “DAR/SAR Membership Award” presented by the National Society to the DAR State Society with the highest number of submitted and approved SAR members. This third place NATIONAL AWARD was the first time that the Florida State Society DAR has ever been recognized for their contribution in recruiting new SAR members. Chapter Registrars and President need to continue to ensure that the DAR Finder Form is submitted each time a DAR member assists with bringing in a new Compatriot.

Also at Fall Forum, in addition to staffing the SAR information table on Friday and Saturday, our Sons of Liberty Brigade posted colors for the Saturday evening banquet, another successful mission accomplished.

At the DAR Annual Meeting we again had a good turnout of volunteers to staff the information table, despite it being the same dates as Leadership in Louisville which diverted a number of compatriots who otherwise would have assisted at the DAR event in Orlando. A good number of volunteers participated, many in Colonial uniforms to the delight of the ladies who appreciate the photo opportunities. Many prospective members were identified during the program. These leads have been referred to local chapters and the application process is continuing in many cases. On Friday evening, the Sons of Liberty Brigade posted colors at the opening banquet honoring PG Pamela Rouse Wright.

This year, even more than most, it is critical that we continue to enjoy the support and assistance of the Florida Daughters. The need for their active support and participation in our Congress in Orland this July cannot be overstated. Members of this committee, and others with an interest in enhancing the mutual benefits of cooperation between SAR and DAR should attend the committee meeting on Friday (May 19th) afternoon. Ladies are welcome as well.

FLSSAR Ladies Auxiliary Liaison Committee

Earl F. “Matt” Mathews, Chairman

No report submitted.

Historic Sites

Historic Sites & Celebrations Committee

Robert W. McGuire, Chairman

As we approach the time of our 2023 Annual Meeting and BOM, two of our three nationally-recognized battlefield commemorations have been completed successfully and the third can be expected to be another memorable event a couple of weeks before the BOM and but reports will be too late for inclusion in the Blue Book. A number of chapters celebrated Washington's Birthday with appropriate fervor, and with color guardsmen earning points for participation in another National Event. The small but enthusiastic Highlands Chapter used its recently dedicated giant Liberty Tree as a backdrop for celebration of Patriots' Day. Highlands Chapter teamed with Okeechobee Chapter SAR and the Okeechobee Chapter DAR and produced a remarkable event that included musket salutes, a fashion show with period-dressed participants along with a Seminole War group, and the Okeechobee Historical Society and others.

The July 2023 Congress that compatriots everywhere can support is just around the corner. The Florida Society will have a chance to showcase some things other than Disney. The long tour will take participants to the Kennedy Space Center, and then offer a return to Merritt Island for the short tour of the Last Naval Battle commemorative site where a new monument will be dedicated.

There will be many opportunities to participate in America 250th Celebrations coming up after the BOM. Some examples: Flag Day on June 14th, the Battle of Bunker Hill on June 17th, Independence Day on July 4th, and Constitution Day on September 17th to name a few. Chapters seeking advice and assistance in planning local events may contact members of this committee.

Robert W. McGuire, Jr., Chairman Historic Sites & Celebrations Committee

Battle of Pensacola – May 7/8, 2023

Chris Washler, Chairman Battle of Pensacola Celebration

President, Pensacola Chapter SAR

Last Naval Battle – March 18, 2023

James Ward, LNB Committee Chairman

President Brevard Chapter SAR

Thomas Creek – March 25, 2023

The 246th Anniversary of the Battle of Thomas Creek Ceremony

David Ramseur, Chairman Battle of Thomas Creek Celebration

FLSSAR President 2011-2012

Patriot's Day Celebration – April 15, 16 2023

An event organized by the Highlands Chapter as part of the Highlands County Heritage Festival – held at the Pearce Lockett Estate at Fort Bassinger.

James Dean, President Highlands Chapter

The Patriot's Day celebration at the Edna Pearce Lockett Estate in Highlands County was an incredible success. The weather was as good as the first year. Owner Butch Thompson built a new barn that is built to last a hundred years as did the first one. It is as traditional as possible but is also a 21st century entertainment center. I pointed out to Butch the old flagpole was in the wrong place, so he installed a new flagpole north of new barn which has open sides. The Liberty Tree is off to the right or Northeast. Okeechobee Chapter SAR brought their color guard and firing squad. Highlands Chapter now has one color guard member. He was a Marine Sergeant so knew what he was doing, and with uniform and musket he joined them. The Color Guard stayed under the Liberty Tree and the firing squad marched to the flagpole. I made a short speech about the Liberty Tree and Patriots' Day, and then had the Pledge of Allegiance coordinated with Color Guard. We ended with one musket salute (4 muskets) followed by both verses of God Bless America. For the second verse which everyone knows, the crowd joined in.

On the second day, I had learned that Edna Pearce Lockett was Regent of Highlands DAR in 2000 and 2001, and so invited 30 or 40 DAR members out there. After she died, the DAR operated it as a museum until the government agency took over and let the barn fall in. I now know why I feel so good under that tree, her spirit is happy with what we did with the tree. I asked the firing squad to reload and do a second salute. This time I explained a little more about the salute, as on Saturday some people elsewhere on the Estate did not know about the salute and were frightened by the firing. I then disclosed my new knowledge about Edna Pearce and dedicated the second salute to Edna Pearce Lockett and to Butch and Donna Thompson who were carrying on her dream. This was followed at 12:30 by a historical fashion show.

We had our booth closest to the Liberty Tree where it was before, and which we shared with the Highlands DAR. Okeechobee SAR was right next to us, and Okeechobee DAR was right next to them. The Second Seminole War group had a camping tent next, then the Okeechobee Historical Society, and then an artist from Okeechobee. This year they had Seminole hoop dancers and an exhibit with a palmetto hut, Conch horn-blowing and various pioneer exhibits. It was a truly wonderful event.

America 250th Celebration

GOALS (as approved by the President General): 1) Designate individual members liaisons with the following SAR Committees to coordinate celebration of 250th Anniversary 2) Developing the History Explorers program into a National template which will be available to all chapters and societies. 3) Prepare and submit a 250th Anniversary article for two issues of the SAR Magazine beginning with the Fall 2026 issue. A timeline for 250th Anniversary articles for submission into SAR Magazine is being developed. These events will be expanded to try to work with national committees, State Societies and Local Chapters in developing programs to recognize the events in the locations. 4) Develop guidelines for Chapters and Societies to earn recognition, probably through the use of Streamers and Certificates, for promoting and celebrating 250th Anniversary programs.

Battle of Pensacola Committee

Christopher E. Washler, Chairman

By the time this report is published, the Battle of Pensacola Commemoration will have been held on May 8th in Pensacola. This year, we again worked with the Pensacola Heritage Foundation to combine the Battle of Pensacola Commemoration and Pensacola's Galvez Day celebration into one event. This year, we had a Color Guard contingent made up of Color Guardsmen from Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Tennessee. This year's procession came down the center of Palafox Street from Fort George to the Galvez Monument. Additionally, we were able to present a musket salute. While this year's initial plans to expand into a 2 day event did not come to fruition for a number of reasons, we will continue to look at ways to grow the event in future years and hope to see continued growth in the number of Color Guardsmen participating.

Battle of Thomas Creek Committee

David H. Ramseur, Chairman

The 246th Anniversary of the Revolutionary War Battle of Thomas Creek was held on Saturday, 25 March 2023 at Seaton Creek Historic Preserve in Jacksonville, Florida with over 100 in attendance. This National Color Guard commemorative event honored those 109 Patriots who fought, and died in this battle. This battle was the second of three failed attempts ordered by General George Washington to make N.E. Florida our 14th Colony and it is considered "The Southernmost Battle of the American Revolution".

The program began with a welcome from David Ramseur, followed by the Invocation given by Chaplain Revered Bob Hale. Following the Invocation, we were again honored to have the patriotic chorus group, Let Freedom Sing, perform "Pray for America" along with two other songs during the program. The presentation of colors was commanded by SAR National Color Guard Commander Brooks Lyles.

Greetings were brought from the City of Jacksonville by Mr. Harrison Conyers, Supervisor of Military & Veteran Affairs and from the NSSAR, Vice President General George Strunk. Greetings also came from the Florida Society SAR President Matt Mathews, and from the Georgia Society State Registrar Dennis McIntire. We were also honored to have greetings given from the Florida Society DAR, State Regent Elect Cindy Addison, and the Florida State Society, C.A.R. President James Hamilton.

Compatriot Dr. Roger Smith, of Colonial Research Inc., St. Augustine, gave a brief and fascinating overview of the facts leading up to the battle. After his presentation, wreaths were presented by 42 organizations from the SAR, DAR, C.A.R. from FL, GA, NC and TN. At the conclusion of the wreath presentations a black powder salute was given honoring our fallen heroes of this battle. We are looking forward to next year's 247th Anniversary Ceremony to be held on Saturday 30 March 2024 as well as to our Nations 250th anniversary in 2026.

Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution Committee

James G. Ward, Chairman

This report is in four parts:

- I. Last Naval Battle Observance March 2023
 - A. Thanks to Joel Etherton, Brevard Chapter LNB Committee Chairman, and the BC LNB Committee Sam Ashdown, Doug Bisset, Sharon (DAR) and Barry Eller, Linda (DAR) and Brian Jensen, Donn Weaver, and James Ward. 1st Vice President Ratzel was trained for future leadership.
 - B. Thanks to partners Veterans Memorial Center, Merritt Island, Military Officer Association of America, Cape Canaveral, and FLSSAR. Reimbursement request submitted to FLSSAR Treasurer. Article submitted to "Patriot" Editor, and "Color Guardsman". Thanks also to Naval Ordnance Test Unit, Marine Corps League, and Sea Cadets.
 - C. Thanks to Sons and Daughters from Florida and beyond who participated in the parade, and/or presented wreaths.
 - D. An "after action" review was conducted, and a planning document prepared for future observances.

- II. The Congress 2023 Planning Committee prepared a Last Naval Battle and Veterans Memorial Center “Short Tour”, to include a 250th anniversary bench dedication and dedication of an “Alliance” flag.
- III. LNB is scheduled for 16 March 2024, and deconflicted with the 2024 DAR spring forum. It is requested that the 2024 Guilford Courthouse observance not conflict. If a scheduling conflict becomes unavoidable, prompt notification is requested. FLSSAR Chapters are invited and are asked to avoid scheduling their activities the same date.
- IV. A nomination for the FLSSAR LNB Committee and Chairman is at the ready to be delivered to the FLSSAR President after the FLSSAR 2023 Annual Meeting.

2022-23 FLSSAR Committee Members are Steve Fields, Jeff Sizemore, Joel Etherton, and James Ward. Each is thanked, as is Dick Young.

Youth Programs

Americanism Youth Contests Committee

Ronald L. Grove, Chairman

This is the middle school brochure contest and the elementary school poster contest. As of late April I am only aware of 3 chapters submitting a poster and 2 submitting a brochure. These will be on display at the BOM for attendees to vote for winners which will be announced at the Youth Luncheon. These are fun and easy contests that I surely wish more chapters would consider.

Eagle Scout Scholarship Committee

Benjamin F. Tidwell III, Chairman

All entries for the 2023 Florida Eagle Scout Contest must be received by the State Chairman no later than January 15, 2024. Prize levels remain the same as last year: First-\$1000, Second-\$500. Third-\$250.

The winner of the FLSSAR 2022 \$1000 King Eagle Scout Scholarship was James Edward Popham, submitted by the Miami Chapter. Runner-up winner of \$500 was Oen Frost, submitted by the Naples Chapter and third place of \$250 goes to Tyler Waddell, submitted by the Central Florida Chapter. All chapters are encouraged to submit nominees for the 2023 competition.

It should be understood that any Eagle Scout who expects to win one of the top 10 awards at the National level will need to have completed American Heritage, Genealogy, and Law Merit Badges. These three merit badges are given special consideration based on the rules of the contest. While they are not required, no one has won without having all three of these badges.

Winners of each chapter Eagle Scout contest should be submitted to the Florida Society Eagle Chairman. All entries are due no later than January 15, 2024. All three parts of the application must be submitted at the same time using forms found here:

<https://www.sar.org/arthur-m-berdena-king-eagle-scout-contest/>

This committee also handles recommendations for the Robert E. Burt Boy Scout Volunteer Award. Nominations may be submitted to the Committee at any time during the year using the form found here: <https://www.sar.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Robert-E-Burt-Boy-Scout-Volunteer-Award.pdf>

It has been my privilege and honor to serve as Chairman of this committee for the past two years. I appreciate the trust placed in me by the State President. I will support my successor as chairman in any way he desires, Benjamin F. Tidwell III.

History Fairs

Roger C. Smith, Chairman

No report submitted.

George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest Committee

Hampton E. Allen, Jr., Chairman

While I am disappointed that we only had five (5) chapter entries for the Knight Essay Contest this year. I am proud to say that we had some outstanding essays submitted and the committee had a very hard time deciding on the winner. The Knight Essay Awards will be presented at our annual Youth Awards Luncheon on Saturday, May 20th during the 2023 Spring BOM/Annual meeting. I am hopeful that we will be able to have better participation for this contest for next year. While we are having issues in some areas to get

school systems involved a number of this year's entries did come from students that are being home schooled. Another source that we can possibly use is thru the different scouting and JROTC programs that our chapters are involved with as well as from family members of both the DAR and SAR. FLSSAR prizes are \$1,000/\$500/\$250. The NSSAR prizes for 2023 are 1st - \$6,000; 2nd - \$3,000; 3rd - \$2,000; 4th - \$500; and 5th - \$500. The 1st place winner will also receive a travel stipend of \$1,500 for expenses incurred attending Congress.

Joseph P. Rumbaugh Orations Contest Committee

Ronald L. Grove, Chairman

This contest is pretty challenging requiring an original oration of not less than five minutes, or more than six. The oration must be delivered from memory and without the use of notes or any kind of props. The subject of the oration shall deal with an event, a personality, or a document pertaining to the Revolutionary War with a mention of our nation's 250th anniversary celebration. Our state competition was conducted by video entries from chapter winners. We did that this year because the national deadline for our state winner was before our May BOM where we would have conducted a live competition. National will choose 6 state video submissions to invite to the Congress for a final live competition. 2 years ago our Kelsey Lopp from Ocala was the national winner. Our winner this year is Jones Hogsed. He is the Caloosa Chapter winner. He is home schooled and lives in Chuluota. Second was Amandalesly Miranda. She was the Lake-Sumter Chapter winner. She attends Wildwood Middle High School in Wildwood.

On a disappointing note, only these 2 chapters – we have 33 chapters in Florida - had entrants. This is a great way to get students involved in our history and maybe gain future members. At least we are contributing to future leaders who are more aware of our ancestors who brought this nation into being. This is high school so we are talking about 4 years of possibly competing. This happens to be Jones' second year.

Good luck to Jones at national!

Thanks to my committee members Kevin Yarnell, Hamp Allen and Ben Tidwell.

ROTC / JROTC Committee

Pat J. Niemann, Chairman

The results of the FLSSAR 2023 Enhanced JROTC Program are as follows:

1st place: Trisha Sakumuri, Tampa Chapter, \$1000 FLSSAR award & Outstanding JROTC medal w/neck ribbon
2nd place: James Captain, Brevard Chapter, \$700 FLSSAR award
3rd place: Sara Blandon, Naples Chapter, \$300 FLSSAR award
4th place: Destiny Gregory, William Dunaway Chapter
5th place: Steven Abarca, Miami Chapter

I appreciate the above chapters for sponsoring a cadet in the competition. The cadets above represent some of our most outstanding young citizens and are leaders of the future.

Addendum: The FLSSAR first place winner was selected as the National winner.

Community Outreach

Habitat for Humanity Committee

Ronald L. Grove, Chairman

We have only had 2 dedications so far this year but that is not too bad for this time of year. Jacksonville had one and Lake-Sumter had one. But good news is coming – Lake-Sumter has 3 at the end of April. And that has good news with it. Three schools in Lake and Sumter counties have developed construction academies the past couple years. High schoolers learning the construction trade. They all partnered up with Habitat for Humanity to build houses. Hands on learning. That's why there are three coming. These "kids" learn a valuable trade. Some are going on to college to expand on that and several have been hired locally upon graduation. Now more good news – The Villages chapter is going to do one of the dedications. The Villages Chapter's "territory" is within Lake-Sumter's area. It was a spin off of Lake-Sumter. One of the high schools – The Villages Charter School – built 2 of these homes in Wildwood – next to The Villages. So I thought we should try to get them to do a dedication which could give them an introduction to the school for youth contests. They are going to do one.

A final note – be sure to submit a request to the Endowment Trust Fund to reimburse 75% of the cost of the flag. This cuts your cost of some very good community outreach!

Patriotic Activities Committee

Chairman – none

Public Service and Heroism Committee

James Y. Gaskins, Chairman

<https://www.sar.org/committees/public-service-and-heroism-committee/>

Public Service and Heroism Committee

The **Public Service and Heroism Committee (PS&H)** recognizes and honors citizens and individuals in our public service sectors of Law Enforcement, Fire Safety, and Emergency Medical Services for their contributions to the community and for heroic acts with a commendation and medal. States, chapters and commendation recipients are recognized in a booklet published and distributed at the National Congress each July.

The **State-level PS&H Committee** exists to publicize the committee's function to the states' local chapters and to encourage their participation. Awards presented are reported to the National-level PS&H Committee and the State-level society by filling out an on-line form. All Commendations should be reported prior to June 1, to ensure inclusion in the PS&H Committee Commendation booklet for distribution at the July NSSAR Congress. The fillable on-line [Public Service & Heroism Report Form](#) PDF forms may be found on line. Some browsers use a default application to read PDF files and you may need to specify that the file be "opened" with the Adobe Reader application.

Note: Be certain to use the most current version of Adobe Reader for this form, as some web browsers have proprietary PDF readers that do not work with this form. Save the blank PDF fillable form to a file on your computer. Do not fill out the blank form on the above links. After saving the blank reporting form to your computer, fill out the form completely. Use the second button-bar at the top, right-side of the form labelled "Click to Save and Email," to save the completed form to your computer and simultaneously send the completed form to the PS&H Committee. I One should also send the completed reporting form to their State PS&H chairman

This program is an excellent way to recognize deserving individuals in our community and the public sector. We do suggest that those individuals, in the public sector of Law Enforcement, Fire Safety, and Emergency Medical Services, who are being considered for a Heroism Commendation, be previously recognized by their division head for their heroism. The presentation of NSSAR commendations is an excellent means by which our Society can receive recognition and broaden our exposure and recruitment of potential new members. This program is also an excellent vehicle for publicity. Questions about the National SAR Public Service and Heroism Committee may be directed to a state's representative or the current chairman of the Public Service and Heroism Committee.

The Law Enforcement Commendation and Medal is presented to those who have served with distinction and devotion in the field of law enforcement. The medal is intended to recognize exceptional service or accomplishment in the field of law enforcement. Eligibility is not limited to peace officers but extends to the entire range of persons who make and enforce the law. This includes peace officers, attorneys, judges, prosecutors and legislators who have performed an exceptional act or service beyond that normally expected. The recipients are usually recommended by their superiors or peers for their accomplishments. The award may be presented posthumously. The medal may be presented to an individual only once. No Oak Leaf Clusters or ribbon attachments are permitted.

The Fire Safety Commendation and Medal is presented to an individual for accomplishments and/or outstanding contributions in an area of fire safety and service. The award is not limited to firefighters. It may be presented to recognize a variety of fire safety and services that have evolved into a highly technical and skilled profession with constant study, development and involvement by numerous dedicated citizens with a single goal, which is protecting human life and property by preventing injuries or casualties due to fire and chemicals. The medal maybe presented posthumously. The medal may be presented to an individual only once. Oak leaf clusters or other ribbon attachments are not authorized.

The Emergency Medical Services Commendation and Medal is presented to an individual for accomplishments and/or outstanding contributions in the area of emergency medical services. The award is intended for paramedics, certified Emergency Medical Technicians, and others in the emergency medical field who have performed an act or service beyond which is normally expected. The medal may be presented posthumously. The medal may be presented to an individual only once, and no Oak Leaf Clusters or ribbon attachments are permitted.

A Heroism Commendation and Medal recognizes outstanding bravery and self-sacrifice in the face of imminent danger – i.e., acts which involve great personal courage and risk to the recipient. It is intended primarily for acts by civilians, not in uniform, but does not exclude police, firemen, EMS and SAR members. It is not intended to recognize acts that would have been covered in the performance of one's normal duty, nor by medals for valor by the armed forces. Animals are not eligible for recognition. The medal

may also be presented posthumously. An individual may receive this medal multiple times. Presentation and the wearing of Oak Leaf Clusters shall follow NSSAR policy.

The SAR Life Saving Medal is presented to those individuals who have acted to save a human life without necessarily placing their own life or themselves in imminent danger. The medal is intended primarily for acts by civilians not in uniform, however, police officers, fire fighters, emergency medical personal, lifeguards, and SAR Compatriots are not excluded from receiving this award. The medal is not intended to recognize acts that would otherwise qualify for military or another organization’s valor and, in all cases, the fact that the actions of the rescuer actually saved the life of the victim must be validated by EMS or medical personnel.

More detailed information on specific awards may be found in the **NSSAR Handbook, Vol. 5**, along with the description of the qualifying service.

Publicity Committee

Jeff L. Sizemore, Chairman

This year the committee has received four entries for the Marlin Publicity Contest, which are the Clearwater Chapter, the Flagler Chapter, the St. Petersburg Chapter, and the Withlacoochee chapter, The lowest score submitted was 717 points. While the highest score submitted was 2010 points.

All four chapters will receive a monetary award based on their ranking. We encourage other chapters to participate next year in this contest. If you would like to participate on this committee, please let me know.

The stated deadline each year for the Marlin Publicity Contest is March 1, 2024. Please send in the form digitally and if paper proofs are needed, it will be requested thereafter. The details and updated form of the Marlin Publicity contest can be found on the FLSSAR website.

Tom & Betty Lawrence American History Teacher Award Committee

Kevin A. Yarnell , Chairman

Matthew Bunch has been named the Florida Society entry into the Dr. Tom and Betty Lawrence American History Teacher Award competition. Mr. Bunch is currently a social sciences teacher at the MAST Academy High School in Miami, Florida. He has ten years of teaching experience and, in that time, has amassed an array of teaching awards including the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation’s Florida representative to their Graduate Fellowship program. In his application essay he wrote, “I teach American history and government because I believe our society only functions if citizens know what the government expects of them and what they must expect from the government.”

We are grateful to the Miami chapter for submitting Mr. Bunch as a nominee for our entry to the Lawrence American History Teacher competition. We encourage other chapters to be on the lookout for excellent American History teachers that we might honor in future years.

Veterans Affairs Committee

Rene Jewett, Chairman

1. During the Fall BOM 2022 (7-8 Oct), the BOM Delegates voted to combine the Veterans Recognition Committee into the Veteran Affairs Committee. The Former Chairman for the Veterans Recognition Committee, Don Lanman, will continue to process requests to add Compatriots in the Florida Veterans Battalion. The Veteran Affairs Committee members for the 2022-2023 term are listed below.

Rene Jewett, Chairman
Donald K. Lanman, Veterans Recognition Director
Philip B. Markoe, Member
Jonathan Hunt, Member
COL Patrick J. Niemann, Member
DeCody Brad Marble, Member

2. General William C. Westmoreland Award

The NSSAR presents the General William C. Westmoreland Award annually to an SAR member who has distinguished himself by his service to Veterans. The Florida Society submitted two nominations for the 2023 Westmoreland Award: Donald K. Lanman; and William G. Teater, Sr. The NSSAR selected Compatriot Dale Corey, Virginia Society, as the winner of the 2023 General William C. Westmoreland Award.

3. USS Stark Memorial Award

The USS Stark Memorial Award recognizes outstanding chapters and state societies within the SAR for their support of Veterans. The criteria established for the Stark Report determines the winners of the awards presented at the national and state levels. The Florida Society will receive the 2022 State Veterans Service Award for submitting 18 Stark Reports out of 34 chapters. A 53% submission rate. The Brevard Chapter won the 2022 Stark Award at the national and state levels for chapters with 100-199 members. See the state level Stark Award results in the table below. All chapters, please be aware that there are new forms for tracking and reporting USS Stark information available on the national website. The tracker is a great aid in maintaining a working list of service to veteran activities and participants throughout the year. It will make reporting at the end of the year a much easier prospect. Florida is one of the SAR's largest member states and has a huge proportion of veteran residents and members. Even if we do not report everything, each chapter is responsible for reporting activities supporting veterans every year through the USS Stark Reporting Form. Take a few moments now to start collecting your chapter's efforts. The committee looks forward to recognizing every chapter that supports veterans – whether in the SAR or our communities at-large. Also, chapters should survey their new members to ascertain if they are veterans. If so, it is strongly recommended that the chapter gather the information necessary for recognition of their military service. Submitting this information to the state and national societies will allow the awarding of a Certificate of Patriotism (provided at no cost to the chapter by the NSSAR).

2022 FLSSAR Results for USS Stark Memorial Award					
Category	Chapter	Membership	Pts/Member	Total Points	
10 - 49 Members	Charlotte	13	269.23	3,500.00	Winner
	St Augustine	45	69.33	3,120.00	
	William Dunaway	24	53.33	1,279.97	
	Daytona-Ormond	38	30.26	1,150.00	
	Pensacola	39	22.82	890.00	
	Fort Lauderdale	49	15.31	750.00	
	St Petersburg	26	12.31	320.00	
50 - 99 Members	Withlacoochee	79	160.20	12,655.52	Winner
	Miami	82	36.59	3,000.00	
	Tampa	57	50.35	2,870.00	
	Saramana	87	32.75	2,849.20	
	Central Florida	88	13.90	1,223.00	
	Caloosa	94	11.49	1,080.00	
	Lake-Sumter	77	7.34	565.00	
100 - 199 Members	Brevard	103	709.87	73,117.00	Winner
	Villages	101	30.50	3,080.00	
	Palm Beach	162	17.84	2,890.00	
	Clearwater	129	6.74	870.00	

4. If you would like to share your chapter or region's upcoming Veteran events, please send the information to VAC Chairman Rene Jewett at jewettrene@yahoo.com.

5. The NSSAR Patriotic Outreach Committee fosters cooperative arrangements with patriotic organizations such as the American Legion and the U.S.O., as well as patriotic programs such as Wreaths Across America, Blue Star Salute, etc.

Effective 1 Jun 2022, chapters and state societies should report all activity in Patriotic Outreach on The USS Stark Memorial Award Scoring Sheet

6. Partners in Patriotism

The Partners in Patriotism certificate is awarded by the Patriotic Outreach Committee to any SAR chapter or state-level society that participates in an organized program or event with another veterans' organization. In order to receive this recognition, the chapter or state-level society must submit online. Upon approval, the certificate will be handed out to a member of the state-level society at the next annual SAR Congress. The Daughters of the American Revolution is not considered a veterans' organization.

7. Wreaths Across America

The Patriotic Outreach Committee encourages all SAR chapters and state-level societies to participate in the **Wreaths Across America program** by purchasing wreaths and laying them on the graves of veterans. Chapters and state-level societies that participate in Wreaths Across America will be recognized by the Patriotic Outreach Committee with a certificate.

The list of approved veteran organizations for Partners in Patriotism Program:

Air Force Association
Air Force Sergeants Association
American Ex-Prisoners of War
American G.I. Forum
American Legion
American Veterans (AMVETS)
American Veterans Committee (1943-2008)
American Veterans Committee
American Veterans for Equal Rights
Army and Navy Union of the United States of America
Association of the United States Army (AUSA)
Blinded Veterans Association
Catholic War Veterans
Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association
Disabled American Veterans (DAV)
Fleet Reserve Association
Fashion for Fighters Foundation
Forty and Eight Veterans Organization
Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America
Iraq War Veterans Organization
Jewish War Veterans of the USA
Marine Corps Association
Military Officers Association of America
Military Order of the Carabao
Military Order of the Cootie
Military Order of Foreign Wars
Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States
Military Order of the Purple Heart
Military Order of the World Wars
Navy League of the United States
National Association for Black Veterans
National Guard Association of the United States
Navy Musicians Association
Navy Mutual Aid Association
Paralyzed Veterans of America
Pearl Harbor Survivors Association
Polish Legion of American Veterans
Retired Enlisted Association
Society of American Military Engineers
State Guard Association of the United States

Student Veterans of America
Things We Read
United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.
United States Submarine Veterans of World War II
USO
Veterans Administration
Veterans' Alliance for Security and Democracy
Veterans for Common Sense (VCS)
Veterans for Peace
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW)
Vietnamese American Armed Forces Association
Vietnam Veterans of America
Wounded Warrior Project

8. The Veterans Administration (VA) developed a new volunteer program to provide socialization opportunities for Veterans. The new program is the Compassionate Contact Corps (CCC). See the below link for more details. The purpose of the program is to link volunteers with individual Veterans for one-to-one social interactions via meaningful telephone conversations. This will provide additional socialization for the Veteran as well as combat loneliness and boredom. Anyone wishing to participate should contact their local Veterans Administration Medical Center (VAMC). The VA will record participation in this program as volunteer hours, which can be reported in Section 2 of the USS Stark Memorial Report. Since this new program does not require travel it should be of interest to those SAR members who wish to support our Veterans, but are unable to volunteer on-site at a VAMC.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CeryJD3D9dc>

Veterans Battalion report, submitted by Don Lanman

1. FLSSAR Veterans Battalion Membership has increased by 17 to 702 members:
 - a. NE=96
 - b. NW=57
 - c. NC=96
 - d. EC=81
 - e. WC=134
 - f. SE=74
 - g. SW=164
 - h. 33% of FLSSAR membership are enrolled in the Veterans Battalion.

2. Committee Activity:
 - a. The Veterans Affairs Committee continues to work with Chapters to expand the membership both the *FLSSAR Veterans Battalion* and *NSSAR Veterans Corps* with Compatriots who served honorably in the armed forces. Chapter Presidents encouraged to promote Veterans Battalion program and are contacted quarterly to ID new candidates.
 - b. Committee member Lanman reviews all Veterans Battalion requests within 24 hours of receipt of both the required FLSSAR VB application form and DD-214. Chapters are mailed a VB acceptance letter and Certificate within 48 hours for Compatriot presentation.
 - c. Chapter Presidents are requested to personally present the Veterans Battalion Certificate along with the authorized Military Service or War Service medal to approved Compatriots at a chapter meeting. The chapter is encouraged, but not required, to purchase the medal for each compatriot directly from SAR.org.
 - d. Chapter Presidents are reminded that the *SAR War Service Medal* is only authorized for Compatriot veterans with proof of war service in a DOD designated "*Combat Theatre*" as noted on their DD-214. Non-combat related military service qualifies for the *SAR Military Service Medal*. Both medals carry an equal SAR rank.
 - e. The committee continues to support Chapter Presidents and the NSSAR Veterans Corps committee to help *FLSSAR* Veteran Battalion members apply for the *NSSAR Veterans Corp* recognition.
 - f. Veterans Battalion Roster is updated quarterly on the *FLSSAR* web site listing all Veterans Battalion members by Region & Chapter.

Trust Funds

Endowment Trust Fund Disbursements

Ronald L. Grove, Chairman

This is going to be a short report – only 2 requests have been received so far. The ETF year starts November 1, so not long ago. And it's this time of year when activity usually picks up especially with youth awards. The ETF trustees have allocated \$27,327.43 for us to distribute this year (5% - maximum allowable). This money is to reimburse chapters for non-SAR outreach programs like youth awards and service medals. Last year we received 51 requests totaling \$11,722.49 – less than half available. Let's use this money! Thanks to my committee members: Jim Gaskins, Lee Matson, Jeff Sizemore, Ben Tidwell and Ray Wess.

Florida SAR Endowment and Operating Budget Trust Funds

W. Richard "Dick" Young, 1/1/2020-12/31/2022

James D. Stone, 1/1/2021-12/31/2023

Wm Lee Popham, 1/1/2022-12/31/2024

Thomas J. Thompson, 1/1/2023-12/31/2025

See Appendix B for Trust Fund Reports

AGENDA – 3/30/2023 Meeting:

Account Balances,	01 January 2022	31 December 2022	PERFORMANCE
3456 Florida SAR Endowment Trust Fund	\$660,878.24	\$546,548.55	(- 15.77%)
3341 Florida SAR Operating Budget Fund	\$128,325.99	\$102,258.37	(- 15.05%)

Actions:

- OBT: Transferred 5% = \$7,950.97 Budgeted Distributions from the Florida SAR OBT Fund account to the FLSSAR Operating Account during calendar 2022.**
- OBT: 5% distribution rate for 2023 = \$102,258.37 x 5% = \$5,112.92.**
 - Quarterly distributions of \$1,278.23 by 31 March, 30 June, 30 Sept. & 31 Dec.
 - From this amount, OBT has been requested to purchase Florida Society Medals upon their approval by NSSAR. Approved by FLSSAR at Spring 2020 BOM.
- ETF: Regions Bank mailed all 2022 Disbursements from the Florida SAR ETF Fund account prior to 31 December 2022.**
 - Disbursements during the 2022 calendar year totaled \$12,007.22.
- ETF: The 2023 Trustee Designations were set at an amount equal to 5% of the 01 January 2023 balance in the Florida SAR Endowment Trust Fund.**
 - 5% x \$546,548.55 = \$27,327.43, to be available from the #3456 Florida SAR Endowment Trust Fund for appropriate 2023 reimbursements and distributions.
- ETF & OTB: Portfolio Investment Allocation Guidelines target = 60%-Equity and 40%-Fixed.**
 - Investment Policy Statements were updated during 2021.
- Regions to suggest appropriate portfolio Benchmarks for Approval by Trustees.**

New Business

The Brevard Chapter presented its Tricorn Hat Resolution that was published in the Spring 2023 edition of The Florida Patriot magazine.

MOTION – Sam Ashdown moved that the resolution be adopted by the FLSSAR Board of Managers. **SECOND** Phil Markoe. After discussion, it was determined that this is not the proper procedure, and should be presented to the appropriate NSSAR committee for consideration. The motion **FAILED**.

Election of Officers

The Nominating Committee presented its slate of officers for 2023-2024, as published in the Proceedings Book.

Chairman Dwight Elam announced that the Nominee for Recording Secretary, Len Crame, had to withdraw due to health issues.

Nominations were requested from the floor and Doug Gibbens volunteered.

There were no other nominations from the floor.

The following list of unopposed candidates were elected by acclamation:

President – Steven R. Fields

Senior Vice President – James Y. Gaskins

Treasurer – W. Richard Young, Sr

Secretary – M. Scott Breckenridge

ExCom Member-at-Large – Robert W. McGuire, Jr

Recording Secretary – W. Douglas Gibbens

Registrar – Raymond C. Lantz

Sgt. At Arms – Jeffrey F. Brunelle

Chaplain – Dwight D. Elam

Chancellor – Thomas J. Thompson

Genealogist – J. Gray Chandler

Historian – Joel A. Etherton

Editor The Florida Patriot – Jeffrey L. Sizemore

Webmaster – E. Scott Bushnell

NE RVP – Charles R. Hayes

NW RVP – Christopher E. Washler

NC RVP – David C. Thomas

EC RVP – Jeffrey L. Sizemore

WC RVP – A. Parks Honeywell

SW RVP – Hampton E. Allen

SE RVP – William R. Wicks III

Dwight Elam, Chairman of the Nominating Committee presented its nominees for National Trustee and Alternate Trustee for 2023-2024, as published in the Proceedings Book.

There were no other nominations from the floor.

The following candidates were approved as our nominees to the 2023 Congress:

National Trustee – Earl F. (Matt) Mathews

Alternate Trustee – Steven R. Fields

The Secretary was directed to report the results to National.

President-Elect Steve Fields presented his nominees for the Nominating Committee for 2023-2024.

The following candidates were elected as the Nominating Committee for 2023-2024:

Brian Jensen

Dale Bottom

Tom Thompson

Matt Mathews

Hamp Allen

Appendix A – Dues Increase Presentation



Dues Increase

This presentation is for information.
Dues and fees increases can only be approved by delegates to a Congress

2024 DUES INCREASE RECOMMENDATION



National Dues Task Force

- Appointed by PG Pickette
- Examined numerous factors
- After considering the issue twice, the Executive Committee has accepted the recommendation of the Task Force for a National Dues increase, beginning in the 2024 Dues Year.



National Dues Increase Proposed

Increase of \$15 from \$35 to \$50

- Regular Members
- C.A.R. Transfers
- Reinstatements



Background

Three dues increases in last 20 years:

- 2003: A \$5.00 increase from \$20.00 to \$25.00
- 2010: A \$5.00 increase from \$25.00 to \$ 30.00
- 2015: A \$5.00 increase from \$30.00 to \$ 35.00



Background

- We incurred a \$292,000 deficit last year
- 2023 was budgeted at Breakeven
 - Shortfalls due to excessive non-renewals and application backlogs



**JUSTIFICATION FOR INCREASE
NO GROWTH FOR FIVE YEARS**

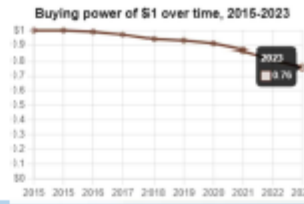
Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Deceased	498	729	824	808	791
Dropped	4058	4135	3576	3629	3873
New Member	4170	4002	2505	3297	2501
Reinstatement	1133	1392	1247	1110	1391
Relinq	203	111	117	111	119
Reinstatement-Transfer	56	79	99	119	85
Transfer-In	179	182	381	348	356
Transfer-Out	179	182	381	348	356
Pre-Reconciliation					
Membership Totals:	37,745	35,087	37,808	35,077	35,313
Post-Reconciliation					
Membership Totals:	33,142	33,444	34,327	31,544	33,708



Justification for Increase

THE DOLLAR HAS LOST 24% OF ITS VALUE SINCE THE LAST INCREASE IN 2015

- Our Dues Dollars only buy 76% of what they did in 2015



(\$292,000) deficit in 2022

2023 was budgeted at Breakeven

Current 2023 Forecast = (\$97,500) Deficit



2024 –Projected Operating Deficit of approximately (\$302,100)

2025 –Projected Operating Deficit of approximately (\$405,900)

2026 – Projected Operating Deficit of approximately (\$430,900)

Five Year Deficit Forecast 2022-2026 = (\$1,528,400)



Reasons for the Recommendation

Resources needed for the 5-Year Operational Plan

- Streamline and Speed Up Application Process
- Digitization Project
- Comprehensive Insurance Coverage
- Online Dues Collection Process



CURRENT YEAR IMPACTS

- Additional Genealogist Staff Not Funded = \$65,000
- IT Projects in Process for 2023 = \$235,000
- Public Relations, Marketing and Advertising = \$30,000



WHY A MEMBERSHIP DUES INCREASE?

- BY 2024, THE LAST DUES INCREASE WILL HAVE BEEN 9 YEARS AGO
- THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) HAS RISEN APPROX 24% SINCE 2015
 - Our Dues Dollars only buy 76% of what they did in 2015
- PROVIDE RESOURCES FOR NEEDED PROJECTS
- IMPROVE SERVICES TO MEMBERS



**MEMBERS CAN SPEND THEIR TIME ON
TELLING OUR STORY
AND
ADVANCING OUR GOALS**



THANK YOU !



Appendix B – Trust Fund Reports

FLORIDA SAR OPERATING BUDGET TRUST FUND - 08T Summary Statement of Results and Net Assets

Income:	Cumulative March	Cumulative June	July	August	September	Cumulative September	October	November	Cumulative November	December	Cumulative December	2022	%
Net Asset Balance, Beginning of Period	\$ 126,358.98	\$ 30,823.90	\$ 30,666.17	\$ 109,642.79	\$ 106,330.98	\$ 106,330.98	\$ 97,311.79	\$ 109,642.79	\$ 136,128.49	\$ 36,487.24	\$ 30,666.17	\$ 30,666.17	-16.34%
Income Receipts	\$ 422.69	\$ 1,106.33	\$ 116.06	\$ 875.6	\$ 401.27	\$ 1,668.21	\$ 645.5	\$ 919.7	\$ 1,668.21	\$ 1,210.26	\$ 1,003.08	\$ 1,003.08	
Capital Gain Distributions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Realized Gain (Losses)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Dividends	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Transfers - Savings and Investments, Contributions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Total Income	\$ 422.69	\$ 1,066.33	\$ 116.06	\$ 875.6	\$ 401.27	\$ 1,668.21	\$ 645.5	\$ 919.7	\$ 1,668.21	\$ 1,210.26	\$ 1,003.08	\$ 1,003.08	2.59%
Disbursements:													
Asset Management Fees	\$ 438.08	\$ 862.67	\$ 117.75	\$ 123.24	\$ 110.62	\$ 1,092.8	\$ 109.48	\$ 113.24	\$ 1,306.02	\$ 10.76	\$ 1,511.78	\$ 1,511.78	-1.28%
Other Fees	\$ 1,536.97	\$ 4,792.67	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,604.00	\$ 6,366.67	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,366.67	\$ -	\$ 1,006.00	\$ 7,372.67	
Total Disbursements	\$ 1,975.05	\$ 5,655.34	\$ 117.75	\$ 123.24	\$ 1,714.62	\$ 7,559.47	\$ 109.48	\$ 113.24	\$ 7,788.67	\$ 1,016.76	\$ 8,805.43	\$ 9,814.72	
Transfers to Balance, End of Month	\$ 126,358.83	\$ 123,837.67	\$ 30,666.48	\$ 30,507.08	\$ 105,007.68	\$ 122,477.95	\$ 97,296.56	\$ 100,637.60	\$ 122,413.75	\$ 30,597.04	\$ 121,933.25	\$ 121,933.25	
Unrealized Gains (Losses)	\$ (6,519.91)	\$ (19,169.50)	\$ 4876.28	\$ (3,177.10)	\$ (7,699.84)	\$ (25,196.36)	\$ 3,900.01	\$ 5,799.94	\$ (16,006.21)	\$ (3,666.67)	\$ (15,674.88)	\$ (15,674.88)	-16.34%
Net Assets, End of Period	\$ 120,276.92	\$ 30,468.17	\$ 30,954.76	\$ 30,638.98	\$ 97,311.79	\$ 97,311.79	\$ 100,636.67	\$ 106,437.54	\$ 106,437.54	\$ 30,263.17	\$ 30,263.17	\$ 30,263.17	-15.07%

FLORIDA SAR ENDOWMENT TRUST FUND Summary Statement of Results and Net Assets

Income:	Cumulative March	Cumulative June	July	August	September	Cumulative September	October	November	Cumulative November	December	Cumulative December	2022	%
Net Asset Balance, Beginning of Period	\$ 6,027.24	\$ 60,878.26	\$ 55,432.06	\$ 18,197.27	\$ 56,802.1	\$ 60,878.24	\$ 52,483.09	\$ 50,342.76	\$ 50,342.76	\$ 50,342.76	\$ 50,342.76	\$ 50,342.76	
Income Receipts	\$ 1,926.83	\$ 4,610.73	\$ 797.01	\$ 602.03	\$ 1,298.24	\$ 7,205.91	\$ 666.42	\$ 674.99	\$ 5,304.24	\$ 5,304.24	\$ 14,071.96	\$ 14,071.96	21.7%
Capital Gain Distributions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Realized Gain (Losses)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Dividends	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Transfers - Savings and Investments, Contributions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Total Income	\$ 1,858.83	\$ 4,747.73	\$ 797.01	\$ 602.93	\$ 1,298.24	\$ 7,405.91	\$ 666.42	\$ 674.99	\$ 5,304.24	\$ 5,304.24	\$ 14,071.96	\$ 14,071.96	21.7%
Disbursements:													
Asset Management Fees	\$ 2,152.23	\$ 4,172.8	\$ 624.88	\$ 654.53	\$ 634.39	\$ 6,096.08	\$ 988.89	\$ 607.29	\$ 6,096.08	\$ 6,096.08	\$ 7,018.16	\$ 7,018.16	-1.22%
Other Fees	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Total Disbursements	\$ 2,152.23	\$ 4,172.8	\$ 624.88	\$ 654.53	\$ 634.39	\$ 6,096.08	\$ 988.89	\$ 607.29	\$ 6,096.08	\$ 6,096.08	\$ 7,018.16	\$ 7,018.16	-1.22%
Transfers to Balance, End of Month	\$ 660,584.84	\$ 660,494.69	\$ 555,564.19	\$ 581,340.67	\$ 561,173.30	\$ 657,272.21	\$ 523,560.98	\$ 518,274.33	\$ 565,284.28	\$ 655,021.42	\$ 655,021.42	\$ 655,021.42	
Unrealized Gains (Losses)	\$ (38,548.74)	\$ (105,062.63)	\$ 26,223.58	\$ (17,259.86)	\$ (37,690.21)	\$ (131,789.12)	\$ 16,682.38	\$ 27,367.80	\$ (18,795.73)	\$ (108,474.87)	\$ (108,474.87)	\$ (108,474.87)	-16.72%
Net Assets, End of Period	\$ 622,035.10	\$ 555,432.06	\$ 581,787.77	\$ 563,880.81	\$ 523,483.09	\$ 523,483.09	\$ 540,242.76	\$ 565,642.13	\$ 546,548.55	\$ 546,548.55	\$ 546,548.55	\$ 546,548.55	-15.77%

Appendix C – Finance Committee Reports

Florida Society Budget Comparison
 For the Year Ending December 31, 2023
 Through April 30, 2023

	2023			
	Actual		Operating Budget	Remaining Budget
	Congress	Operating		
Cash Receipts				
Annual Dues			100,000	87
Prepaid Dues from December		63,569		
2024 Dues Collections		-		
2023 Dues Collections		36,518		
Patriot Magazine Subscription				-
Prepaid in December		1,524		(1,524)
2023 Collections		12		(12)
OBTF distribution		-	5,000	5,000
Registrar Receipts		4,200	12,000	7,800
Secretary Receipts		1,180	1,500	320
Other Income		-		-
BOM Receipts		-		-
Registration		-	15,000	15,000
Room		-		-
Hospitality Room		-		-
Donations		-		-
ETF		-		-
Meeks Fund		-		-
Other		-		-
National Awards		-		-
LNB Medal Sales		-		-
Patriot Mag Ad Income		-		-
2023 Congress Income	3,130	-		-
Medal Sales	-	-		-
Musket Raffle	-	-		-
Sculpture Raffle	-	-		-
250th Pins Sales	-	-		-
LNB Medal Sales	-	-		-
Cash Donations	-	-		-
PayPal Fees	(31)	-		-
Reallocate ETF Donation	2,000	-		-
Reallocate Meeks Fund Donation	2,000	-		-
Reallocate Secretary 2021 budget	-	-		-
Reallocate Presidents Exp 2022	-	-		-
Carry Over From Prior Year		-		-
Total	7,099	107,003	133,500	26,671

Florida Society Budget Comparison
For the Year Ending December 31, 2023
Through April 30, 2023

	2023			
	Actual		Operating Budget	Remaining Budget
	Congress	Operating		
Cash Disbursements				
NSSAR Dues		63,510	62,000	(1,510)
Dues Refunds		-		-
Reinstatement Dues		385	1,200	815
Registrar Stipend		2,400	4,800	2,400
Secretary Stipend		2,400	4,800	2,400
Exec Admin Stipend		1,800	4,800	3,000
Presidents Expenses		1,083	5,000	3,917
Sr VP Expenses		-	2,500	2,500
Secretary Expenses		-	1,000	1,000
Treasurer Expenses		26	100	74
Registrar Expenses		330	600	270
BOM Expenses		-		-
Hotel (Meals)		-	13,700	13,700
Rooms		-	-	-
BOM Refunds		-	-	-
Hospitality Room		-	500	500
Printing, A/V & Other		-	500	500
PG Room		-	300	300
Hotel Deposits		-	-	-
Americanism/Chapter Challenge		-	100	100
C.A.R. Committee		-	100	100
Educational Outreach Committee		-	500	500

Florida Society Budget Comparison
For the Year Ending December 31, 2023
Through April 30, 2023

	2023				
	Actual		Operating Budget	Remaining Budget	
	Congress	Operating			
Florida Veterans Foundation		1,000	1,000	-	
Good Citizenship Comm		-	-	-	
Historical Sites Committee		-	200	200	
History Fair Comm		-	500	500	
Internet/Computer Expense		19	500	481	
Medals & Awards Comm		205	1,500	1,295	
New Chapter Dev Comm		-	600	600	
Newsletters & Period Comm		-	500	500	
Other Committee Cost		-	200	200	
Patriot Medal Comm		230	500	270	
Patriotic Education		-	-	-	
Publicity Comm		-	500	500	
Technology Comm		-	-	-	
Veterans Battalion		-	100	100	
Website Taskforce		-	-	-	
American His Teacher Comm		-	1,200	1,200	
Americanism Brochure Contest		-	350	350	
Americanism Poster Contest		-	350	350	
Eagle Scout Contest		-	2,000	2,000	
JROTC Contest		1,310	2,000	690	
Knight Essay Contest		-	2,000	2,000	
Rumbaugh Oration Contest		-	3,000	3,000	
FSCAR Donation		1,000	1,000	-	
Highland Games Donation (DAR)		-	-	-	
NSSAR Library		-	300	300	
SAR Museum & Learning Center		-	1,000	1,000	
Battle of Pensacola		-	500	500	
Battle of Thomas Creek		500	500	-	
Last Naval Battle		-	500	500	
Bank Charges/Fees		12	100	88	
D&O/Liability Insurance		-	2,500	2,500	
Miscellaneous Costs		-	300	300	
Other Postage/Delivery		29	-	(29)	
Patriot Mag Cost		1,169	4,500	3,331	
Storage Fees		1,004	3,000	1,996	
2023 Congress Expenses		-	-	-	
Musket Raffle		-	-	-	
Medals		-	-	-	
Other		750	-	-	
2023 Congress Fund Transfers		-	-	-	
Reallocate from ETF Donation		2,000	2,000	-	
Reallocate from Meeks Fund		2,000	2,000	-	
Reallocate from Sec 2021 Budget		-	-	-	
		-	-	-	
Total		750	82,412	137,700	55,288
Net Cash Surplus		6,349	24,591	(4,200)	(28,617)

Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution
Cash Balances By Fund
At December 31, 2019, 2020, 2021 & 2022

	Operations	Meeks	Congress	Totals
Jan 1, 2019	112,722	31,343	-	144,066
Receipts	168,059	-	-	168,059
Disbursements	135,517	-	825	136,342
Fund Transfer	(14,442)	2,942	11,500	-
Dec 31, 2019	130,822	34,285	10,675	175,783
Receipts	200,211	25	8,828	209,064
Disbursements	132,765	-	5,723	138,488
Fund Transfer	(5,667)	-	5,667	-
Dec 31, 2020	192,601	34,310	19,447	246,358
Receipts	130,475	150	11,398	142,023
Disbursements	128,794	-	758	129,552
Fund Transfer	(16,538)	2,538	14,000	-
Dec 31, 2021	177,744	36,998	44,087	258,830
Receipts	137,453	100	15,796	153,349
Disbursements	126,790	-	1,476	128,266
Fund Transfer	(5,064)	-	5,064	-
Dec 31, 2022	183,343	37,098	63,471	283,913
Receipts	41,910	-	3,099	45,009
Disbursements	78,412	-	750	79,162
Fund Transfer	(4,000)	-	4,000	-
April 30, 2023	142,841	37,098	69,820	249,760

Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution

Calendar Year 2022 Budget Review

Not much unusual happened to our finances during 2022. Some of the more notable items were:

- Dues collections were some \$5,000 less than expected, offset for the most part by the annual dues payment to National SAR which was \$4600 less than budgeted.
- Collections from the Operating Budget Trust Fund were nearly \$5,000 more than projected due to the Trustees increasing the contribution from 3% to 5% of the Fund Balance and an increase in the Fund Balance at the end of 2021.
- BOM receipts were \$4600 more than forecast, due in large part to the larger than usual attendance at the 2022 Annual Meeting. It should be noted that the BOM expenses exceeded budget by approx. \$6600 leaving the 2022 BOM meetings cash shortfall at approx. \$2000.
- With Hall Riediger's resignation as Executive Administrator on December 31, 2021, we went most of 2022 without anyone filling that position. Secretary Scott Breckenridge took on those responsibilities. In August, the Executive Committee agreed to let Compatriot Breckenridge serve both positions and be paid the stipend budgeted for each.
- Please note that the Secretary did not request reimbursement for any out-of-pocket expenses for all of 2022 and the SVP did not request reimbursement for any out-of-pocket expenses after his election in May. Both will be discussed as part of the Finance Committee report at the BOM.
- The immediate past president did not submit any expense reimbursement requests for his 2021-2022 term in office until the 2022 Annual Meeting. Even though the 2021 FLSSAR year had been closed, the BOM agreed to carry over \$3,000 from the 2021 budget to 2022 to cover most (but not all) of his request.
- We made the first of three BOM approved annual contributions of \$1,000 each to the Florida Veterans Foundation.
- In 2021 the Education Outreach Committee purchased a camcorder and related equipment to produce short videos on the founding of the United States to be used by the Florida Department of Education. Some work was done and videos were produced in 2021. With a change of leadership at the FDOE and the FLSSAR, this project faded away and none of the budgeted funds for 2022 were used.
- In our pre-pandemic world, the History Fair Committee was a \$475/year sponsor of the State of Florida History Fair in Tallahassee each spring. We have not renewed our sponsorship since 2020, nor have we been asked to do so.
- Medals and awards are purchased as needed to meet the Society's needs from year-to-year. It is difficult to budget this line item.
- There was no new chapter development in 2022.
- The History Teacher Award exceeded the budget because of an agreement with the Committee that the Treasurer did not budget as agreed.
- Our Rumbaugh Oration Contest winner was not invited to the Final Competition at the 2022 Congress; therefore, we did not incur any related travel expenses.
- The Treasurer continues to look, without success, for affordable liability insurance.
- Storage room fees have increased from \$133/month when we first rented the unit to \$251/month. After the 2023 Congress, we may want to look at moving.
- There has been activity in the Meeks Fund for the Future of Florida thus far in 2023.
- Congress Fund receipts and disbursements will be distributed and discussed at the BOM Congress Committee Meeting. At this time, it is believed that the funds raised by the Congress Committee will be sufficient to cover the expenses of the Congress.

Florida Society Budget Comparison
For the Year Ending December 31, 2022
And Proposed Budget for 2023

	2022			
	Actual		Operating	Remaining
	Meeks	Congress	Operating Budget	Budget
Cash Receipts				
Annual Dues			105,000	5,147
Prepaid Dues from December			67,845	
2022 Dues Collections			32,008	
2023 Dues Collections			63,569	
Patriot Magazine Subscription				-
Prepaid in December			1,524	-
2022 Collections			48	(48)
OBTF distribution			7,951	3,000 (4,951)
Registrar Receipts			13,530	12,000 (1,530)
Secretary Receipts			1,560	1,000 (560)
Other Income			-	-
BOM Receipts			-	-
Registration			16,623	12,000 (4,623)
Room			-	-
Hospitality Room			-	-
Donations			-	-
ETF			-	-
Meeks Fund	100		100	(100)
Other			-	-
National Awards			-	-
LNB Medal Sales			525	(525)
Patriot Mag Ad Income			-	-
2023 Congress Income			-	-
Medal Sales		3,035	-	-
Musket Raffle		4,875	-	-
Sculpture Raffle		3,370	-	-
250th Pins Sales		260	-	-
LNB Medal Sales		875	-	-
Cash Donations		3,463	-	-
PayPal Fees		(81)	-	-
Reallocate ETF Donation		2,000	-	-
Reallocate Meeks Fund Donation		2,000	-	-
Reallocate Secretary 2021 budget		1,000	-	-
Reallocate Presidents Exp 2022		64	-	-
Carry Over From Prior Year			4,700	4,700 -
Total	100	20,860	209,983	137,700 (7,190)

Florida Society Budget Comparison
For the Year Ending December 31, 2022
And Proposed Budget for 2023

	2022			
	Actual		Operating	Remaining
	Meets	Congress	Budget	Budget
Cash Disbursements				
NSSAR Dues		61,525	66,150	4,625
Dues Refunds		-	-	-
Reinstatement Dues		1,160	1,500	340
Registrar Stipend		4,800	4,800	-
Secretary Stipend		4,800	4,800	-
Exec Admin Stipend		1,734	4,800	3,066
Presidents Expenses - 2023		-	-	-
Presidents Expenses - 2022		4,936	5,000	64
Presidents Expenses - 2021		3,000	3,000	-
Sr VP Expenses		833	2,500	1,667
Secretary Expenses		-	1,000	1,000
Treasurer Expenses		-	100	100
Registrar Expenses		833	600	(233)
BOM Expenses		-	-	-
Hotel (Meals)		17,093	10,700	(6,393)
Rooms		110	-	(110)
BOM Refunds		-	-	-
Hospitality Room		243	500	257
Printing, A/V & Other		1,192	500	(692)
PG Room		-	300	300
Hotel Deposits		-	-	-
Americanism/Chapter Challenge		-	100	100
C.A.R. Committee		33	100	67
Educational Outreach Committee		-	500	500

Florida Society Budget Comparison
For the Year Ending December 31, 2022
And Proposed Budget for 2023

	2022				
	Actual		Operating	Remaining	
	Meeks	Congress	Budget	Budget	
Veterans Battalion			70	100	30
Website Taskforce			-	1,000	1,000
American His Teacher Comm			1,200	750	(450)
Americanism Brochure Contest			266	350	84
Americanism Poster Contest			324	350	26
Eagle Scout Contest			1,766	2,000	234
JROTC Contest			2,000	2,200	200
Knight Essay Contest			1,861	2,000	139
Rumbaugh Oration Contest			1,000	4,500	3,500
FSCAR Donation			1,000	1,000	-
Highland Games Donation (DAR)			-	100	100
NSSSAR Library			300	300	-
SAR Museum & Learning Center			1,000	1,000	-
Battle of Pensacola			-	300	300
Battle of Thomas Creek			456	500	44
Last Naval Battle			500	500	-
Bank Charges/Fees			31	100	69
D&O/Liability Insurance			-	2,500	2,500
Miscellaneous Costs			249	250	1
Other Postage/Delivery			39	-	(39)
Patriot Mag Cost			4,592	4,000	(592)
Storage Fees			2,935	1,950	(985)
2023 Congress Expenses			-	-	-
Musket Raffle		1,170	-	-	-
Medals		73	-	-	-
Other		183	-	-	-
2023 Congress Fund Transfers			-	-	-
Reallocate from ETF Donation			2,000	2,000	-
Reallocate from Meeks Fund			2,000	2,000	-
Reallocate from Sec 2021 Budget			1,000	1,000	-
Reallocate Excess Pres Exp 2022			64	-	-
Carry Over to Future Years			-	-	-
Total		1,476	131,854	143,750	11,960
Net Cash Surplus	100	19,384	78,129	(6,050)	(19,150)

May 19-20, 2023							
FRIDAY				SATURDAY			
	Mtg Room	Mtg Room	Banquet Room	Center Hallway	Mtg Room	Banquet Room	
9:00-9:30	C.A.R. Liaison			REGISTRATION	A Year in Review		
9:30-10:00					Congress Planning		
10:00-10:30	Registrar Training	Society of the War of 1812 Mtg			Lunch on your own	Youth Luncheon	
10:30-11:00							
11:00-11:30	Veterans Affairs						
11:30-Noon							
Noon-1:00	Lunch on your own		Ladies Auxiliary Lunch and Meeting			BOM & Annual Meeting	
1:00-1:30	Strategic Planning						
1:30-2:00							
2:00-2:30	DAR Liaison						
2:30-3:00							
3:00-3:30	Historic Sites & Celebrations						
3:30-4:00							
4:00-4:30							
4:30-5:00			Color Guard Rehearsal			Color Guard Rehearsal	
5:00-5:30			Reception			Reception	
5:30-6:00			Awards Banquet				Installation Banquet
6:00-6:30							
6:30-7:00							
7:00-7:30							
7:30-8:00							
Hospitality Room 107 9:30am - 11:00am and after Banquet							