

Spring Board of Management & Annual
Meeting

Proceedings

Kissimmee, Florida

May 16 to 17, 2024



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 Sons of the American Revolution honors our Revolutionary War patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our Country.

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Meeting Agenda

Call to order
Invocation
Pledge of allegiance
SAR Pledge
Mission Statement
Introduction of National Officers
Introduction of first time attendees
Certification of a quorum
Approval of the agenda
Approval of the minutes
Endorsements of National Candidates (**Fall BOM**)
Nomination of SAD VPG (**Fall 2028 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
Registrar
Chaplain
Recording Secretary
Chancellor
Genealogist
Sergeant at Arms
Historian
Editor, *The Florida Patriot*
Webmaster

Statutory Committee Reports

Executive
 Appoint ExAdmin (**Spring BOM**)
Finance
 (Budget Approval (**Fall BOM**))
Financial Review
Medals and Awards
Nominating
Patriot Medal

NSSAR Affairs

SAR Education Center & Museum
National Society Library

FLSSAR Affairs

Archives
By-Laws
Congress Surplus Allocation
Education Outreach
Ethics
Genealogy

Meeting Arrangements - BOM

Approval of BOM contracts (**Fall BOM**)
Membership Promotion and Retention
New Chapter Development
Newsletters and Periodicals
Strategic Planning
Technology Advisory
Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade

Liaisons

CAR and SAR Junior Members Aide Liaison
DAR Liaison
FLSSAR Ladies Auxiliary Liaison

Historic Sites

Historic Sites & Celebrations
Battle of Pensacola
Battle of Thomas Creek
First Amphibious Assault Memorial
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

Adjourn BOM Meeting

Convene Annual Meeting (**Spring**)

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

Recessional / Adjournment

Minutes of the Last Meeting

Scott Breckenridge, Secretary FLSSAR
W. Douglas Gibbens, Recording Secretary FLSSAR

Board of Management Meeting

Date: Saturday December 7, 2024

Location: Embassy Suites, Kissimmee, FL

Meeting Called to Order by **President James Gaskins** at 1304.

Eulogy for PG Carl Huffman

Opening ritual completed.

Introduction of National Officers

President Gaskins then recognized first-time attendees.

Secretary Scott Breckenridge confirmed a quorum.

The agenda was accepted as presented.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as presented.

Endorsement of National Candidates

Secretary General

William Allen Greenly – present and spoke

Treasurer General

T. Brooks Lyles, Jr. – present and spoke

Edmon H. McKinley, Esq. – present and spoke

Chancellor General

Judge Peter M. Davenport – present and spoke

Greg Ohanesian - not present and no one spoke for him

Genealogist General

Gary Neal – not present and no one spoke for him

Gary Green – incumbent, not present and no one spoke for him

Registrar General

Keith Weissinger- Randy Moody spoke as surrogate for Mr. Weissinger

All other national positions are unopposed at this time.

Foundation Board

John Dodd – former PG

Dan McElvay – at large

Both are unopposed

President Gaskins called for a vote to support all unopposed candidates. Motion carried unanimously.

President Gaskins called for a vote for the two candidates for Treasurer General. The vote was a tie.

A motion was properly made and seconded to endorse the qualifications of both candidates for Treasurer General. Motion passed.

No action was taken on the or support indicated for either candidate for Genealogist General.

South Atlantic District Vice President General

Earl Matthews was nominated to be the FLSSAR candidate for SAD Vice President General. There was unanimous approval.

Reports of National and State Officers

William Allen Greenly, Treasurer General, brought greetings from President General Daryl Addington and the 37,000 members worldwide of SAR. TG Greenly discussed the financial situation of national and the steps being taken to improve that position.

State Officer Reports:

All reports that are in the book are accepted as written except as noted below.

Regional Vice Presidents – no report from any RVPs except the Northeast & Southwest Region Vice President
Chancellor – no report

Committee Reports

All reports that are in the book are accepted as written except as noted below.

Finance Committee – Walter Arnold, FLSSAR Treasurer, reported that we are solvent and updated the balances in our respective accounts. He then presented the 2025 Budget. **Motion** – The Finance Committee moved to accept the 2025 budge. No second is needed. It was moved to amend the 2025 budget by adding \$1,000 in prize money for the Youth Video Contest. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. The Finance Committee then moved to accept the 2025 budget as amended. No second was necessary. The 2025 budget was approved.

Meeting Arrangements – BOM – **Motion** – The Committee moved that the Fall 2025 and Spring 2026 BOM meetings be held at the current location, which is the Embassy Suites, Lake Buena Vista on October 17-18, 2025 and May 15-16, 2026. No econd was needed. Motion **passed**.

Strategic Planning – Wm. Lee Popham announced that the Strategic Planning Committee was moving forward with Club Express as our vendor for dues billing.

Trust Fund Trustees – An election was held for an open trustee seat on the Trust Funds. Jeff Brunelle was nominated and unanimously elected.

Club Express – Earl “Matt” Matthews gave a report on the Club Express System and the chapters that are using the system for 2025 dues collections.

Congress Surplus Allocation – The committee reported that was \$30, 646 left in the 2023 Congress Fund. The committee moved the allocation of the remaining monies, to be used for the following items: the NSSAR Education Center and Museum, the FLSSAR Bahama Amphibious Assault Memorial, the FLSSAR Education Outreach Committee, and the balance to be transferred to the FLSSAR Operating Budget Trust Fund for the future benefit of the Florida Society. No second was required. The motion passed. It was then properly moved and seconded that the Congress Surplus Allocation be thanked for their service and disbanded. The motion passed.

1st Amphibious Assault Committee – The committee gave a report on the progress of this project. Approximately one-half of the expected cost of the project has been donated either in cash or services in kind. Fundraising is ongoing with an expected completion date of March of 2026.

It was properly moved and seconded to amend the charter of this committee to include the following under Functions: The Committee shall be empowered to execute such plans and others that may be developed with the approval of EXCOM. *The Committee may develop and execute fundraising activities as approved by EXCOM. Funds raised for the establishment of the memorial from all sources shall be transmitted to the FLSSAR Treasurer to maintain until EXCOM approved disbursement is requested by the Committee.* The motion passed.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

It was properly moved and seconded to appoint a Youth Video Contest Committee consisting of Steve Hohman, Chairman, Doug Gibbens, Kevin Shurte, and Phil Markoe. The motion passed.

The EXCOM proposed a total of 12 changes to the Standing Rules. The Sections of the Standing Rues affected were Sections 100 (Members), Section 105 (Regional Vice President), Section 107 (Treasurer), Section 110 (Registrar), Section 123 (Fund management), Section 500 (Rules of Protocol), and Section 502 (Registration and Hospitality Room). Ten of the changes were passed, 1 change was withdrawn, and 1 change was postponed until the next Board of Managers meeting in May 2025.

President Gaskins adjourned the meeting at 1618 hours.
The Recessional was recited

Respectfully submitted,
W. Douglas Gibbens
Recording Secretary, FLSSAR

National and State Officer Reports

National Trustee

Steven R. Fields, Trustee

James Y. Gaskins, Alternate Trustee

No report submitted.

President

James Y. Gaskins

It's hard to imagine that the 2024-2025 year is approaching an end. I've had the honor of attending and participating in NSSAR Leadership, Congress, Leadership again, as many Regions and Chapters meetings as feasible, the Children of the American Revolution Conference, the DAR Spring Conference, DAR Dedications, Color Guard events and home Chapter meetings as I could. Among other things, I learned that Florida is a BIG state! I tried to learn how the "sausage was made" at Leadership and what matters at the Society level at the Region and Chapter meetings...mostly by LISTENING and sharing with our most capable Committee Chairmen, their committee men (and ladies) and EXCOM. Simply put, it's been a year of growth and "Life Lessons" for me. I hope I've been able to pay it forward.

Your elected officers and appointed Chairmen and Committeemen who've served us all so professionally and loyally have provided the leadership and personal commitment needed this year (and every year) to hit the high expectations requirements needed to hit and exceed our Society and National goals. The investments of "sweat equity", time and treasure of all our VOLUNTEER Compatriots has, and will continue to pay dividends in the form of membership and esprit de corps that cultivates the patriotic spirit that made us the greatest country in the history of mankind.

The Children of the American Revolution are among those who will be our future. I was most impressed by the conduct of their Conference in Melbourne this year. The quality of the leadership and mentoring was obvious in all aspects of their weekend AND in the recognitions presented for their labors throughout the year. I offer a reminder that the NSSAR SAR University has a newly-minted **Youth Protection Training** on-line training/certification program that we should ALL take advantage of. Any meeting or event that SAR members participate in or attend that includes youth (under age 18) should also have at least one certified Compatriot in attendance. Certification is valid for three (3) years and only takes about 30 minutes of your time. Please, **go to sar.org, then SAR University, then General Training, then Youth Protection Training for the course.**

The State of Florida has created an **America 250 Commission** to coordinate state-wide events to celebrate and commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the founding of this great nation. I'm proud to say that the Florida Society is represented on that Commission. SVP Chris Washler has served admirably as the Chair of the FLSSAR A-250 Committee Participation is America 250.

As we approach the celebration of the **America 250** events in 2026, we have the opportunity to join celebrations, commemorations and dedications throughout the State of Florida and the Nation to promote patriotism, serve our communities and educate and inspire generations about the founding principles of our Country.

The FLSSAR has embarked on a mission of design/build of a monument to commemorate the **1st Amphibious landing of the United States Marines** during the American Revolutionary War. Our goal is to have the monument constructed in time for the 250th anniversary of the assault landings that took place in the Bahamas on 3-4 March 1776. We have been working on the plans for several months and have received approval by officials in Pompano Beach, Florida.

Looking to the future at this writing, we have the **Battle of Pensacola, The Battle of Thomas Creek**, several combined SAR/DAR events and (drum roll) the **FLSSAR Board of Management Meeting and Annual meeting** and election of officers for the 2025-2026 year are at hand.

Not long after our BOM is the **NSSAR Congress** to be held at Uncasville, CT July 12-18 and Fall Leadership in Louisville October 2-5, 2025. All Compatriots and their Ladies are invited and encouraged to attend the annual Congress and its associated events.

NOTE: Chapter Presidents should ensure that their Chapter delegates are registered to attend and that their names have been forwarded to the State Secretary Scott Breckenridge.

The Friday night banquet will present the opportunity to recognize superlative performance throughout the year, make presentations of state youth and public safety awards and the annual memorial service. My term as president concludes with the installation of the 2025-2026 elected officers at the Annual Banquet on Saturday, May 17, 2025.

Hopefully this won't be my last opportunity to recognize and express appreciation for all the Compatriots and their Ladies of the Florida Ladies Auxiliary who have mentored me, leaned in and kept the Society on an even keel and especially supporting the Youth Awards Programs.

Until we meet again, I offer many thanks for everyone who made this a very successful and rewarding year for the Florida Society and have laid the foundation for even more growth and fellowship in the future. Harmony is the strength of all societies, especially ours.

God bless each of us and God Bless the United States of America.

Senior Vice President

Christopher E. Washler

This year has absolutely flown by! While I've not been able to get to as many chapters around the state as I had hoped to this year, it's still been an incredibly busy year. I am absolutely blown away by how well so many of our chapters are living out the Mission Statement of the Sons of the American Revolution – to honor our Revolutionary War patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities, and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our Country. As we head into the year leading up to America's 250th, I encourage every chapter to get out in front in their communities and talk about the American Revolution, the principles that our country is founded on, and most of all – talk about the SAR! Wear your SAR gear as much as you can, and when people ask about it, tell them about your Patriot and ask if they know where their own American story began!

Some of my activities since the Fall 2024 Board of Managers report:

- October 3-5 – NSSAR Fall Leadership Meetings in Louisville
- December 6-7 – FLSSAR Fall BOM Regional VP meeting/training
- December 14 – Wreaths Across America
- January 31 – NSSAR South Atlantic District Meeting (via Zoom)
- February 23 – Tallahassee Chapter George Washington Birthday Celebration
- February 27-March 2 – NSSAR Spring Leadership Meetings in Louisville
- March 22 – FLSSAR Spring Hospitality Suite Planning Meeting
- March 29 – Battle of Thomas Creek
- April 12 – Emerald Coast Chapter visit
- April 15 – Gainesville Chapter visit
- April 16 – Ocala Chapter visit
- April 17 – Jacksonville Chapter visit
- Monthly – FLSSAR Education Outreach Committee Meetings
- Monthly - NSSAR Education Committee Meeting
- Monthly - NSSAR Communications Committee
- FLSSAR ExComm Meetings
- First Amphibious
- ClubExpress Meetings

Member-at-Large ExCom

Hampton E. Allen

Nothing to report.

NW Regional Vice President

Donald M. Wilham

Nothing to report.

Emerald Coast Chapter

Graham W. Fountain

The Emerald Coast Chapter continued to have regular monthly meetings (every month since our last report) with an average attendance of 19 members and guests. Our chapter continues to grow and find ways to engage members of our community, engage in

civic events and promote patriotism in our community. Below is a brief description of our activity (monthly meetings are not included).

6 August 2024 – Attended Board of County Commissioner meeting with for passage of a proclamation of the anniversary of Lafayette's Farewell Tour of America.

13 December 2024 – Several members attended a cemetery clean-up and wreath placing of on the grave of Revolutionary Soldier Joab Horne

We are currently scheduled to attend six JROTC award ceremonies at local high schools to present recipients with medals.

Panama City Chapter

Jerry B. Raffield

We have 41 members at present.

Of the 41: 6 Life Members, 2 Emeritus-2, 3 Dual, 1 Associate, and 30 Regular Members

October 2024

The monthly meeting for the chapter was held on October 21, 2024, at the Bay County Public Library. Program Slideshow prepared and the meeting included a Zoom Meeting for those not in attendance followed by lunch.

B. Raffield, with assistance of Harry L. Rinker, submitted a supplemental Application for Patriot David Shurter, it was received November 7, 2024. There are many other descendants in Bay and Gulf County.

November 2024

Brad Marble represented the chapter as a Volunteer with "The Wall that Heals" during the week of November 12 thru 17th.

The monthly meeting for the chapter was held on November 18th at the Bay County Public Library. Program Slideshow prepared and the meeting included a Zoom Meeting for those not in attendance followed by lunch.

With the assistance of Harry L. Rinker, new member applications were completed for Timothy Buck and Taylor D Buck, ready for signatures.

Completed collection of Chapter Dues and sent check to National.

December 2024

The monthly meeting for the chapter was held on December 16th at the Bay County Public Library. Program Slideshow prepared and the meeting included a Zoom Meeting for those not in attendance followed by lunch.

Welcomed two new members, Michael Cox and Michael Cox Jr.

Compatriot Christopher P. Jones was welcomed into the FLSSAR Veterans Battalion.

January 2025

The monthly meeting for the chapter was held on January 11, 2025, at the Bay County Public Library. Program Slideshow prepared and the meeting included a Zoom Meeting for those not in attendance followed by lunch.

New officers were installed and sworn in during this meeting.

Outgoing President Brad Marble presented the Chapter's Distinguished Service Medal to Benny Raffield for his many contributions to the Chapter during his two-year term as Vice President.

Brad Marble awarded Harry Rinker with the Bronze Roger Sherman Award in absentia for efforts supporting our chapter's registrar and new members coming in.

Brad Marble presented the "Shot Heard Around the World" Commemorative medal to Benny Raffield, Jim Haynes, and Jonita Haynes.

February 2025

The monthly meeting for the chapter was held on February 8th at the Bay County Public Library. Program Slideshow prepared and the meeting included a Zoom Meeting for those not in attendance followed by lunch.

Applications for Timothy Buck and Taylor Buck received at National February 6, 2025. Approval expected mid-June.

Caroline Rivoire Windham, regent for the St. Andrews Bay Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution presented Compatriot Brad Marble with the *Hannah White Arnett Bronze Medal* for his extraordinary contributions to the St. Andrews Bay Chapter, NSDAR.

The Panama City chapter has initiated a program of giving presentations each month in an attempt to keep the meeting interesting. A target 30-minute presentation will be given each month.

Jim Haynes presented a program on "Memories and Events in the Life of George Washington" including some of the people and events.

March 2025

The monthly meeting for the chapter was held on March 17th at the Bay County Public Library. Program Slideshow prepared and the meeting included a Zoom Meeting for those not in attendance followed by lunch.

Brad Marble reported that Club Express has been set up for the Panama City Chapter. Brad Marble gave a short presentation on how members can log in.

Lane Rees presented a program on US Presidents who were members of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Brad Marble discussed plans for presentation of ROTC awards in April and May.

April 2025

The monthly meeting for the chapter was held on April 14th at the Bay County Public Library. Program Slideshow prepared and the meeting included a Zoom Meeting for those not in attendance followed by lunch.

It was reported that we have (2) applications received by National on Feb 6, 2025. With a lot of assistance from Harry L. Rinker, two (2) supplements are in progress. Supplement by David Shorter for the Raffield family submitted in November 2024. Lane Rees has submitted a supplemental Patriot for John Sutton, Sr; a new application for Brian Andrew Rees, and a new application for Leighton Charles Rees. These three have been forwarded by the Florida SAR to National SAR in April.

We have six (6) applications in progress and two (2) additional ones out for signing. There are currently a number of active leads. Recruitment brochures (500) have been received from the printers and are ready to be distributed around the area.

Benny Raffield gave a presentation on the "Battle of Alligator Creek Bridge" at the April monthly meeting.

Certificates in recognition of outstanding leadership qualities, military bearing, and excellence were presented to four (6) ROTC cadets at our local high schools; Arnold HS-April 5th, Mosely HS on May 2nd, Port St Joe HS on May 2nd, Rutherford HS on May 8th, Bay HS on May 8th, and Bozeman HS on May 9th. Brad Marble led this effort with backup by Benny Raffield.

Accomplishments this year

1. Created and updated Chapter By-Laws - Jim Haynes
2. Improved public relations through sustaining Internet presence – Benny Raffield
3. Implemented Club Express – Matt Mathews
4. The PC Chapter has been actively looking for potential new applicants at both State and Local Levels. Reaching out to potential applicants, interacting and supporting their applications for membership – Special Thanks to Harry L. Rinker for the work he has done to support the Chapter.
5. Local chapter meetings utilizing power point, Zoom, AI recording, and email to improve communication for remote members who cannot attend – Benny Raffield
6. Addition of Presentations on Revolutionary War History monthly to keep meetings interesting.
7. Distribution of new Tri-Fold brochures around the area – Benny Raffield

Pensacola Chapter

Benjamin F. Findley

Our Pensacola Chapter has had several key events, from January since the Fall BOM. The first Chapter President's Questionnaire was developed and sent to all members at the first of the year for their input and suggestions. It was used to identify goals and projects for the year and many of these projects are underway now. The Chapter designed and had manufactured the Chapter's first challenge coin, to give to award recipients, speakers, and for special projects. The coin was used as a fund raiser in January and the first batch of coins sold out in 2 weeks, so a second batch was ordered. It is anticipated that this batch will also sell out quickly, because of its design which includes the SAR Mission, the Minuteman Statute, and 250th theme. Proceeds will be used to help finance the Chapter's new major 250th Commemoration Time Capsule Project, which is well underway with our President leading a cooperative group of SAR, DAR, and City of Pensacola participants for the project. There are 5 SAR, 5 DAR, and 5 City committee members, with 7 sub-committees of members, with a Timeline of activities, action dates, and Point Persons from SAR and DAR jointly assigned to each activity and task. The CAR will also participate in our 250th project.

The Chapter has 7 external history and mission-related speakers scheduled for the first months of 2025, with other possibilities. One speaker represented the founding Maine family for Wreaths Across America in March. Our Chapter presented him with a check from our President to purchase 30 wreaths for WAA. Another Speaker in February was from the DAR and she presented a fine program about propaganda during WW II. This DAR Regent was awarded our Chapter's Bronze 250th Commemoration Medal for her fine work in helping our President with the 250th Time Capsule project. Phil Bloyd, Executive Director of NSSSAR Foundation, will speak at our April Meeting and present GWEF Fellows Certificates and Pins to our 7 new George Washington Fellows, with others possibly being awarded. This large number of 7 new Fellows in 1 year has never been accomplished by any previous Pensacola Chapter. C.A.R. children will present a brief message at our June meeting, with an SAR Representative from Mobile, AL presenting a program then. The University of West Florida's AFROTC detachment Commander will present a Nov. program. Col. Findley presented a program on "Spies and Espionage During the American Revolutionary War" to the DAR Chapter and others, and had three articles published in the Florida Patriot magazine.

One of the President's goals was to strengthen associations and support for veterans to help them. Associations have been established with 5 veterans groups, to help, honor, and recognize veterans, including the FL Veterans Foundation, the FL Veterans' Hall of Fame Society, the Patriot Guard, Honor Flight, and United Way Veterans. Six meetings have already been held in four months to recognize, honor, and help veterans, with several more to follow. Our 8 Executive Committee members were awarded certificates and medals from the FL VA, Veterans Foundation (FVF), for their service to veterans. Active participation with the United Way Veterans' Committee recognizes and helps needy veterans. Visits with veterans at a Nursing Home, 2 Rehab Centers (Milton, FL and

Pensacola, FL), and other places were made. Two Chapter members are members of the **Patriot Guard Honor Team** to escort remains of veterans from funeral homes to cemeteries and participate actively and often in funerals and interments. **Eulogies** were given at two veterans' funerals by our President. He attended **10 funeral services and participated in Honor Guard Escort and as Honorary Pallbearer** for the heroes for interment through Mid-April. Scheduled for the remainder of April are 5 funerals for veterans in our area, and we hope to participate.

The chapter has grown to 59 members, adding one **new member in April** which is the largest that we have been. Through the first 3 months of 2025, our Chapter has already sponsored **68 wreaths for the Wreaths Across America** December 2025 event at Barrancas National Cemetery. This is the most wreaths the chapter has sponsored for any 3-months since we started participating in WAA. Without any doubt, we shall sponsor at least 100 wreaths by December. We have had several entries for the **Elementary Poster contest and the Middle School Brochure Contests**. We anticipate that the Winners for both will be sent on to the state competition. This spring, we plan to give out about **600 Good Citizenship Certificates** to students in Escambia and Santa Rosa County Schools, as well as **JROTC medals** were presented to cadets at all participating high schools in both counties. The **Silver ROTC Medal** was presented to an outstanding cadet at the University of West Florida and another Silver ROTC Medal will be presented in April to an AFROTC cadet from a separate Cadet Wing at another nearby university. This is the first time an ROTC medal was presented to two universities and two cadet Wings by our Chapter. And our Chapter was represented at an **ROTC award ceremony at still another Florida university**. Also, our President representing SAR presented the keynote address for the annual ROTC Military Ball at University of West Florida. Our Chapter presented its first ever **Civil Air Patrol Cadet Medal and Certificate** in March to an outstanding cadet and also recognized its Commander with a veteran's award medal, representing our SAR Chapter & FVF. Findley will present **incarcerated Prison Program to veterans**.

Our Chapter will purchase a **Bronze Marker for a huge Heritage Oak Liberty Tree** that was planted years ago in our Plaza Ferdinand Park. Sadly, Hurricane Sally destroyed the Liberty Tree Marker with its Liberty Tree History, so our Chapter will replace it and have a special **historic Re-Dedication Ceremony** to honor this great Liberty Tree and our SAR Chapter.

Our **"250 by the 250th" Flag Recognition** program is going strong. We have recognized **178** businesses and individuals that have been nominated and presented with certificates. We shall surpass our goal of 250 with only 72 more to go over the remaining about 1.5 years!

On May 9, the Pensacola Chapter will once again **host the Battle of Pensacola Commemoration**. This year's events are the keystone events for the City of Pensacola's Galvez Days with plans to begin on Wednesday May 8th. On May 9, the **SAR Color Guard**, accompanied by ladies from the DAR, will open the Friday events with a color guard procession down Palafox Street to the Galvez Monument and then on to the Basilica of St. Michael for the Galvez Commemoration. After the morning's ceremonies, there will be a lunch at the Pensacola Yacht Club and an evening social. The **SAR and DAR will jointly sponsor a wreath laying ceremony** with the Battle of Pensacola history and readings at the **Minuteman Monument in Veterans Memorial Park** at 3 pm. We are expecting a Color Guard contingent of about 20 members from Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Tennessee.

Our chapter submitted our **USS Stark Memorial** entry in January, but already our report has been expanded for 2025 to include many more documented veterans' activities. The appointment of an Awards Chairman to focus on this report and other awards is helping. **Chapter member participation** is a goal and we have three previously inactive members who are starting to become more involved.

Tallahassee Chapter

"Bill" J. Gladwin Jr

The Tallahassee Chapter is on a quarterly meeting schedule for 2025. On February 23, 2025, the chapter held their annual George Washington Birthday Luncheon Banquet at the American Legion with over 70 people in attendance. Mr. Chuck Schwam, Executive Director of the American Federation of Lafayette gave an excellent and informative presentation with an extensive collection of pictures on the Marquis De Lafayette. His presentation was the conclusion of a three-day celebration of Lafayette's 200th anniversary of his farewell tour as he was influential in the settlement of Tallahassee.

Mr. Schwam covered his birth and royal connections in France then coming to America (age 21) offering his services at his on expense to General Washington. Mr. Schwam stressed how initially Washington had no idea what to do with him but quickly took to him and his abilities, ultimately unofficially adopting him as his son. Mr. Schwam concluded with his return to France influenced by Washington and the new American country.

In addition to Mr. Schwam's presentation, longevity awards of 5 years were presented to Craig Fitzgerald and Mark Rominger, 15 years to John Folsom. 20 years to Kevin Vislocky, and 35 years to Don Wilham

The chapter has awarded three Silver ROTC medals and four Bronze JROTC medals as of this date. We are waiting to hear from the remaining area units so we can deliver additional medals. We have awarded the Good Citizenship Bronze Medal to the John Paul Jones Sea Cadets chapter here in Tallahassee.

The chapter has submitted 14 applications for approval. Once approved, membership will increase to 63. With growth of 29 members over the past twelve months (9 from transfer), the chapter is looking at ways to increase participation along with returning to a monthly meeting schedule.

The next chapter meeting has been scheduled for Thursday May 15 at 6pm.

William Dunaway Chapter

Matt Mathews

April presented 2 JROTC awards and in May will be presenting 1 JROTC Awards

August– Earl (Matt) Mathews was nominated as the chapter president, he accepted the position

We had lost 8 members due to transfers and we are slowly rebuilding the membership role. We had two new members approved, submitted 6 new applications, and 4 prospective members are being researched for submission. Our outlook is great.

The county school supervisor is researching and starting a JRTOC in our home county. He is very interested in getting the SAR word out. One of our members is a school principal and is becoming more active.

NC Regional Vice President

Stephen G. Hohman

Starting two new companies has been challenging, but all chapters in the North Central region will be visited by June 14th, 2025.

The Withlacoochee Chapter has started working with the Ocala Chapter to help the chapter grow. What are affectionately called “Four Old Men in a Truck”, Compatriots Dave Hitchcock, William Stone, Bill Teater, and Bill Moorehead have assisted the chapter in member reinstatement, community outreach, and meeting programs. Four old guys in a truck could also be seen as three Bills and a Dave. At the April 16th meeting of the Ocala Chapter, Compatriot William Stone gave presentations on the Powder Horn Flag and a wooden sword carried during the Lewis and Clark expedition. According to the long-time members of the chapter, this was the first meeting attended by a state officer that the current members could remember. The meeting was attended by Chris Washler, Senior Vice President, and me, as sitting Regional Vice President.

On April 16th, the JROTC awards for West Port High School were presented as the Regional Vice President for the North Central Region, Florida Society, Sons of the American Revolution. Compatriots Nelson Peters and Dave Hitchcock, from the Withlacoochee Chapter, also attended the event on behalf of the Ocala Chapter.

In June, the Ocala Chapter and Compatriots from the Withlacoochee Chapter will honor Flag Day with a recruiting event at the local veteran’s park, including a deployment of the Washington War Tent, provided by the Withlacoochee Chapter.

Gainesville Chapter

Randal L. Highsmith

No report submitted.

Lake City Chapter

David W. Chandler

The Lake City Chapter has been very active in the communities of Lake City, Live Oak, Lake Butler, Fort White, Mayo and Branford.

Following the presentation of five NJROTC awards at Columbia High School and Suwannee High School, our members participated in the Columbia High School “Silent March” in which the NJROTC cadets and honor guard in full uniform march silently and solemnly through the halls of the high school to present the American Flag at the school flagpole.

Our chapter Vice President, Joseph Carroll, presented his contribution of \$1,000 to the Suwannee County Emergency Management supervisor, Greg Scott, on behalf of the Lake City Chapter for the repair of the Suwannee County courthouse clock tower that was damaged by Hurricane Helene

Joe also made presentations at the Suwannee County Board of County Commissioners to the commissioners who were tireless in their efforts to provide emergency services in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene which made its Category 5 landfall at Taylor and Suwannee Counties. City of Live Oak City Commissioners and First Responders along with SCSO and City of Live Oak Police were recognized at the City of Live Oak City Commission meeting. In April 2025, Joe recognized two SCSO Deputies for Outstanding Recognition at the County Commission regular meeting for Bravery and Heroism

Chapter President, David Chandler, was selected by the Suwannee County School Board and Suwannee County High School administration to be an SAR advocate resource for Civics and American History teachers for historically accurate events prior to, during and following the American Revolution using NSSAR and FLSSAR materials and videos. He has made three presentations so far including the "Shot Heard Round the World" video.

Chapter officers were elected for the next cycle at a dinner in December at Olive Garden which included significant others. Officers were installed in February.

The Lake City Chapter presented JROTC award recognitions. The Lydia Darragh Award was presented to LT Kleinsmith who is the Suwannee High School JROTC Commander along with five recognitions at the annual JROTC Banquet. Similar recognitions will take place this May for Suwannee Columbia and possibly Hamilton County JROTC programs.

Lake-Sumter Chapter

Tim Donihi

October 2024

We initially held a Memorial Service for past member and chapter President, Steve Offutt. During the service his brother Richard, talked about Steve's love for Genealogy and The Sons of the American revolution. Richard said his brother wanted to donate all his past awards to the Chapter.

Dr. Phil Steeves was our speaker for this meeting. Dr Steeves is a member of the SAR in the Villages. His presentation covered his career in the Air Force as a Flight Surgeon, including as a member of a F-105 Squadron during Vietnam. He also talked briefly about "The River Rats".

We inducted two new members;

Richard Christian, Whose Compatriot, Henry Grubb came from Germany and provided beef to support the American Revolution.

Welcome Richard!

Jerry Meece, whose Compatriot, Thomas Meece (Miesse) served under Capt. John Gassert with the Lancaster Co. Militia. Welcome Jerry

We had a couple of awards that came from State.

The first was the "White Flight", Honorable Mention in the 2023 Chapter Challenge for the Lake-Sumter Chapter.

In addition, there was a certificate and a Henry Knox Medal that came for Ron Grove. The Chaplain, Allan Lane and The President Tim Donihi took the awards to Ron and presented them.

I hope all of the Lake-Sumter members fared well during our two hurricanes. We keep all those that are still suffering from them in our thoughts and prayers.

The speaker for the 2 Nov. meeting is Richard Hubert. His topic is "the Battle of Valcour Island". Did this battle change the direction of the American Revolution?

November 2024

Prior to the November meeting Bill Hayes was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal for his single-handed work with the NJROTC programs and the Eagle Scouts. Thanks Bill.

The speaker for the meeting was Richard Hubert. His topic was "the Battle of Valcour Island". Did this battle change the direction of the American Revolution? Based on Richards great presentation. it did, by forcing the British to delay their Northern movement by one year.

We inducted one new member:

John F. Lebarron Jr, whose Patriot ancestor was John Le Barron Jr, and was a private in the company of Captains Joseph Keith, Perez Churchill and Cols Ebenezer Sprout and Nelson. Welcome John

activities; Included

-Placing flags at the gravesites of Veterans in the Lone Oak Cemetery

-Marching in the Eustis Salute to Veterans

The speaker for the 7 December meeting is Dee Collier. Dee will be in the attire of Martha Washington. This is also the annual meeting for the wives. We will be providing lunch for the wives.

December 2024

The speaker for the 7 December meeting was Dee Collier. Dee was in the attire of Martha Washington and performed a First-person performance of Martha. She was a woman way beyond her time and a person to be reckoned with. "Patsy" as she was known to her friends and family, passionately supported the Revolutionary War and her husband's determination for the creation of a free country, This was also the meeting with the wives. We provided lunch for the wives. Thanks to all the wives that attended. We enjoyed having you, and please realize, you would be welcome at all our meetings. A special thank you to Bonnie Donihi for taking her time to buy and setup the Table decorations. Bonnie was given the SAR 250th Celebration Challenge Coin for her effort. Our speaker for the 4th of January will be Bob Grenier. Bob Grenier is On the City Council for Tavares and also serves on the Historical Committee. Bob's subject will be "Charles Carroll of Carrollton and The Fight to Preserve Our American Heritage."

A special thank you to Allan Lane, Tim Donihi, John Moore, Jim Carl, Richard Cole and Eric McCook for attending the Wreaths Across America program. One of our members, Larry Miller was the Master of Ceremonies for the event that was held at the American Legion.

We ended the year with a record number of members. Thanks for your involvement. There are still a few members that did not pay their dues, please consider paying. If there is a reason you will not be joining for the next year, please let us know.

January 2025

Our speaker for the 4th of January was Bob Grenier. Bob Grenier is On the City Council for Tavares and serves as Mayor. Bob also serves on the Historical Committee. Bob's subject was "Charles Carroll of Carrollton and The Fight to Preserve Our American Heritage." Charles Carroll was the only Catholic Signatory of the Constitution and the longest surviving, dying 56 years after the signing.

Our speaker for the 1st of February will be Mark Barrie, Mark's subject will be "Seven facts about the Revolutionary War that will amaze you."

A special thank you to Paul Pardee for stepping in to be the new Color Guard Commander. Paul and his father John, just moved their membership from the Withlacoochee Chapter.

On February 22nd, we have an entrant in the Eustis George Fest parade. We will have a golf cart,

February 2025

Our speaker for the 1st of February was Mark Barie. Mark is a member of the Florida Sons of The American Revolution. He is also an Award-Winning Author whose War of 1812 love story earned him a bronze medal. Mark spoke on "Seven facts about the Revolutionary War that will amaze you." For example, who knew: - George Washington brewed his own booze and his false teeth were not wood. - Paul Revere was also a dentist.

On February 22nd, we have an entrant in the Eustis George Fest parade. We will have a golf cart, so either come and walk with us, or if needed ride in the golf cart. If you have Revolutionary War attire, wear it or patriotic clothing. Beginning with this edition of the newsletter – a new section will appear every month – Color Guard Announcements, as well as a Color Guard Event - providing a calendar of activities. Thanks again for Compatriot Pardee for being our new Commander. The speaker for our next meeting is Stewart Dunaway giving a talk on Florida and why didn't they join the revolution.

March 2025

Our speaker for the 1st of March was Stewart Dunaway. Stewart is a member of the Lake-Sumter Chapter of the Sons of The American Revolution. He is also a renowned researcher of the American Revolution. Stewart spoke on "Why Florida did not join in the Revolution". It was a great History lesson on Florida with colorful examples of British, Spanish and Indian influences. Thanks Stewart!

On February 22nd, we had an entrant for the George Fest parade, we had a great turnout with 2 people on a decorated golf cart with 6 members marching. Most of the members came in Revolutionary War attire.

April 2025

Thanks to all the members that attended. Another great meeting.

A special Thanks to Allen Lane for picking up the gavel for this meeting.

-In addition, as the nominating committee chair, Compatriot Lane held the annual election and you can see the officers in the photo below. Thanks to all of you that volunteered to get involved with all our diverse activities. As noted, I will be staying on as President.

-Our speaker was Stewart Dunaway who gave a thought-provoking presentation on The Capture of Governor Burke (NC) – The only Governor to be imprisoned.

Additional items

Stewart Dunaway reported on a possible Liberty Tree planting with the Lake County Commission in May 2025. Details to follow. Stewart also reported on our school activities, oration, brochure and poster. Members voted on brochure and poster entries Stewart brought to the meeting.

Paul Pardee reported on color guard activities. He participated in the Last Battle of the Revolution ceremony at Merritt Island, FL in March. He plans to resume using the CG at our opening and closing ceremonies beginning with the May meeting.

John Moore reported that during the month of April there is a \$75 discount for all applications that can be finalized and submitted to National by April 30.

Our next meeting is on May 3rd . The new officers will be Installed by David Thomas

Ocala Chapter

Claude Grubbs

No report submitted.

The Villages Chapter

Patrick A. Taylor

No report submitted.

Withlacoochee Chapter

Stephen G. Hohman

The Withlacoochee Chapter has had a very active winter and continues to grow. We have added several new members, some of whom are also attending this BOM.

At the end of January 2025, we acquired a two-year lease of a replica of George Washington's War Tent from Jim Griffith of the Alabama Society. This tent was constructed by Compatriot Nathan Taylor, who is also a new member of the Withlacoochee Chapter, in cooperation with the Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This tent was set up the week after it was acquired at a Liberty Tree dedication with the St. Augustine Chapter, on the grounds of the Oldest House Museum. The tent drew people who happened to walk by into the event and was a great addition to the tree's dedication. Two weeks later, it was set up in Brooksville, Florida, at the Heritage Days Festival, where it also was a great draw for people. The local JROTC program sent 18 volunteers to help set up the tent and was given some detailed lessons about our country's founding history. In the two public deployments of the tent, it has already proven to be a great recruiting and outreach tool.

Because we cannot be content with just having a prized replica of the tent General Washington led from, the Withlacoochee Chapter created a mobile museum of the American Revolution. To date, a large group of Compatriots have built a replica of some of the furniture in the original tent, created five uniformed mannequins, and dispersed various artefacts that would generally be found in a Patriot Chest. The tent is also outlined by 15 flags of the American Revolution, which act as decoration, as an educational opportunity, and to secure the guy ropes supporting it.

To raise funds for the chapter's various programs, the chapter has also secured a kettle-corn machine and will deploy concessions with the War Tent when possible. Concessions will consist of kettle corn, iced tea, and lemonade, which should draw more people towards the tent, provide volunteer opportunities for JROTC and CAR members (we are also tying this to a scholarship program based on volunteer hours), and raise funds for the chapter based on the high profit margins of the products chosen. The goal is to build a fully uniformed Color Guard with uniforms matching the spec set by General Washington for his Commander-in-Chief Guard and an outfitted Honor Guard.

Once we have the entire program ready, the Chapter can bring the tent to most locations and SAR-related events in the Southeast US, and can work with chapters to split the proceeds, provided the chapter can supply labor. Stay tuned.

The chapter has also brought the Children of the American Revolution to the Brooksville area by bringing back the Drummer Boy Chapter of the CAR.

Finally, we are working on an Associate program to tap into our community's patriotic spirit to enjoy social events related to the American Revolution. Quarterly events will be sponsored by local community businesses and feature any combination of a guest speaker, grilled meats, and spirits. Final details for a fall launch will be completed this summer. This program aims to generate additional donations to the SAR's various programs, increase awareness of what the SAR does, and educate the community about the events that led to our country's founding. Once we have associates in the door, we can work to see if they qualify for membership in the SAR. The program is also designed to fill a void in the social aspect of the Society.

NE Regional Vice President

Charles R. Hayes

5 October 2024 Attended 40th Anniversary Celebration for Flagler Chapter, representing FLSSAR at the event. A total of 21 Compatriots from the NE Region chapters attended. The Flagler Chapter unveiled a new Replacment Charter; the original had been lost. I had obtained a replacement blank Charter in August 2024 while visiting SAR HQ in Louisville Ky.

11 November marched in the City of Bunnell Fl, Veterans Day Parade with a SAR banner. Attended all Veterans Day ceremonies.

18 November: Attended and made a PowerPoint presentation on my experience learning about my Patariot LT. John Fairweather (Navy) who was killed in the Battle of Lake Champian, 13 Oct 1776, on a ship named the Royal Savage.

6/7 December: Attended the rescheduled FLSSAR BOM in Orlando.

14 December: Attended Wreaths Across America Service at Espanola Cemetery, Flagler County Fl. I placed three wreaths I had purchased as part of Ceremony. Flagler Chapter members were also present.

8 February attended Liberty Tree event in St. Augustine. Was fine event with approximately 175+ present. The St. Augustine SAR Chapter and DAR did excellent work planning the event. The SAR State Color Guard was present. Represented FLSSAR with President Gaskins.

15 March: Attended Merrit Island Last Naval Battle. Saluted wall of Memorial Wreaths.

Jacksonville Chapter

Paul M. Tucker

Scheduled meetings for the SAR Jacksonville Chapter for the 2024/2025 season are monthly on the third Thursday of each month. In case of serious conflict, the Executive Committee may choose to alter the normal schedule. The primary variance to meetings is in February on the first Sunday after the Super Bowl, an annual Flag Retirement is held at the Mandarin, Florida Community Club. This February event serves as a Combination Flag Retirement and the Chapter February meeting. The Chapter usually holds the event outside in Brillion Park with access to the inside in case of severe weather. Chapter Meetings are a combination of Lunch and Dinner Meetings. All scheduled Monthly meetings have been held October 2024 through May 2025. April is our election of Officers and May is our Officer Installation event to include Memorial Service for departed Members if any. The first Tuesday of each Month, October through May, is the chapter Executive Committee meetings held at Orange Park, Fl. Public Library. A Special Executive Committee Meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, June 3, 2025. The purpose of this meeting is to finalize the planning for the Alligator Bridge Commemoration on June 28, 2025.

November Public Service Award Meeting:

The Jacksonville Chapter November Meeting is dedicated to our Nassau, Duval, and Clay County Public Service Awards and recognition. Every year we have 20 plus submitted PSA recommendations with the awardee's attendance at our November Luncheon with spouses and or supervisors. The Jacksonville Chapter is very proud of our annual efforts to honor the community Public Service Employees in our tri-county area.

Color Guard:

The Jacksonville Chapter George Washington Camp 1 has been very active for the 2024/2025 season. Interested readers can refer to the BOM reports for a detailed Color Guard Report activity document. Participation in many notable events has transpired to date. These events cover various categories including Federal Court Naturalization ceremonies, Color Presentations for SAR, DAR, CAR events and meetings, Educational Presentations, ROTC Award Events, BSA Award Events, Veteran's Events, Parades, Flag retirements, Funeral events with Family request, Boy and Cub Scout Events, etc.

Membership:

The Jacksonville Chapter Membership stands at 188 and is increasing. To date, our Registrar, Compatriot Gray Chandler, has 15 New Membership Applications submitted to National by the Florida State Registrar. Due to dedicated efforts by our Registrar and other members, we have generally managed to maintain a 200 plus membership count and hope to attain that number in the coming months.

Membership Volunteers for execution of SAR programs:

The Jacksonville Chapter enjoys a large membership, but we have a limited number of members willing to volunteer their time and effort to administer the various worthy SAR Programs. We continue at every opportunity to encourage and solicit increased participation by all members to contribute to the consummation of the SAR Mission to the best of our abilities.

Educational Outreach:

The Jacksonville Chapter is engaged in the expansion of our educational outreach activities. We presently have been invited and consummated programs with the following local schools. St. Michael's Academy Fernandina Beach, Florida, Lindisfarne Hall Fernandina Beach, Florida, St. John's Academy Fleeming Island, Florida, Trinity Christian Academy Jacksonville, FL, Fleeming Island Home School Group, and St. John's Academy Orange park, Florida. Both St. John's schools are Hillsdale College Member Schools. We at the Jacksonville Chapter feel that young students are the future of America, and this is one of our most important activities that will allow our members to work toward our SAR Mission Goals achievement. The members presently administering the programs are Color Guard Members and a detailed accounting is in our Color Guard Report. Compatriot Ralph Peters is our newly appointed Education Outreach Chairman. Compatriot Ralph Peters has initiated contact with the Chapter Tri-County area Public Schools. He has experienced some positive interest in his to-date scheduled meetings. We hope to expand into public school venues in the 2025/2026 season.

ROTC/BSA Award Program:

The Jacksonville Chapter area consists of a tri county area of Nassau, Clay, and Duval Counties. We work with 28 ROTC/JROTC/Atlantic Coast Young Marines/Sea Cadets organizations and High School Units and receive annual recommendations for Bronze Medal and Certificates Awards from most of the units every year. We issue 40 plus Eagle Scout Awards on an annual basis. The Award Ceremonies are between January and June of each year and a uniformed member, (usually a color guard member), attends the Ceremony and physically makes the award presentation to the recommended and approved Cadet. Our Second Vice President has worked to solicit submitted Cadets for the **ROTC Enhanced Award Program** but to date has not received recommendations from the assigned area ROTC Units.

Veterans' Programs:

The Jacksonville Chapter EXCOM and other members engage in Veterans' events and activities on an as needed basis. Presently we do not have a dedicated active Veterans' Committee Chairman. We have and continue to encourage members to step up and volunteer

for the important administration of the available SAR Veterans Programs. We continue to solicit for an active Veterean's Chairman among our existing membership and all new incoming members.

Florida State and Jacksonville Chapter Hosted Events:

The Jacksonville Chapter presently is the host of two major Florida Commemoration Events. The Battle of Thomas Creek held in March is a National Event and on March 29, 2025, enjoyed attendance by an estimated 140 attendees. Compatriots from multiple states, DAR Regents and Members, CAR Officers and Members, Local Historic Society Members, BSA Members, Colonial Dame Members, etc. We look forward to the continued growth of the Thomas Creek Event and praise the efforts of the Committee Chairman Compatriot David Ramseur who has worked for years to make this a memorable Event for all.

The Battle of Alligator Bridge Commemorative is our second hosted event. Nassau County Callahan, Florida is the location of this State Event. This event is scheduled for June near the actual historical date of occurrence. The 2024 Alligator Bridge Event enjoyed a 100 plus attendance from many patriotic organizations complete with color presentations, wreath presentations, historic presentations, black powder firing salute, taps presentation by Color Guard Member Fred Emery and ended with a Barbeque Lunch. We hope to continue to expand and enhance future attendance at this event. The 2025 Alligator Bridge Event is scheduled for June 28, 2024. The National Color Guard Commander and Vice President has declared the 2025 Alligator Bridge Even a South Atlantic District Event and plans to be in attendance. This designation will allow Color Guard Point at the National Rate. In 2025 the event will be held at the Callahan Florida Fairgrounds in the multi-purpose building. The location change is due to heat issue in 2024, we experienced an emergency event and elected to move to an indoor climate-controlled location. The address for the 2025 location is 543378 US Highway 1 Callahan, Fl. 32011. This location is 2 miles North of the 2024 West Nassau Historic Society Location on US Highway 1.

Financial Condition:

The Jacksonville Chapter Financial Status is stable under the administration of our Treasurer and expected to remain so for the foreseeable future with funding for Chapter Activities.

The SAR Jacksonville Chapter remains dedicated to implementation of the SAR Mission in service to our assigned territories and engage in the pursuit of improvement of all SAR Programs to the best of our ability.

St Augustine Chapter

Robert F. Amason

The Chapter has been busy since the FALL BOM executing the mission and goals of the SAR and supporting community patriotic events. In addition to the below, the chapter has initiated a project to dedicate a Liberty Tree in Palatka, Florida, and continued an America250 Committee in collaboration with DAR and other patriotic organizations to facilitate America250 celebrations in St Johns and Putnam Counties.

Chapter Annual Meeting, Conducted December 14, 2024.

- Installation of officers. Officiated by former PG Lindsey Brock
- Compatriot John Robinson honored with 2024 Chapter Distinguished Service Medal

Compatriot Carl K. Hoffmann (President General) died August 15, 2024, aged 95

Compatriot Hoffmann was very active in St Augustine Chapter at the time of his passing, and St Augustine Chapter Members are deeply saddened at his passing. We will miss him.

Ceremonies and Events - Joined with the DAR to hold the following events:

- Tolomato Cemetery Patriots' Day - Patriot Graves Commemoration – December 2024
- Colonial Night Watch ceremonies – 14 December 2024
- St Augustine Liberty Tree Dedication – 8 February 2025 – Oldest House, St Augustine
- The chapter supports the Flagler College Presidential Series events
- Daytona Patriot Plaque Rededication – 22 March 2025
- Compatriot John Robinson arranged and led genealogy display for Putnam Co. History Fair and America 250 at the Putnam County Fair
- Liberty Tree Golf Tournament – Palatka Golf Course – 9 a.m., 26 April 2025
- Annual Palatka Veterans Appreciation Day – Scheduled 26 April 2025
- National Day of Prayer – Scheduled 1 May 2025

Battle Commemorations - Chapter compatriots participated in several Revolutionary War battle commemorations:

- Last Naval Battle Commemoration, 15 March 2025
- Thomas Creek Battle Commemoration, 29 March 2025

Youth Programs - Our commitment to youth programs follows:

- Supported several MOAA-sponsored HS JROTC Cadet Legacy Teaching visits to Fort Mose' and the Florida National Guard Headquarters
- Presented the NSSAR JROTC Bronze Medal to cadet at St Augustine High School
 - Donated \$100: St Augustine High JROTC
 - Similar awards planned at other area high school JROTCs

- Contacted St Johns and Putnam County School Systems for George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest committee. No submissions
- Sea Cadets & JROTC served as Ambassadors for St. Aug. Liberty Tree events.

Public Service Awards:

- Palatka Police Dept. - 2 Law Enforcement Commendations - 12-6-2024
- Interlachen Police Dept. - 1 Law Enforcement Commendation - 1-14-2025
- Homeless Coalition of St Johns - 1 Bronze Good Citizenship Medal - 4-1-2025
- Lt Col William "Bill" Dudley – President of St Johns Co. Veterans Council - Bronze Good Citizenship

Our internal awards presented in 1-11-25 meeting:

- 10 year Membership – Compatriots Jerry Hanchett, Charles Nuckolls
- Meritorious Service Awards – Compatriots Jerry Hanchett, Phil Perry, Bob Gearing, Paul Sapp, Larry Kaiser
- Compatriot Alex Sharp - Henry Knox Medal

Energized Military Medals Program to present medals to 17 compatriots (23% of chapter membership).

America 250 awards qualification status - 3 Gold, 12 Silver, 7 Bronze

Support to Veterans - Participated in:

- Chapter participated in Vietnam War Veterans Day Ceremony in St Augustine
- Several compatriots routinely attend St Francis Barracks social gatherings facilitating community engagement and gaining support from senior Florida National Guard leaders

Veterans Affairs:

- Participated in:
 - Veterans Day Ceremony 11 November 2024
 - Wreaths Across America 14 December 2024
- Volunteered for Veterans' Treatment Court
- Volunteered 48 hours to Veterans' Village homeless veterans' lodging
- Compatriots continue working with St Augustine/St Johns County Veterans Council to renovate veterans' temporary housing.

Chapter Growth - Significant growth this year

- 1 Jan 2024 chapter membership was 49
- Membership as of 1 April 2025 – 77 (25 applications in progress)
- Kudos to our tireless Registrar, Compatriot John Robinson

Support to Daytona/Deland SAR and Daytona Beach DAR Chapter.

A brass plaque honoring Revolutionary War soldiers buried in Florida was re-dedicated in Daytona Beach on Mar 22, 2025 Several St Augustine Compatriots attended. St Augustine Chapter worked with Daytona SAR and DAR to unearth historical details of the plaque and supported rededication. Plaque originally donated by DAR has been refurbished and reinstalled in Daytona Veterans' Park.

America250:

Sponsored St Augustine America250 Website (www.america250staugfl.org)

Working on Florida America250 specialized license plat

Partnered to sponsor America250 activities with:

- Maria Jefferson Chapter DAR (St Augustine Liberty Tree, other)
- William Bartram Chapter DAR (Palatka Liberty Tree (and other)
- Colonial Dames of America (St Augustine America250)
- St Augustine Historical Society (St Augustine Liberty Tree and other)
- Woman's Exchange (Mementos of America250 in St Augustine)
- Historical Sites in St Augustine (e.g., Fort Mose Picnic 2026; Rev War Candlelight Tour at Castillo de San Marcos)
- Seeking to add partners in America250 events (e.g., Historic Florida Militia)

In association with Colonial Dames: St Augustine America250 Events will be included in the following publications:

USA Today Magazine (regional), Flamingo Magazine, Go Latino, National Trust Magazine, Four Part Lecture Series at Flagler College covering Florida's Colonial Populations during the American Revolution

Liberty Tree Events: Chair: Compatriot Harry Manford

- St Augustine Liberty Tree Dedication 8 February 2025
 - In cooperation with Maria Jefferson Chapter DAR. Extensive planning and preparation led to extremely successful, national event. Dedication of granite marker at St Augustine's Oldest House in concert with St Augustine Historical Society as well as Maria Jefferson Chapter DAR. George Washington Marquee Tent was added from Withlacoochee Chapter SAR. DAR-hosted American Battlefield Trust Rev War Traveling Exhibition. Large Florida State Color Guard Participation
- Developed memorabilia sale to raise funds
 - America250 charms and lapel pins

- Liberty Tree charms and lapel pins

Liberty Tree/America 250 Golf Tourney - Planning for St Augustine Chapter Liberty Tree Golf Tournament
 Compatriot Phil Perry, Chair. April 26, 2025. Palatka Golf Course. Anticipated number of players = 112
 Funds raised will support St Augustine Chapter America 250 activities and Chapter Youth Programs

Flagler Chapter

Randall G. Conway

11 November 2024 – The Flagler County, Florida Veterans Day Celebration was attended by Flagler Chapter Compatriots: President Randall Conway, Charlie Hayes, Sheriff Rick Staly, FCSO Chief of Staff Mark Strobridge, Randall Morris and Past-President (1995) Ben Lacy.

20 November 2024 – Flagler Chapter Regular Meeting. FLSSAR NE RVP Charlie Hayes reviewed his visit to the U. S. Navy History Museum in Washington, D. C. Artifacts from the remains of the USS Royal Savage (built 1775) are being conserved to be displayed at the museum. Charlie's Great-5-Grandfather John Fairweather/Fareweather was the XO on the schooner. Charlie was invited by the Navy to view the preservation progress. President Randy Conway discussed the America 250th Anniversary celebration program activity to date. The Flagler Chapter Christmas Tree was assembled at the Flagler County Public Library in Palm Coast as part of the annual Festival of Trees Celebration. Per our operating documents, the Chapter Nominating Committee presented a slate of officers to members. The election of officers for the 2025/2026 Term is to be held at the Chapter Annual Meeting in January 2025.

06-07 December 2024 – FLSSAR BOM was attended by Flagler Chapter President Randall Conway, FLSSAR NE RVP Charles Hayes and Compatriot David Bull.

14 December 2024 – The Flagler Chapter helped with the Wreaths across America ceremony at Espanola Cemetery in Flagler County. Compatriots in attendance: Charlie Hays, John Feind and Randy Conway. Additionally, Compatriot Randall Morris was the Keynote speaker at the Wreaths across America Ceremony at Spruce Creek Fly-In Cemetery, Port Orange, FL. This event is sponsored by the Sugar Mill Chapter DAR.

15 January 2025 - Flagler Chapter Annual Meeting. The Chapter Audit Committee (1st VP John Feind, Jack Petri and David Bull) verified the banking ledger and check book. After verifying that a quorum of Flagler Chapter Members was present, the election of officers for the 2025/2026 term was conducted. Officers elected were: President Randall Conway; 1st VP John Feind; 2nd VP Jack Petri, Sr.; Secretary Randall Morris; Treasurer David Bull; Registrar Randall Morris; Member-at-Large Thomas Howard; Member-at-Large Flynn Edmonson; Chaplain Todd Deehl; Historian Jeff Schaller and Sergeant-at-Arms Erick Kuleski, Sr. Additionally, the following Compatriots were appointed as Assistant Registrars, John Feind, Dave Bull and Charlie Hayes. The newly elected officers' swearing-in was conducted. President Conway gave a PowerPoint review of the Flagler Chapter's activities for the past year.

1 February 2025 – Flagler Chapter President Randall Conway and NE Region Vice President Charles Hayes attended the American Legion "Four Chaplains" event performed by Post 115. Charley and Randy represented the Veteran's of the Revolutionary War and supported our local American Legion Post.

8 February 2025 – Flagler Chapter NE Regional VP Charles Hayes and 1st VP of Flagler Chapter SAR John Feind attended the Liberty Tree dedication ceremony in St Augustine sponsored by the St Augustine Chapter SAR and local DAR.

19 February 2025 – Flagler Chapter Regular Meeting. President Randy Conway inducted new Compatriot Jerrod Chapman to the Society and Chapter. Jerrod's Patriot Gaspard Markell was a Patriot from Pennsylvania who was a civil servant. The upcoming 250th Lexington and Concord Celebration was discussed. A motion was made, and adopted, to move our March meeting to March 29, at the Commemoration of the 248th Battle of Thomas Creek at the battle field location in Jacksonville, FL.

26 February 2025 – Chapter President Randall Conway attended the Daytona SAR Chapter's Revolutionary War Exhibit at the Ormond Beach Historical Society Building. The Daytona Chapter held a panel discussing Revolutionary War ancestor stories to an audience with a question and answer period.

15 March 2025 – Merrit Island annual ceremony was attended by NE Regional VP and Flagler Chapter SAR Charles Hayes and 1st VP John Feind.

22 March 2025 – President Randall Conway attended the Daytona Chapter SAR and DAR event at the Daytona Veteran's Plaza to "Rededicate" a plaque placed at the plaza by the local DAR in 1976. The plaque had been removed as the plaza was redesigned. The plaque represents the Revolutionary War Patriots that were removed to Florida.

29 March 2025 – Commemoration of the 248th Battle of Thomas Creek, Jacksonville, FL. This NSSAR event was well attended by approximately 100+ Compatriots, numerous DAR members CAR members and guests. The Flagler Chapter was represented by: President Randall Conway, 1st VP John Feind, Treasurer Dave Bull and Secretary Randall Morris.

Daytona-Ormond Chapter

William C. Ashmore

Summary:

Throughout the fall and spring of 2024/25 our chapter has increased its interaction with the public, stood up a chapter color guard, and created a Patriot Chest. We were also presented with a Partners in Patriotism award for our support of veterans.

Meeting Programs:

September our chapter ended its summer hiatus. William Ashmore gave a presentation on the Green Mountain Boys. A presentation of 250th Anniversary events that occurred in September was delivered.

October – Presentation on SAR chapter awards and a presentation of 250th Anniversary events that occurred in October was delivered.

November – Veteran recognition and a presentation of 250th Anniversary events that occurred in November was delivered.

December – participated in Wreaths Across America at the Port Orange Fly-In Cemetery.

January – Guide to 250th Anniversary awards and presentation of 250th Anniversary events that occurred in January was delivered.

February – Natalie Blandford, our Chapter's Knights Essay contest winner, talked about her award-winning paper to the chapter. A presentation of 250th Anniversary events that occurred in February was delivered.

March – William Ashmore presented a program: "What is a Hessian?" A presentation of 250th Anniversary events that occurred in March was delivered.

April – 250th Anniversary of the Battles of Lexington and Concord presentation on the people and their weapons. A presentation of 250th Anniversary events that occurred in April was delivered.

Chapter Officers:

President: COL (Ret) William C. Ashmore, Vice President and Chaplain: Rick Gallup, Secretary: Bill Elder, Treasurer: Corey Mead, Registrar: Kelley Crumley, Board Members at Large: Newton White, Steven Butt, and Robert Crawford, Historian: Ken Nunnelley.

Membership: 48 members that includes 43 regular members, 4 dual members, and 1 junior member.

Ceremonies and Events:

November 11th, the chapter color guard supported the 75th Anniversary of the Florida Merci Boxcar Celebration in Holly Hill.

December 14th we participated in Wreaths Across America.

February 22 to March 3, the chapter supported the traveling American Revolution Exhibit in Ormond Beach. Members of the chapter supported the exhibit daily with greeters and manning a recruiting table. We also showcased our new Patriot Chest. We were able to reach over 600 members of the public.

February 23: "Not Only in Boston Tea Party," presentation on tea protests throughout the colonies given by William Ashmore.

February 26, Sharing Patriot Stories, roundtable by members Kelly Crumley, Rick Gallup, Bill Elder, Robert Crawford, and William Ashmore.

March 22, Abigale Bartholomew Plaque Rededication Ceremony at Daytona Beach highlighting the 29 Revolutionary Soldiers who removed to Florida.

April 12-13, Ormond Beach Celtic Festival.

Battle Commemorations:

March 15, 2025, The Last Naval Battle Commemoration

March 29, 2025, The Battle of Thomas Creek Commemoration

Youth Programs:

The chapter recognized Natalie Blandford as the recipient of our Chapter's Knights Essay contest along with a \$100 scholarship. The chapter awarded Silver ROTC and Bronze JROTC medals to cadets in programs in Volusia County. We supported Embry Riddle Aeronautical University's Army ROTC, Navy ROTC, and Air Force ROTC programs. High School programs that were supported include Deltona High School Army JROTC, Pine Ridge High School Army JROTC, Spruce Creek High School Army JROTC, University High School Army JROTC, Mainland High School Air Force JROTC, and DeLand High School Air Force JROTC.

Awards Presented:

Compatriot Newton White was presented with the Bronze Roger Sherman Medal.

250th Anniversary Bronze Medal certificates to Corey Mead, Rick Gallup, Bob Crawford, Newton White, William Ashmore, Ken Nunnelley, Kelly Crumley, Bill McIntyre, Steven Butt, and Bill Elder. Newton White and Bob Crawford were presented with Certificates of Appreciation.

Veterans Support:

At our November meeting we recognized the veterans that are part of our chapter. Presented War Service Medal Certificates to Nile "Bud" Harter and Rick Gallup. Presented Military Service Certificates to Romain Bastian, Corey Mead, and Jim Martin.

Color Guard:

We are very excited to have our very own color guard! Our official name for the color guard is the John Parker Camp #25. Ken Nunnelley was chosen to lead our color guard team.

During the FSSAR Fall BOM Kelly Crumley had the honor of carrying the national colors during the opening ceremony. Compatriots Bill Elder and Steven Butt also participated. The color guard has participated in eight ceremonies along with chapter meetings during the fall and spring.

EC Regional Vice President

Joel A. Etherton

No report submitted.

Brevard Chapter

Christopher A. Ratzel

January

- We began the year by looking forward to a great kickoff of the 250th Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. On a closer timeframe we began preparing for the Last Naval Battle of the Revolutionary War commemoration taking place every March.
- Our own secretary / editor extraordinaire Compatriot Jeff Sizemore gave an inspiring talk about Francis Marion – The Swamp Fox.

February

- Celebrated Washington's Birthday with a joint meeting with DAR.
- Compatriot Hans Hunt gave an overview of the America 250th medals. The talk was well received and several made commitments to earn gold.
- Speaker: Mrs. Marcea Ottea, an actress and Abigail Adams impersonator gave an inspiring performance as Abigail reading her love letters to John. It was well done and quite moving.
- Chapter Eagle Scout award winner Rachel Devold read her award-winning essay to the membership. She was accompanied by her parents and Scoutmaster.

March

- Last Naval Battle took place on March 15, 2025.
Great turnout! Over 200 people attended the event. Received numerous positive feed-back on the way it was run this year. Most of the credit needs to go to Veterans Memorial Center and Compatriot Donn Weaver. Without them we would not have a podium, bleachers, chairs, media coverage....
- The following people were part of our LNB committee who committed time and effort in putting this together. Compatriots Brian Jensen, Doug Bisset, Barry Eller, Hans Hunt, Mark Russell, Donn Weaver, and Christopher Ratzel. In addition, DAR members Linda Jensen and Sharon Eller Contributed greatly.
- LNB will take place on March 16.
- Compatriot Hans Hunt attended Thomas Creek ceremony.

April

- Compatriot Charles Cain was inducted into the SAR.
- Compatriot Patrick Langon was given a Supplemental Certificate.
- Compatriot Donn Weaver was awarded a George Washington Fellow Endowment pin for his contributions.
- Compatriots Hans Hunt, Doug Bisset, and Donn Weaver were presented with gold America 250th medals for their outstanding contributions.
- Speaker: Mr. Ernie Dorling former Defense Criminal Investigative Service gave a presentation about his time in law enforcement. Fascinating life and a great story. He was presented with the law enforcement medal.
- Chapter Enhanced JROTC award winner Cadet Addilyn Orrick-Cole read her award-winning essay to the membership. She was accompanied by her parents, grandparents and Senior Military Instructor.
- ROTC awards are in the process of being presented to their recipient Cadets.

Central Florida Chapter

Scott A. Cook

No report submitted.

Okeechobee Chapter

Preston N. Croslyn

No report submitted.

St Lucie River Chapter

H. Hall Riediger

No report submitted.

WC Regional Vice President

A. Parks Honeywell

West Central Region installed officers in the South Shore, Tampa and St. Petersburg chapters.

Hosted the hospitality room during the Fall BOM.

Clearwater Chapter

J. Dwight McEntire

No report submitted.

Lakeland Chapter

Michael A. Girard

No report submitted.

South Shore Chapter

Ronzell I. Windsor, II

The South Shore Chapter, located in Sun City Center, Florida, meets September through May on the Second Saturday of each month at the Plaza Club at Freedom Fairways Golf Club. Board of Governors meetings are held via Zoom on the preceding Tuesday.

. Membership

Current chapter membership as of 4/1/25 totals 47 Compatriots. There are nine applications in process and five additional prospects have been identified.

. Programs

We participate in community Memorial Day and Veteran's Day celebrations. We also actively support the Col. George Mercer Brooke DAR chapter in monthly gravesite cleaning and National Holiday Flag Presentations. This year we are actively involved in the SAR 250th Revolution Anniversary and have proudly awarded seventeen Bronze medals and eight Silver medals to Qualifying members. We continue to recognize local Eagle Scouts and JROTC cadets with medals and cash awards.

. Meeting Activities

September 2024 – a total of 19 members/guests in attendance. The Chapter Challenge Coin design project is nearing completion. Members will be attending the Sun City Center Constitution Day Program on September 17th. Former DAR Regent and Historian Jan Bassett presented a program entitled “The U.S. Constitution – Blueprint for a Nation.”

October 2024 – meeting cancelled due to hurricane Milton's impact. Later in the month a successful yard sale netted \$800.00 and was a fellowship bonus with participation of many members and spouses.

November 2024 – A total of 24 members/guests in attendance. The yard sale was successful and a second annual event is planned for 2025. Awards were received from SAR headquarters honoring William Adkins, Sr. for his service as Chapter President and William Barron received the Liberty Medal for Recruitment. The officer slate for 2025 was presented and approved. Seventeen Compatriots were awarded Bronze 250th Anniversary Medals. Member Sheldon Ickes presented a program entitled “George Washington in Bedford, Pennsylvania”.

December 2024 – A total of 30 members/guests in attendance. Regional Vice President Parks Honeywell administered the oath of office to 2025 chapter officers. A \$300.00 donation for the DAR Flag Fund was presented to Jan Bassett. Chapter Challenge Coins are now on order. Parks Honeywell presented a program describing member acquisition and retention.

January – A total of 31 members/guests in attendance. A new Compatriot, Richards Lane, was presented with a War Medal acknowledging his U.S. Air Force service. Sheldon Ickes was recognized for organizing a new chapter awards program. An article/photo in the recent “Florida Patriot” highlights members receiving 250th Anniversary Medals. Past President Gordon Bassett presented a program based on his Viet Nam service entitled “Combat Cougar – A Flyer's Story”.

February 2025 - A total of 26 members/guests in attendance. Bill Bolin stated that four Eagle Scout awards have been made and two more are pending. Challenge Coins are available and members have purchased a total of twenty. Author and historian Mark Barie presented a program about “7 Facts About the Revolution That Will Astound You!”.

March 2025 – A total of 29 members/guests in attendance. Silver 250th Anniversary Certificates were presented to three members. JROTC award presenters will be Gordon Bassett, Don Gunn, Ron Windsor, and Ken Wavell. SAR information flyers have been printed and are ready for distribution. Dr. Earl Weener, former Board Member of the NTSB presented a program describing transportation safety. President Windsor sadly noted the sudden passing of Vice President Bill Simms.

April 2025 – A total of 23 members/guests in attendance. The second annual chapter yard sale will be held on October 18th with a rain date of October 25th. Five members will participate in the community Memorial Day Program. Chapter Officers Sheldon Ickes and

Joe Flack will be Honorary Wreath Bearers. WOSAR/DAR member Jan Bassett presented a program regarding “Revolutionary War Women Soldiers”. She was presented with an Oak Leaf denoting a second Martha Washington award for her many services to SAR, DAR and our community.

May 2025 – Meeting scheduled for 5/10/25.

June, July, August 2025 – Summer Recess.

St Petersburg Chapter

Harry W. Fuller

No report submitted.

Tampa Chapter

Roger E. Roscoe

January was our Officers Installation luncheon that took place at Bahama Breeze in Tampa Regional VP, Park Honeywell conducted the installation of our new officers.

Compatriot Chris Meredith gave outstanding 250th presentation on Florida/St. Augustine highlights during the American Revolution. The following people were awarded medals:

January- Chapter Meeting

- A. Roger Sherman Bronze Medal: Wm Wagner-Hart, Matthew Balencie
- B. Roger Sherman Bronze Oakleaf: Robert Yarnell, Terry Doan
- C. Chapter Distinguished Service Bronze: Walter R Young, Sr
- D. Silver Color Guard Medal: Garald K Robinson, William B Swain
- E. 250th Anniversary Bronze Medal: Charles E Klug, Jr.
- F. Lydia Darragh: Kathy Robinson*
- G. Lafayette Volunteer Service Medal & eight (8) Oakleaf clusters: Wm Wagner-Hart
- H. Lifetime Membership Service Pin & Certificate: Dwight K Hamborsky
- I. NSSAR Veteran’s Corps Certificate: Christopher D Meredith

Our February meeting took place at our new location at the Arthenia L. Joyner Community Library. President-Elect Roger Roscoe was sworn in by Past President and State Chancellor Charles Klug. We welcomed our new member, Morgan Streetman. Charles Klug gave an excellent presentation on Alexander Hamilton from his earliest days to duel with Aaron Burr. We held our very successful 2nd Annual George Washington Birthday Gala. I want to thank Past President Robbie Robinson & his wife Kathy for all of their hard work on another successful dinner.

The following people were awarded medals:

February-Chapter Meeting

- A. Roger Sherman Bronze Medal: Roger Roscoe
- B. Past President’s Pin: Garald K Robinson
- C. Bronze Meritorious Service Medal: Garald K Robinson
- D. War Service Medal: Gilbert E Doan, III
- E. 250th Anniversary Bronze Medal: Charles Bearss
- F. NSSAR Veteran’s Corps Certificate: Wayne Borden

February-Washington Gala

- A. 250th Anniversary Silver Medals: Charles E Klug, Jr, Kathy Robinson, Joseph Dato
- B. 250th Anniversary Bronze Medal: Wm J Hart*
- C. Silver Meritorious Service Medal: W. Elder
- D. Daughters of Liberty Medal: Cara Elders*
- E. SAR Certificates of Appreciation: Wm Hart* & Wagner-Hart, Matt & Kim* Balencie, Jos. & Pamela* Dato, Chas & Victoria* Klug, Christopher Meredith, Robert Yarnell, Garald & Kathy* Robinson, Dwight McEntire, Walter Arnold, James Grayshaw, Robert Moore, Timothy Shaner, Dillion Moyer*
- F. 25 Year Membership Service Pin: Barry Marler

We recognized at our March meeting our local First Responders, Florida Highway Patrol, Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Office, Tampa Police Department, and Hillsborough County Fire Rescue Heros. 2nd Vice President Joe Dato gave us excellent presentation on Fraunce’s Tavern on the British evacuation of New York City.

March-Chapter Meeting

- A. NSSAR Veteran’s Corps Certificate: Gilbert E Doan, III

- B. Law Enforcement Award: Lt. Kenneth Petrillo*, TPD, Res Dep. Javier Matos*, HCSO, Trpr Orlando Morales*, FHP
- C. Fire Safety Award: Capt Kevin Kaymeyer*, HCFR, Scott Van De Boe*
- D. EMS Award: Marlon Jones*
- E. Henry Knox Bronze Oakleaf Cluster: Garald K Robinson, Kathy M Robinson*
- F. 250th Anniversary Bronze Medal: Gregory P Holder
- G. 15 Year Membership Service Pin: Ralph M Young

April Meeting

Our Chapter has been promoting and sharing the 250th Anniversary moments & videos to our members.

We awarded several Bronze and one silver 250th anniversary medals. We awarded a certificate of appreciation to Paul C. Ergler, Jr., for his generous donation of a musket that was auctioned off at our George Washington dinner.

We awarded the Enhanced JROTC to Cadet Landon Baird from Middleton High School. Our Chapter was honored to hear the news that Cadet Baird was awarded 2nd Place in the State of Florida competition. The Tampa Chapter has provided One Silver, Ten Bronze medals, and One Sea Cadet Good Citizenship medals in 2025. I want to thank our Chapter Officer Terry Doan for being the point person for the JROTC program.

Our Color Guard participated in another Honor Flight that was returning to St. Pete/Clearwater Airport.

Our Chapter participated in displaying two lights in our homes/business for the anniversary of the Paul Revere ride.

Our Chapter attended our first social activity for the quarter at Tampa Bay Downs Racetrack.

Our next meeting will be on May 10th. We will then be taking off the summer and returning in September.

SE Regional Vice President

Charles A. Adams, II

The Southeast Region includes the Palm Beach, Fort Lauderdale, and Miami chapters. During the period of October 2024 through April 2025:

- Presided over the Annual SE Regional Meeting held on January 11, 2025. This meeting was attended by Florida Society President Jim Gaskins. Total participation with representation from all three chapters was at 39 compatriots and guests. The meeting concluded with a presentation from Alan Levinson, Esq on George Washington's cover letter to the 1787 newly adopted U.S. Constitution.
- Attended the Palm Beach Chapter meeting on November 19, 2024; attended the Miami Chapter meeting on February 22, 2025 and installed 2025 Miami Chapter Officers; and attended the Fort Lauderdale Chapter meetings on November 23, 2024, February 8, March 22 and April 19, 2025.
- Represented the SE Region as a Color Guardsmen at the Last Naval Battle held on March 15, 2025 at Merritt Island, FL, and at the Heritage and Patriot's Day Festival held on April 13, 2025 at Fort Basinger, FL.

The three chapters comprising the SE Region are all strong chapters in membership, membership recruitment and retention, and the promotion of SAR recognition programs for youth education and veterans support and assistance.

Ft Lauderdale Chapter

Charles A. Adams, II

The Fort Lauderdale Chapter meets every month, except August and December, starting at 11:30 a.m. at the Outback Steakhouse, 2725 South University Drive, Davie, FL. Meeting dates vary to avoid conflicts with other events so check our website for scheduled dates at www.fortlauderdale.sar.org. In lieu of the December meeting, Chapter membership and its Color Guard participated at the Wreaths Across America Ceremony held in Pompano Beach, FL.

Here are Chapter highlights that have occurred between October 2024 through April 2025:

- During the 2024 – 2025 school year, the Chapter continues its senior advisory support and financial assistance to the Swamp Fox Society C.A.R.
- Yule Tide Parade. The Fort Lauderdale Chapter Color Guard marched with the Fontenada Chapter DAR, and the Swamp Fox Society C.A.R. in the City of Pompano Beach's Yule Tide Parade on Atlantic held on December 5, 2024.
- Wreaths Across America. The Fort Lauderdale Chapter Color Guard performed opening ceremonies at the program held on December 14, 2024 at Pompano Beach. Approximately 19 members and friends were in attendance.
- S.E. Regional Meeting. The Fort Lauderdale Chapter hosted the annual S.E. Regional Meeting held on January 11, 2025. It was attended by 39 compatriots and friends from the three chapters (Palm Beach, Fort Lauderdale & Miami), including 2024-2025 Florida Society President, Jim Gaskins.
- SAR Museum and Educational Center. The Fort Lauderdale Chapter made its third annual contribution to the SAR Foundation on February 10, 2025 with its check for \$1,776.

- First Amphibious Continental Navy and Marine Landing Memorial. On March 22, 2025, the Fort Lauderdale Chapter presented its check for \$3,000 to FLSSAR Committee Chairman, Steve DePaul. Subsequently, Chapter membership raised an additional \$8,075 and funds deposited with the chapter were given to Steve Depaul on April 19, 2025. The Fort Lauderdale Chapter and its membership have donated a total of \$11,075 as of the end of this reporting period.
- The Fort Lauderdale Chapter actively supports the 250 Anniversary Recognition Program. In each monthly Chapter Newsletter, an originally composed article on a revolutionary event occurring that month between the years 1764 and 1783 is published, and the author summarizes the article at that month's chapter meeting. The Chapter also opens each monthly meeting with a Chapter member giving the 250 Minute by reciting a 250 historical event in 3 to 5 sentences.
- 250 Anniversary Medals & Certificates. During the reporting period, the Bronze Medal Certificate was awarded to Ted Duay and Pete Stevenson on October 19, 2024, and Herb Gardner on March 22, 2025. The 250 Silver Medal Certificate was awarded on January 11, 2025 to: Jim Clark, Paul Moore, Barry Moss, and Braeden Shurte. The 250 Gold Medal & Certificate was earned by Tim McLane on December 16, 2024. The medal and certificate was presented to Steve DePaul and Mark Snider on January 11, 2025 and then to Paul Moore on March 22, 2025. Non-member WOSAR awards: presented to Kathy Shurte (bronze and silver) and Ronna Adams (bronze) on November 23, 2024, Amanda Barnes (bronze) earned on March 22, 2025, and presented to Shelley Gardner (bronze) on March 22, 2025.
- For 2025, the Fort Lauderdale Chapter's year to date assistance to veterans and organizations that support veterans translates to 2,498 points toward the 2025 US Stark Awards Program. The Chapter continues to support Honor Flight South Florida through a \$250 quarterly flight donation. During this reporting period, Chapter Color Guardsmen and members were present at the Fort Lauderdale International Airport for the October 26, 2024 and April 5, 2025, welcome home of participating veterans and guardians. On November 11, 2024, the Chapter Color Guard participated in the opening ceremonies of the Veteran's Day Program held at the Nininger Nursing Home. SAR Wounded Warrior Medals were awarded to two qualifying residence of the home. The Chapter's nomination for the VA Centennial Award was also presented to World War II veteran, Isabel Diamond. Mrs. Diamond subsequently passed away on March 1, 2025.
- On March 22, 2025, SAR applicant and now compatriot, Bruce Angier, was presented the SAR Fire Safety Medal & Certificate for his thirty seven years of service in professional firefighting, first at Boca Raton, FL (1988-2014), and now at Weston, FL since 2014. Also on March 22, 2025, the Chapter recognized four compatriots for 2024 Service to SAR:
 - Paul Moore – Bronze Henry Knox Medal Certificate
 - Steve DePaul – Bronze Roger Sherman Medal & Certificate
 - Mark Snider – Bronze Roger Sherman Medal & Certificate
 - Kevin Shurte – Bronze Distinguished Service Medal & Certificate
- During 2025, the Chapter has increased its focus on youth education contests offering six of the eight SAR recognized programs with the results summarized as follows:
 - American History Teacher Award. Our winner, Hannah Lea Levitt, won at State and came in second at National.
 - Eagle Scout Essay Contest. Our winner, Michael Perez, came in third at State.
 - Video Contest. Our winner, Dana Anduquia, came in first at State and her entry has been submitted for the national contest.
 - Middle School Brochure Contest. The entry of our winner, Madeline Maragh, has been submitted for the State contest.
 - Historical Oration Contest. Our winner, Chloe Cave came in second at State.
 - JROTC Outstanding Cadet Enhanced Contest. Our winner, Caleb Walker came in first at State and his nomination will be submitted for the national contest.
- 2024 JROTC / ROTC Medal Awards Program. Starting in April and by May 16, 2025, the Fort Lauderdale Chapter will present 30 SAR Bronze ROTC Medals and Certificates to qualifying junior year cadets at their respective high school. In addition, we will have presented the Chapter's selected Outstanding Cadet in the enhanced program with the SAR Bronze Outstanding Cadet Medal and Certificate and a cash prize award. We also had a second-place winner and two third-place winners, and these three cadets will have received the SAR Bronze Good Citizenship Medal and Certificate in addition to cash prizes for their participation in the enhanced program. Finally, in early June 2025 we will present the SAR Bronze Good Citizenship Medal and Certificate to the qualifying sea cadet in the program sponsored by the Navy League.

The Fort Lauderdale Chapter membership continues to grow. We began 2025 with 78 primary members and two dual members. As of April 30, 2025, we are now at 79 primary members, have 4 applications at NSSAR, and have 5 being finalized for submission.

Miami Chapter

Benjamin E. Groff

The Miami Chapter meets at the Coral Gables American Legion Post 98 building located at 303 Alhambra Circle, in Coral Gables Florida 33143, on the last Saturday of each month. The cost of the Miami Chapter monthly luncheon is \$20, and we use a third-party vendor to deliver the catered hot 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.

In addition, our Board meets using Go-To-Meetings, virtual video meetings, on the Monday evening preceding each monthly Chapter luncheon.

Membership:

As of May 1, 2025, the Miami Chapter had 94 Compatriots, up from 88 at 01 January 2024. We currently have 70+ persons comprising our "1776 Corps.," whose membership applications are in process of documentation and completion.

88 Members at 01 January 2024

(2) Members Deceased

4 Reinstatements and Transfer In

(10) Non-renewals at 01 January 2025

3 New Members during 2024

83 Members at 01 January 2025

1 Reinstatements since 01 January 2025

10 New Members since 01 January 2025

94 Members at 01 May 2025

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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 deaths of Compatriots **Frank Lane** and **Charles Balli**.

At the 5-6 December **FLSSAR 2024 Fall BOM**, the SAR Miami Chapter was represented by Miami Chapter President George and Brenda Wysong, and by Secretary-Treasurer and Past President Wm Lee Popham. Compatriot Popham conducted a Club Express workshop on Friday morning, and also served as the Secretary-Treasurer during a luncheon meeting of the Society of the War of 1812 in Florida, during their combined meeting with the Sons of the Revolution in Florida (SR).

The **2025 SAR Spring Leadership Conference** was held at the Galt House in Louisville, Kentucky, - (Who is John Galt? Read Atlas Shrugged by Ayn Rand and find out!) - during the period 27 February - 1 March 2025. The Miami Chapter was represented by Treasurer-Registrar and Class of 2023 Minuteman Wm. Lee Popham Sr.

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

SE Region VP Chuck Adams 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, 22 February 2025. The luncheon was attended by Thirty-eight Compatriots and their family members, together with the families of our Youth Contest Award Winners.

Installation of 2025 Miami Chapter SAR Officers

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

Medal / Certificate	Name of Recipient
Chapter President Ribbon and Badge	Benjamin E Groff, Jr.
Past Chapter President Pin and Certificate	George K Wysong III
Bronze Good Citizenship Medal	George K Wysong III
Eagle Scout Medal and Outstanding Citizenship Cert.	Michael Perez
SAR Appreciation Medal	Laura Dallas Popham Ross
SAR Appreciation Medal	Hannah Leigh Popham Mix
Martha Washington Medal – 3rd ⁺ Oak Leaf	Liga Replogle
Martha Washington Medal	Brenda Wysong
Lydia Darragh Medal – Oak Leaf	Brenda Wysong
Chapter Medal of Distinguished Service	Matthew S Bunch
Chapter Bronze Meritorious Service Medal	George K Wysong III
Chapter Bronze Meritorious Service Medal – 1 st Oak Leaf	Douglas H Bridges
Chapter Bronze Meritorious Service Medal – 1 st Oak Leaf	David B Mitchell
Service to Veterans Medal – 2nd Silver Oak Leaf	William S Replogle
Bronze Roger Sherman Medal	Donald D Slesnick
Bronze Roger Sherman Medal – 1 st Bronze Oak Leaf	J Edward Beals
Bronze Roger Sherman Medal – 1 st Bronze Oak Leaf	Rene Jewett
Bronze Roger Sherman Medal – 1 st Bronze Oak Leaf	George K Wysong III
Bronze Roger Sherman Medal – 2 nd Bronze Oak Leaf	Benjamin E Groff Jr
Bronze Roger Sherman Medal – 4th Bronze Oak Leaf	Wm Lee Popham Sr
Chapter Bronze Henry Knox Achievement Medal	William S Replogle
Chapter Bronze Henry Knox Achievement Medal	Peter Wm Mitchelson

Chapter Bronze Henry Knox Achievement Medal	Wm Lee Popham Sr
Bronze Good Citizenship–History Teacher of the Year	Matthew Scott Bunch

Non-Member Consultant Peter Wm Mitchelson received the Henry Knox Achievement Award for his essential participation in the set-up and administration of Club Express for the Miami Chapter.

Compatriot RVP Chuck Adams 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.

Bronze 250th Anniversary Award Medals and Certificates were issued to:

George K Wysong III, Benjamin E Groff Jr, William R Wicks III, William S Replogle, Wm Lee Popham Sr., Matthew S Bunch, Rene Jewett, Bryson Thompson, Robert A Sileo, J Edward Beals

Distinguished Service Award Certificates were issued to all 2024 Board Members:

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:

Matthew Scott Bunch, George K Wysong III, William S Replogle, Benjamin E Groff, Jr., J. Edward Beals, Rene Jewett, Wm. Lee Popham, Sr

Flag Certificate: Matthew S Bunch

Americanism Report Submitted February 2024:

5,977 Americanism Points Reported

7,555 President General's Streamer Points Reported

The **April 2025 SAR Miami Chapter Meeting** was held at the Miami-Dade Military Museum in South Miami-Dade County, where Executive Director Anthony Atwood was inducted as our newest SAR member, and then proceeded to give our members in attendance a special tour of the entire Museum facility.

Thomas Payne Company Color Guard:

Our Thomas Payne Company Color Guard conducted 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 and Color Guard Commander David B Mitchell serves as Flotilla Commander for Flotilla 6-5 (Miami-South), U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

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 2024. In addition, Compatriot James E. Popham served 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 many years.

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, and new member Margie Thompson. Volunteer work is being performed at both the 2024 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.

2,370 USS Stark Memorial Award points were reported on our 2024 Americanism Report.

Youth Activities Reports:

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

KNIGHT ESSAY CONTEST: Essays were submitted again for this year's Miami Chapter competition. Our **Chapter Winner Jielianne Rodriguez** received a **Chapter-level Bronze Medal** and neck ribbon, together with a Certificate and \$500.

Compatriot Matthew S Bunch also received a **Certificate of Recognition** for his Support of the Knight Essay Contest program – Multiple 2024 entries were received as a result of his participation in the program.

JROTC/ROTC RECOGNITIONS: A total of 33 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.

Cadet Antonio Castillo of Miami Beach Senior High School won the **1st Place JROTC Chapter-Level Bronze Enhanced Award**, and delivered his essay during our April 2025 monthly meeting. As the winner at the Chapter-Level, Cadet Castillo received the following from the Miami Chapter: \$500, plus the medal on a neck ribbon, a uniform Ribbon, and a Certificate.

EAGLE SCOUT CONTEST: Eagle Scout **Michael Perez** of South Florida Council BSA Troop 870 is being shared as the **Ft Lauderdale / 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 he is the Florida Society SAR **State-level 3rd Place Winner** as well.

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.

Compatriot Matthew S. Bunch has been submitted as our nominee for the Florida SAR American History Teacher of the Year Award in the Senior High School division as well.

Palm Beach Chapter

Peter D. Johnston

Palm Beach SAR Chapter 2025 Vision:

The Chapter continues its focus on *NSSAR/FLSSAR Project 250 Anniversary programs, Membership Development/Mentoring/Retention, Youth/Scholarship/JROTC programs, Veterans' Services, CAR Support and the Police/First Responder Recognition programs.*

The Chapter continues its robust membership recruiting and retention efforts; retaining **86%** membership renewal plus inducting **5 new** Compatriots inducted including a several juniors bringing the **2025** membership to **178** with an additional **10** prospects in the application process. The membership is projected to grow to 185+ in 2025.

Chapters 2025 officers include; **President, Peter Johnston, Vice President, TK Krumenacker, Secretary, Bob Boggs, Treasurer, Peter Johnston, Registrar, Bob Boggs, Chaplain Reeve Bright, Historian Donald Lanman, Sgt. @ Arms, Greg Parkinson, Officers @ Large.**

Chapter Activities & Events:

The Chapter has scheduled its annual financial audit and continues the process of updating of its By-Laws. **FMR Chapter President & Chaplain Benjamin Tidwell III** delivered moving eulogies for our Dear Departed **Compatriots John Annan, Robert Culpepper, David Wratlaw & James Bradford.**

The Chapter's has focused its 2025 meetings on Veterans Services Support, Youth Programs, Law Enforcement/First Responder recognition awarding **4** medals to Police and First Responders to date.

The Chapter presented **8 JROTC** medals, **1 Knight Essay Contest** medal and **2 Eagle Scout medals**. The Chapter expanded its commitment to youth higher education with its annual **Compatriot Alex Dreyfoos History Scholarship** donating \$4,000 to the **Palm Beach Atlantic University "History Major"** program & local **CAR Swamp Fox Chapter** donations.

The **2024/25 PBAU** scholarship program represents over 21 years and \$24,000 in scholarship support to promote Americanism, History Majors and USA Patriotism.

Chapter Compatriots along with local **DAR Daughters** continued its dedication to patriotic and civic service by attending Patriotic events including the **50th Vietnam War Anniversary** at the South Florida National Cemetery.

Chapter Compatriots continue to be represented at **Project 250 Patriotic** events including donating **\$1,050** for the **Navy/Marine Amphibious Monument** project, **Flags 4 Fallen Vets** placing **American Flags at Veteran Tombstones, Forgotten Soldiers Outreach Memorial Day Wreath Laying, CAR events and the annual DAR Regents American Flag Retirement Ceremony.** **FMR Chapter Presidents Don Lanman & Greg Parkinson** were **Honored** by **DAR State Regent Cindy Addison** with the prestigious **DAR Hannah White Arnett Silver Medal of Distinction** in recognition of his years of support to the **DAR.**

Chapter Fundraising: Chapter continues to raise chapter funds from Compatriots generous donations to the Chapter's Presidents Brigade, Patriotic item auctions, donations and Chapter Challenge Coin sales.

SW Regional Vice President

Jonathan D. Hunt

While most of the chapters in the Southwest region take a break during the summer, I reached out to all the chapters Presidents in the region by telephone several times.

The Highlands Chapter President Dean outlined the upcoming celebration for the Liberty Tree's, 250th Anniversary to be held in April 2025. This Chapter has desired to do mucket firing during the 250th celebration, Sadly the State Society lacks insurance to allow this. Highland is very engaged with the local community historical events.

The Naples Chapter under President Gibbens is the most proactive chapter in the region. Now under the leadership of President Philip Thieler I'm sure the chapter will continue to excel.

The Caloosa Chapter (President Jeff Brunelle) is a very active chapter. Meeting location: Famous Dave's Restaurant 12128 S Cleveland Ave Fort Myers, FL 33907. Meetings dates vary so suggest. I suggest reaching out to the Chapter President for the exact date. I had the honor of giving two distinguished CAR members; Caleb and Levi Golden their oath for the SAR

The Charlotte Chapter (President Noel Reese) reported it has 21 Compatriots, 3 applications pending at National. Charlotte Chapter has also changed its meeting date from the second Friday of the month to the first Friday, effective October 2024. The location will remain the same: Grill at 1951 1951 Tamiami Trail Port Charlotte, FL 33948 meeting starts promptly at 11:30am. During the December meeting I had the pleasure of swearing in the Officers for the upcoming year.

The Saramana Chapter meets on the second Saturday of the Month. Location: Der Dutchman Restaurant Located at: 3713 Bahia Vista St. Sarasota, FL 34232.

Caloosa Chapter

Jeffrey F. Brunelle

The Caloosa chapter has 91 members. The Chapter meets monthly October through May at Famous Dave BBQ in Fort Myers. We average 25 – 30 at each meeting. Our meetings have included presentations on Woman in the Military, Bernardo de Galvez and the Battle of Pensacola, and a preview of the new PBS film, The Constitution by its director David Garrigus.

The Chapter inducted 11 new members. There are 4 applications in progress. The new members included the Past CAR State President and the current CAR 2nd Vice-President.

The Caloosa Chapter was represented at the National Congress in Harrisburg PA. The highlight of the proceeding was having John Maier named the Editor of the Top News Letter in the country.

The chapter has worked hard producing a New Member's booklet. These are being passed out to all new and existing members as a one stop reference guide for members.

The Caloosa Chapter presented the local Billy Bowlegs CAR with \$500 to assist them with their activities.

The Chapter presented the JROTC with a medal and certificate for each of the 15 Lee County High Schools. The Chapter has also presented a \$1500 Scholarship for an outstanding student. Lee County Schools JROTC has almost 7,300 students in the high school JROTC program.

Charlotte Chapter

Noel R. Reese

No report submitted.

Highlands Chapter

James T. Dean

No report submitted.

Naples Chapter

Philip R. Thieler

17 October 2024 - Luncheon Meeting (normally on the 10th, but Hurricane changed things)

- 23 Members and Guests present
- Program: The First Continental Congress by President W. Douglas Gibbens
Also Color Guard Activity and Opportunities by CG Commander James Meerpohl

Month of October 2024 – Other Activities

- Attended NSSAR Fall Leadership Conference in Louisville
- Held Board of Directors Meeting on 7 October
- Attended Big Cypress DAR Meeting

7 November 2024 – Luncheon Meeting

- 47 Members and Guests present
- Program: The Purple Heart by Past President COL (R) Philip Thieler
- Inducted 2 new members – Robert Morlot & Chris Williams
- Presented 4 Wounded Warrior Certificates and Coins
- Recognized 17 Veterans present
- Presented 1 War Service Medal and 6 Bronze Good Citizenship Medals

Month of November 2024 – Other Activities

- Provide Color Guard and keynote speaker for Big Cypress DAR America 250 Bronze Marker Dedication – November 8
- Attended 2 Big Cypress DAR luncheons – November 8 and 15th
- Attended Wreaths Across America Planning meeting – November 13
- Presented 2 Public Service Medals at Greater Naples Fire Department – November 16
- Held Board of Directors meeting on 21 November
- Provided the manning for 1 polling precinct (public service)

13 December 2024 – Joint Dinner Meeting with Big Cypress DAR Chapter

- 92 SAR & DAR members plus guests present
- Program: Lafayette: America's Hero
- Inducted 2 new members – James Kux Senior & Junior
- Presented 2 Lydia Darragh medals to Big Cypress DAR members Donna Shands & Audrey Smith

Month of December 2024 – Other activities

- Attended the FLSSAR BOM
- Wreaths Across America-chapter purchased 87 wreaths and participated in laying them
- Board of Directors meeting 21 December

9 January 2025 – Luncheon Meeting

- 79 members and guests present
- Program: Public Service Awards Recognized 19 men & women
- Received extensive TV coverage of our luncheon
- Presented a Silver Good Citizenship Medal and 2 Bronze Good Citizenship Medals
- America 250 Vignette by CSM (R) Douglas Gibbens

Month of January 2025 – Other Activities

- Attended Barefoot Beach DAR 30th Anniversary
- Attended Big Cypress DAR luncheon
- Board of Directors Meeting – 23 January

20 February 2025 – Luncheon Meeting

- 66 Members and guests present
- Program: JROTC Awards to 8 schools including 4 Enhanced entries
- Awarded \$650 in Scholarship money to the 4 Enhanced entries
- Guest Speaker Was Director of JROTC for Collier County LTC (R) Kerrye Glass
- America 250 Vignette by COL (R) Phil Thieler

Month of February 2025 – other activities

- Attended Big Cypress Chapter DAR luncheon
- Board of Directors meeting – 27 February
- Attended Leadership Conference in Louisville

13 March 2025 – Luncheon Meeting

- 32 Members and Guests present
- Program: FLSSAR President James Gaskins
- Election and installation of officers

- Induction of 3 new members
- America 250 program: Battle of Cowpens by COL (R) Phil Thieler
- Chapter award presentations

Month of March 2025 – Other Activities

- Attended FLSDAR State Conference representing the FLSSAR DAR Liaison Comm.
- Attended Big Cypress DAR luncheon
- Attended Wall of Honor event at Golden Paws with five chapter members present
- Board of Directors meeting 27 March
- Provided principal speaker for the Caloosahatchee DAR Chapter Vietnam War 50th anniversary celebration with 150 people in attendance

13 March 2025 – Luncheon Meeting

- 27 Members and Guests present
- Program: Guest Speaker: Past President W. Douglas Gibbens, CSM (Ret.) Our Nation's 1st Veterans at Lexington and Concord plus 10 things the Chapter can do to support our Veteran Community.
- Inducted one new member
- America 250 Program:
 - Race to the Dan River – President Philip R. Thieler
 - Read Patriot Biography for Chapter Member Xavier Cottier
- Chapter Awards Ceremony
 - Chapter Distinguished Service Medal to Past President W. Douglas Gibbens
 - Big Cypress Regent, DAR, Audrey Smith presented four Chapter members with the DAR 250 Commendation Medal

Month of April 2025 – Other Activities

- Keynote speaker for TN NG – 500 attendees: Past President W. Douglas Gibbens
- Presented SAR Good Citizenship Award to the Outstanding Sea Cadet at the Gulf Eagle Division, Oasis High School, Cape Coral, Florida.
- Board of Directors MTG 24 April
- Past President W. Douglas Gibbens met with LTG (R) Leslie Smith to speak at Mount Vernon for SAR's 250th Birthday for the US Army.
- Nashville, TN, where CSM (Ret.) W. Douglas Gibbens delivered the keynote address to the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of Tennessee - Our Nation's 1st Veterans at Lexington and Concord.

Saramana Chapter

Timothy C. DeForest

The Saramana chapter has nothing to report. We are planning several things for the coming year to be more active in community and educational outreach.

Secretary

M. Scott Breckenridge

- **FLSSAR membership** total (as of 5/2/2025) is 2,356, including Dual members.
 The Annual Report and Reconciliation was completed on time with NSSAR. The results for 2024 are:
 Beginning of 2024 Total = 2,124
 New Members = 288
 Adds from reinstatements or transfer = 135
 Deceased = 37
 Losses from transfer = 17
 End of 2024 Total = 2,493
 Drops due to non-payment = 405
 Beginning of 2025 Total = 2,088
 (as of 4/26/2025, 82 reinstatements have been processed, with an additional 7 in progress)

- **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 2024 are:

Red 1st Place – Daytona-Ormond

Red 2nd Place – Panama City

Red 3rd Place – South Shore

White 1st Place – Miami

White 2nd Place – Ft Lauderdale

White 3rd Place – Pensacola

Blue 1st Place - Naples

Blue 2nd Place - Central Florida

Blue 3rd Place - Tampa

Honorable Mention - Clearwater

- **A word about voting:**

Voting meetings will be on Saturday afternoon. Those two voting meetings are the “Board of Management (BOM) Meeting”, followed by the “Annual Meeting”. These are the voting requirements for those two meetings:

1. Annual Meeting.

All FLSSAR members in good standing in attendance may vote at the Annual Meeting.

Of particular note for the Annual Meeting, business to be accomplished are proposed by-laws changes (as published in the Patriot magazine) and the election of officers for the next term.

2. BOM Meeting.

Only members of the Board of Management (BOM) in attendance may vote at the BOM Meeting.

In accordance with the FLSSAR by-laws, the members of the BOM include:

- 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 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.

I already know everyone who is in categories a. and b, assuming that I have been kept informed of the current chapter officers. For category c., the chapter must provide names to me, in writing, prior to the BOM.

In addition, the by-laws provide for:

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. Visiting dignitaries, especially those from other State Societies or from the National Society, may attend and may be invited to address the meeting but may not participate in debate or vote.

Treasurer

Walter B. Arnold

See Appendix C for are the Financial Reports for April YTD.

On the first page of the Statement of Activities (aka P/L) you will see we had 75 New Member Applications. The three (3) average (January - March) was 42. It is not clear how many New Member Applications would have been processed in March that were pushed to April with the discount of \$50.00 off National Fees. It is also unclear as to the possible effect on the May New Member Applications. Great job was done by Ray Lanz, again!

Total "Paid" Regular Members for FLSSAR are at 2,189 as of YTD April.

There continues to be unsupported detail from Club Express that now total \$8,696. E-mails have been sent to Club Express for the YTD March and part of April, but we still are waiting for a final resolution **before booking the revenue.**

On the expense side of this report eight (8) expense items. The largest was \$1,550.47 for the 1st issue of the Florida Patriot Magazine. We still have three (3) more issues to go this year at about \$1,500 each issue. Total "Receipts" collected from Members

for a hard copy of the Florida Patriot Magazine was \$1,440 for all four (4) issues. I would suggest that this is an item for discussion at our Fall BOM.

On the Statement of Financial Position (aka Balance Sheet) a few items of noteworthy. First funds collected and in the bank for the First Amphibious Monument is now at \$28,225. This number has changed since the close of April and continues to grow/change daily with what now is a "national" (multiple states) awareness of the First Amphibious Monument. I would look to Robbie Robinson for the most current number just before the BOM. Robbie has done a fantastic job with follow-up and coordinating the collection of funds for this program. Thank you Robbie!!

Net Cash (after restricted funds) is \$70,677.

No major liabilities are recorded as of April 2025 YTD.

Registrar

Ray C. Lantz

FLSSAR Application Stats 11 Aug 2024 – 04 Apr 2025

	Application Type				Totals
	Regular	Supplemental	CAR Transfer	Junior	
Submitted To NSSAR	205	31	0	21	257
Approved* By NSSAR	180	21	4	31	236
Pended* By NSSAR	14	10	0	0	24
Pended By FSSAR	9	3	0	4	16
DAR Finder Approved Total Year to date			2024 = 47 and 2025 = 14		

* 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.
- 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.

Recommended Application Submission Improvement Areas:

1. Tombstone Submissions (TS):
 - a. Make certain you provide a copy of the citation page that provides location information. (i.e., Find-A-Grave (FAG) printout of Page 1 of Memorial Information) NSSAR will not accept the information unless a citation is submitted.
 - b. Make certain that the gravestone resembles period stone for the date of death, NSSAR will not accept non period TS information.
 - c. Make certain the copy of TS image provided is legible enough for the most casual reviewer, if not NSSAR will not accept it.
2. Court Record Submissions: (i.e., Orphan Court (OC), Deeds, Wills, Estate Records, etc.)
 - a. Make certain you provide a copy of the citation page that provides the court location and record book name/page or file name/#.
 - b. Make certain copies include the origination/recorded date information the court is included, do not chop the info off. NSSAR will not accept it without this information.
 - c. Make certain copies include the entire contents of the entry being used.
 - d. Make certain copy image provided is legible enough for the most casual reviewer, if not NSSAR will not accept it.
3. Census Record Submissions:

- a. Whenever possible submit the first census that a child would appear with their parents is used. This helps prevent errors in lineage determination.
 - b. When census is the only source used to prove a generation connection. Make certain an exhaustive search is made to identify if more than one person of a like name and close age is not found to prevent NSSAR non acceptance.
 - c. Whenever possible provide additional vital records to help validate the census information.
 - d. Make certain copy image provided is legible enough for the most casual reviewer, if not NSSAR will not accept it. Make certain a full-page copy of census is provided, an enlarged snip-it may also be provided if desired.
4. Vital Record Submissions:
 - a. Make certain copy image provided is legible enough for the most casual reviewer, if not NSSAR will not accept it.
 - b. Make certain if the information came out of a published book to include the title/copyright page, and if it is from an accepted database include the source citation page.
 - c. When conflicts are found between documents, they must be adequately identified and resolved to meet NSSAR expectations.
5. New NSSAR Patriot Submissions:
 - a. Acceptable evidence must be submitted to prove where and when the patriot died.
 - b. If the patriot did not die where the service was performed, then acceptable proof must be provided that proves he was the one that was living in the service location when it was performed.
 - c. Make certain that an exhaustive search is made to identify if more than one person of a like name could have performed the service. All possible like possibilities found must be proven ineligible.

Chaplain

W. Maynard Pittendreigh

No report submitted.

Recording Secretary

W. Douglas Gibbens

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

Chancellor

Charles E. Klug

No report submitted.

Genealogist

J. Gray Chandler

No report submitted.

Sergeant at Arms

Philip B. Markoe

On Thursday, February 27th a complete inventory was taken of the FLSSAR's public self-storage unit at 2783 N. John Young Parkway, Kissimmee. The unit was cleaned out and all contents were inventoried and reported to the executive committee.

I look forward to being your Sergeant at Arms for the 2025/2026 year.

Historian

Joel A. Etherton

No report submitted.

Editor, The Florida Patriot

Jeff L. Sizemore

The current subscription cost has not increased since it was put in place over a decade ago. The current cost of \$12.00 per year barely covers a portion of the cost of printing and mailing. To reduce postage cost, the FLSSAR uses bulk mailing that equates to roughly 85 cent per issue to mail.

At this meeting, it must be decided to go with one of the following. (1) raise the subscription cost to \$20.00 to cover the printing and postage cost for 4 issues, (2) reduce the number of issues mailed out from four issue to three issues, or (3) only publish the magazine digitally.

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

Summer 2025 Magazine Submittal Cutoff	= 6/15/2025
Fall 2025 Magazine Submittal Cutoff	= 9/15/2025
Winter 2026 Magazine Submittal Cutoff	= 12/15/2025
Spring 2026 Magazine Submittal Cutoff	= 3/15/2026

Remember 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

Gerald K. Robinson

No report submitted.

Statutory Committee Reports

Executive Committee

James Y. Gaskins, Chairman

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

- 1/17/2025
 - Review and recommend changes to the Standing Rules and Procedures.
- 2/10/2025
 - Discussion on possible ETF reimbursements to chapters for donation the the First Amphibious Assault Memorial.
 - Approved a \$1,000 donation to the C.A.R.
- 3/8/2025
 - Appointment of Executive Administrator for 2025-2026.
 - Approved signing of the LOI for the First Amphibious Assault Memorial, and release of the funds for the \$15,000 invoice to Premier Precast.

Business for this BOM meeting:

1. The Executive Committee has appointed Matt Mathews as Executive Administrator for 2025-2026.
2. The Executive Committee proposes the following procedure for handling contested officer elections:

The proper form for a nomination is "I nominate Compatriot XYZ." Any speech or additional comments included with a nomination shall be ruled out of order; the President may rule that additional statements constitute the supporting speech.

Nominees for the office of President shall be permitted one speech not to exceed five (5) minutes, first by the nominee from the Nominating Committee followed by nominees from the floor, in alphabetical order. One supporting speech not to exceed three (3) minutes shall be allowed for each nominee in the reverse order. No other speeches permitted.

Nominees for all offices other than President shall be permitted one speech not to exceed three (3) minutes, first by the nominee from the Nominating Committee followed by nominees from the floor, in alphabetical order. One supporting speech not to exceed two (2) minutes shall be allowed for each nominee in the reverse order. No other speeches permitted.

Voting shall be conducted in accordance with the By-Laws of the Society.

3. The Executive Committee presents the following proposed change to the Standing Rules, postponed from the Fall 2024 BOM meeting.

Section 123 (Fund Management)

Section 123, Endowment Trust Fund, presently reads (in part) as follows:

Tax deductible contributions may be sent to the FLSSAR Treasurer by individuals, chapters, etc. for transmittal to the Board of Trustees of the Florida Society Endowment Trust Fund. \$1.00 is contributed from the State dues each year for this fund, paid after the Annual Report is submitted to National.

Proposed Amended Section 123, Endowment Trust Fund, revised as follows:

Tax deductible contributions may be sent to the FLSSAR Treasurer by individuals, chapters, etc. for transmittal to the Board of Trustees of the Florida Society Endowment Trust Fund. ~~\$1.00 is contributed from the State dues each year for this fund, paid after the Annual Report is submitted to National.~~

Justification:

The Board of Managers voted to discontinue this practice at the Fall 2023 BOM Meeting.

that motion was:

"**Motion** – The finance committee moved to revert to the pre-congress practice of putting \$2,000 each year into the "Meeks" fund and the Endowment Trust Fund (ETF). Since the motion came from the finance committee, it required no 2nd. Ray Wess moved to amend the motion by stating that the entire \$4,000 should go into the "Meeks" fund with nothing to the ETF. Dick Young 2nd the motion to amend. The motion to amend was **passed**. Then the vote on the original motion as amended was **passed**. "

in addition, this doesn't really belong in the Standing Rules. It should just be a line item on the budget, to be considered annually, instead of automatically recurring.

4. The Executive Committee presents the following new proposed change to the Standing Rules.

Section 502 (Registration and Hospitality Room)

Section 502, Overview, presently reads as follows:

The Regional Vice Presidents are assigned as of 2012 on a rotating basis the responsibility to oversee the chapters of his region in a joint effort to function as a welcoming committee. The first duty is check in the registered members, all guests, and un-registered members who may attend. The registration spreadsheet must be e-mailed by the FLSSAR Meeting Arrangements – BOM Committee on Wednesday night to the RVP, Secretary, and Treasurer. Hard copies of the spreadsheets are to be provided to the RVP on Friday morning including all checks received to date. The registration table, therefore, will have the final registration spreadsheet(s) list(s) of those registered, their guests, meals selected and if money is owed, collect and record same on the spreadsheet including check numbers or note cash payment. When all registered members, special guests, etc., of the BOM are accounted for, the attendance spreadsheet(s) and all funds must be delivered in person to the State Treasurer.

Proposed Amended Section 502, Overview, revised as follows:

The Regional Vice Presidents are assigned on a rotating basis the responsibility to oversee the chapters of his region in a joint effort to function as a welcoming committee. The first duty is check in the registered members, all guests, and un-registered members who may attend. The Executive Administrator will provide the registration spreadsheet, and any registration forms and checks received to date, and the Proceedings books to the registration table before it opens. The registration table, therefore, will have the final registration spreadsheet(s) list(s) of those registered, their guests, meals selected and if money is owed, collect and record same on the spreadsheet including check numbers or note cash payment. When all registered members, special guests, etc., of the BOM are accounted for, the attendance spreadsheet(s) and all funds must be delivered in person to the State Treasurer.

Justification:

The history of when the rotation was started is not necessary, and the additional changes bring the overview up to date with current procedures for the BOM check-in process.

Section 502, A – Regular or Special BOM Weekend, presently reads as follows:

A. Regular or Special BOM Weekend

1. The registration desk personnel have the responsibility of providing the BOM Proceedings (Blue Book), meal tickets, table sign-up sheets, meeting schedule, and any other informational items.
2. The opening hour for the Friday check-in is 10:30AM unless otherwise scheduled.

3. Be it understood that some hotels only permit foodstuffs to be provided by the hotel. Therefore, any reference to FLSSAR chapters bringing food to the BOM events is understood to be meant for those hotels that allow such outside food to be provided. References to a Hospitality Room are applicable if the BOM event contract makes a provision for such a room. Typically, such contract provisions are done at an added expense. It is recommended that Donations will be required of those consuming the food to help offset the expense.
4. If permitted by the hotel, we recommend that the chapter members and member's wives assisting the RVP on Friday of a BOM should only have finger foods that each chapter in the region can donate. Recommended items include crackers, cheese, chips, pretzels, nuts, and cookies. We do not recommend purchasing packaged luncheon meat and cheese, etc., to set out for making sandwiches, if reimbursement from FLSSAR is expected. FLSSAR will not accept the invoice for such items. Members and chapters for the Hospitality room often donate sandwich platters. The chapters may also donate a mix of soft drinks, juice, and two to three cases of bottled water. If a sufficient amount is not donated the RVP may authorize purchase of same including regular and decaf coffee, etc., and be reimbursed by FLSSAR along with any non-food supplies invoiced. Liquor, beer and wine is not to be provided by FLSSAR but may be brought to the hospitality room by members for themselves or to share. The RVP should make sure the donation box with sign above it stating (food and drinks are not free) is on the food table where it is easily viewed.
5. The Hospitality room should close at 3 PM for the BOM meeting and open only after the evening banquet and close no later than 11 PM unless otherwise scheduled.
6. On Saturday morning, the RVP can decide if a need for regular and decaf coffee and juice should to be served as well as breakfast items such as Danish, donuts or bagels that are left over from Friday. If not, the none food supplies are packed in supplied FLSSAR containers and the RVP responsible for next BOM takes charge of the containers and provides personnel that will store the same in a proper and safe storage area. Food supplies including sodas are not to be stored because of the heat in Florida and time between meetings. Offer these items to the members from the chapters that donated them first.
7. RVP in charge of the current BOM should make sure all FLSSAR items are in containers and ready to be transferred to the next RVP and removed by Saturday morning.

Proposed Amended Section 502, A-Regular or Special BOM Weekend, revised as follows:

A. Regular or Annual BOM Weekend

1. The registration desk personnel have the responsibility of providing the BOM Proceedings, meal tickets (used for exceptions like vegetarian, no sugar, etc.), meeting schedule, and any other informational items.
2. The opening time for the Friday check-in will be determined by the Executive Administrator.
3. Be it understood that some hotels only permit foodstuffs to be provided by the hotel. Therefore, any reference to FLSSAR chapters bringing food to the BOM events is understood to be meant for those hotels that allow such outside food to be provided. References to a Hospitality Room are applicable if the BOM event contract makes a provision for such a room. Typically, such contract provisions are done at an added expense. It is acceptable that Donations will be requested of those consuming the food to help offset the expense.
4. If permitted by the hotel, we recommend that the chapter members and members' wives assisting the RVP on Friday of a BOM should only have finger foods that each chapter in the region can donate. Recommended items include crackers, cheese, chips, pretzels, nuts, and cookies. We do not recommend purchasing packaged luncheon meat and cheese, etc., to set out for making sandwiches. Members and chapters for the Hospitality room often donate sandwich platters. The chapters may also donate a mix of soft drinks, juice, and two to three cases of bottled water. If a sufficient amount is not donated the RVP may check with the FLSSAR Treasurer to confirm if funds are budgeted for the purchase of same including regular and decaf coffee, etc. Liquor, beer and wine is not to be provided by FLSSAR but may be brought to the hospitality room by members for themselves or to share. If donations are being requested, the RVP should put the donation box in a location easily viewed by those visiting the Hospitality Room.
5. Food safety must be observed when placing perishable items on food table. Arrange to have bowls or trays of ice for sitting containers of perishable items on. Do not put ~~out~~ all perishable items out at once. If available, use a refrigerator to store perishables and beverages. Most beverages can be placed in a container of ice instead of the refrigerator during the day. (The hosting Region would need to bring a cooler for this purpose.)
6. Hospitality room on Saturdays of Annual Meetings should ideally be open longer during the day as wives, members and guests may wish to visit and socialize while meetings are not scheduled. The Hospitality room should close for the BOM meeting and Annual Meeting (Spring only) and open only after the evening banquet and close no later than 11 PM unless otherwise scheduled. The Ladies Auxiliary may wish to request use of the Hospitality Suite for their meetings during the BOM or Annual meeting. To facilitate this, the host Region should contact the Ladies Auxiliary President and Secretary prior to the BOM weekend to let them know if a member or a member's wife will be available to keep the room open.
7. On Sunday morning, any unused non-food supplies and FLSSAR owned equipment (such as the coffee maker) should be packed in supplied FLSSAR containers and turned over to the FLSSAR Sgt-at-Arms for storage in the FLSSAR storage locker. Any perishable food supplies as well as soft drinks and water should be offered to the chapters that donated them or turned over to the RVP responsible for the next Hospitality Room to properly store until the next BOM. Perishable items (including soft drinks and water) may not be stored in the FLSSAR storage locker.

Justification:

This change combines Sections A and B into a single section covering both BOM weekends and Annual Meeting weekends. The change also reflects current standards and procedures. It further clarifies that the hospitality suite may be used by the Ladies Auxiliary for meetings if proper arrangements are made with the Host Region.

Section 502, B-BOM and Annual Meeting weekend, presently reads:

B.BOM and Annual Meeting weekend

1. Same requirements apply as stated in (A) above except as stated in (B) 2 and 3 below.
 - (a) If members are only registered to attend Saturday's BOM and Annual meeting events, the RVP is to provide early registration personnel at 8:30 AM and deliver the 2nd spreadsheet with those names and funds collected to Treasurer when completed.
2. On Saturday morning, sufficient regular and decaf coffee, juice and breakfast finger food such as Danish, donuts, croissants and mini bagels with cream cheese should be provided by 8:30 AM.
3. Food safety must be observed when placing perishable items on food table. Arrange to have bowls or trays of ice for sitting containers of perishable items on. Do not put out all perishable items out at once. If available, use a refrigerator to store perishables and beverages. Most beverages can be placed in a container of ice if supplied by the hotel instead of the refrigerator during the day.
4. Hospitality room on Saturdays of Annual Meetings should be open longer during the day as wives, members and guests may wish to visit and socialize while meetings are not scheduled. It should close at 4 PM and open only after the evening banquet and closed no later than 11 PM.
5. RVP in charge of the current BOM should make sure all SAR items are in containers and ready to be transferred to the next RVP and removed by Sunday morning.
6. When we hold meetings at a hotel that restricts FLSSAR from bringing in our own hospitality food and beverages, the Florida Society will purchase from the hotel hot and cold beverages as well as snack foods as needed. Donations will be required of those consuming the food to help offset the expense.

Proposed Amended Section 502, B-BOM and Annual Meeting weekend, revised as follows:

Strike entire Section

Justification:

This section has been combined with Section A above to simplify the Standing Rules and bring them up to current procedures.

The Executive Committee presented the following proposed changes to the Standing Rules.

Standing Rules, Section 123, Endowment Trust Fund.

MOTION – The Executive Committee moved that the proposed change be adopted as published.

PASSED.

Standing Rules, Section 502, Registration and Hospitality Room.

MOTION – The Executive Committee moved that the proposed change be adopted as published.

PASSED.

Finance Committee

Walter B. Arnold, Chairman

See Treasurer's report above.

Financial Review Committee

David 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 to be conducted, an audit.

The Treasurer provided the committee with sufficient and appropriate materials for us to review the activities, transactions, and assets of the FLSSAR. After reviewing the data, materials and records provided, the Committee is satisfied that these records accurately reflect the financial position of the FLSSAR. A budget and budget comparisons were also provided.

The Committee thanks our new Treasurer for his assistance during this review, and for the informative manner in which the material was presented. He has committed to providing more frequent financial updates during the fiscal year, including to the membership in The Florida Patriot.

Medals and Awards Committee

Hampton E. Allen, Chairman

The NSSAR Official Handbook Vol 5: Individual Medals, Awards and Certificates was revised and updated effective 10 Oct 2024. The Medals and Awards Committee would like to remind our compatriots to review the handbook to ensure that they are in

compliance with the new guidelines. Serious consideration should be given to ensure a proposed recipient is fully qualified and deserving of the award for which they are being nominated to maintain the integrity of the NSSAR medals and awards.

The Committee would like to remind all Chapter Presidents and Secretaries that it is your responsibility to ensure that the State Membership database is kept current. In reviewing numerous medal nominations this year, the committee has found that the members medals and awards received at the chapter level have not been entered into the state database. This tends to create some concern especially when a compatriot is being nominated for some of the higher level state awards. Chapters need to submit a listing of all medals and awards presented to their Chapter members to the State Secretary so the database can be updated.

As a reminder to all Chapter Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers, most all of the medals and awards presented to non-SAR members are eligible for reimbursement from the Florida Endowment Trust Fund (ETF) within the limits established by the ETF committee. Unfortunately it seems most chapters are not aware that this program is available. Chapters are allowed up to 5 applications a year for a maximum of \$500 per application for a maximum of \$2,500 per year. The medals are reimbursed at 100% while the other awards are reimbursed at 75% within the authorized limits. Many chapters miss out on this reimbursement policy because they fail to file for the reimbursement. The ETF Grand Application Form is located on the FLSSAR website and contains information about what reimbursements are available to the chapters.

Nominating Committee

Graham Fountain, Chairman

Pursuant to the Florida Society Bylaws and Committee Charter, a nominating committee was appointed by the Society's State President as presiding officer/CEO to fill a slate of FLSSAR officers for the term of May 2025-May 2026. The Committee consisted of Col. Graham W. Fountain (Chair), Col. Garald Robinson, Jerry Hatchett, Phillip Markoe, and David Bussone. There was full participation by all members at every meeting, as well as outreach activities, to complete the task of creating a nomination list of names for the Florida state society offices.

Over the period of tenure on the FLSSAR Nominating Committee, the committee members met via Zoom, email, and physical meetings, to include the Fall BOM meeting in Orlando. During the final meeting, one committee member recused himself for the discussion and vote for an office he was recommended to fill. All selections for this nominating report received unanimous vote by the committee members. Through outreach and careful consideration, the committee has proposed the following members to serve in these elected positions for the next year:

President:	Christopher Washler	Sr. Vice-President:	Col. Garald Robinson
Secretary:	Scott Breckenridge	Treasurer:	Walter Arnold
Recording Sec:	Doug Gibbens	Registrar:	Ray Lantz
Sergeant-at-Arms:	Phil Markoe	Chaplain:	Hon. J. D. Peacock
Chancellor:	Charles Klug Jr.	At-Large Member:	Hamp Allen
Genealogist:	Mark Barie	Historian:	Joel Etherton
Editor:	Jeff Sizemore	Webmaster:	Col Garald Robinson
EC Regional VP:	Robin Preston	SW Regional VP:	Doug Gibbens
SE Regional VP:	Chuck Adams	WC Regional VP:	Dick Young
NC Regional VP:	Stephen Hohman	NW Regional VP:	Don Wilham
NE Regional VP:	Charles Hayes		

National Trustee (Historical Progression): James Gaskins

Alternate National Trustee (Historical Progression): Christopher Washler

The Nominating Committee is pleased to move the above slate of nominees for election.

Patriot Medal Committee

Pat Niemann, Chairman

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

NSSAR Affairs

Education Center & Museum

(SAR Education Center and Museum Committee)

Dick Young, Chairman

No report submitted.

National Society Library Committee

Steven R. Fields, Chairman

No report submitted.

FLSSAR Affairs

Archives Committee

Matt Mathews, Chairman

Charter reads as follows:

1. To gather, sort, collate, and index official and other significant documents and artifacts of the Florida Society, and similar materials from individual chapters, compatriots, and related organizations, of significance to the Society.
2. To establish and maintain a secure and accessible repository of these documents and artifacts.
3. To publicize to the members of the Society the existence of the Archives as necessary.
4. To store, catalogue and preserve these materials; to maintain a master catalogue and index.
5. To keep its index, catalogue and the materials in its custody available for reference and study.

In reviewing the charter, it is time for a rewrite as it was based upon more of a paper system. In today's functioning operations, almost, if not all are digital. With the software capabilities, this is ideal to upload all of the documents into each of the chapter's area. The automatic back-up operations of the software makes it ideal for the chapters and the state to utilize as a means of storage.

During the period of being a Trustee, one of the requirements was to obtain a copy of the bylaws of each chapter. Not all of the chapters complied or even had bylaws to provide. With CE (Club express), the ability to post their bylaws in the designated area, would meet the requirement as stated above.

Recommend that the Executive Committee review and reestablish this committee's charter.

By-Laws Committee

Robbie Robinson, Chairman

Since May 2024, the FLSSAR ByLaws Committee received eight recommendations for updates to most current ByLaws. We reviewed and forwarded them to the FLSSAR Secretary, as well as the editor of the FLSSAR Patriot Magazine in accordance with Article VIII, Section 3 Amendments of the current ByLaws that discuss how changes and voting are conducted.

These recommended changes are being submitted for approval at the May 2025 Annual Meeting. See Appendix A for each of the eight recommended changes.

Education Outreach Committee

Kevin Shurte, Chairman

Since October 2024, the FLSSAR EOC has met monthly via Zoom, excluding the holiday recess in December. During this time, the committee has planned for and promoted NSSAR youth contests, apprised chapters of contest requirements, deadlines, and prize amounts, and promoted the State Youth Education Award and the new NSSAR Youth Protection Training Program.

Leading up to October 2024, the EOC registered and prepared for the 2024 Florida Council for the Social Studies (FCSS) Conference in Kissimmee. The committee designed registration sheets and flyers for distribution, as well as developing a website and QR code for harvesting patron contact information at the conference. Unfortunately, like the Fall BOM scheduled for the same weekend, the conference was cancelled, but the committee's efforts will pay dividends for the 2025 conference season.

At the rescheduled BOM in December, EOC members set up a mock booth like that displayed at educational conventions. Compatriot attendees were welcome to browse the display, review the contest materials, and test out the new promotional QR code. During the BOM, voting members unanimously agreed to increase the 2025 EOC operating budget to \$3000 to promote youth education

programs at upcoming conferences and conventions. Additionally, the EOC received a \$2000 one-time allocation from the Congress Surplus Fund Committee for the purchase of display materials including a 10'x10' SAR-branded pop-up canopy, a 6-foot SAR-branded spandex table cover, and a 33"x81" retractable SAR recruiting banner. The EOC has purchased said items and has them stored in the FLSSAR climate-controlled storage unit in Kissimmee. These items are available for chapter use upon request (advance reservation and transportation to and from required).

In December, EOC members reserved exhibitor space for the 2025 FPEA Homeschool School Convention scheduled for May 22-24 at the Gaylord Palms Hotel and Convention Center in Kissimmee. Compatriots Dave Hitchcock, Michael Meyer, Phil Markoe, and Kevin Shurte are scheduled to volunteer at the event. In addition, the EOC has reserved funds to register for the 2025 FCSS Conference in Orlando (TBD) and the 2025 Florida Council of Independent Schools Conference (FCIS) being held in Jacksonville November 20-21, 2025. These events will promote FLSSAR youth education outreach to homeschools, public schools, and private schools throughout the state.

In February, FLSSAR EOC Chairman Kevin Shurte joined a Zoom meeting hosted by NSSAR EOC Chairman Roger Williams. During the meeting, state EOC chairmen from across the nation discussed methods of promoting youth education including accessing schools and various youth groups. Of particular interest was the discussion about the Patriot Chest Program and the Youth Education Award.

After the meeting, the FLSSAR EOC inquired with SAR employee Rae Ann Sauer about the status of the Patriot Chest Reimbursement Program. We learned that the Florida Society has never filed for reimbursement under this program and has a \$375.00 reimbursement available. Thus, the committee has begun actively seeking bargains for colonial-era replica items to include in a communal Patriot Chest that also would be available for loan to chapters. The first item purchased was a Denix replica of George Washington's pistol discovered at an Okeechobee pawn shop for \$33.00.

Since the February NSSAR meeting, state EOC compatriots have also begun promoting the state Youth Education Award Medal. Details about the award can be found on the national website under the America 250 tab at SAR Awards. Any compatriot who makes 15 youth presentations that promote the SAR mission to school-age children from preschool through twelfth grade qualifies for this state recognition. Two compatriots are scheduled to receive this award at the Spring BOM.

The EOC is looking forward to an active 2025, beginning with the upcoming Spring BOM and the FPEA Convention. In preparation, the EOC is designing and printing new bookmarks to promote brand recognition and our youth contests. The EOC has also scheduled an Education Outreach meeting at the Spring BOM on Friday, May 16 from 11:00 to noon to report its yearly activities, discuss upcoming events, and field questions and recommendations from our chapter members. All SAR members are encouraged to attend.

Finally, the EOC encourages all members to complete the newly-launched Youth Protection Training (YPT) found under the SAR University tab on the NSSAR website. The committee reminds chapters that all compatriots who work with youths, including color guard members, must have a current YPT certificate and recommends that everyone complete this new program.

At the 2024 Congress in Lancaster, PA, FLSSAR President Jim Gaskins was proud to learn that Florida was one of only six states that had participated in all seven of the Education Outreach Contests. Your Education Outreach Committee is equally proud to announce that this year the Florida Society has again participated in all contests, including the inaugural Youth Video Contest. Huzzahs to our members, our chapters, and our state!

If you are interested in serving on this active committee and are available to attend the various Education Outreach events throughout the state, please contact Kevin R. Shurte at kevinshurte2009@comcast.net

MOTION – The Education Outreach Committee moved to modify its charter membership as follow:

Current

A Chairman and additional members, usually four, as the President, Florida Society may appoint...

New

A chairman, appointed by the President, Florida Society, and additional members, comprised of the Chairmen of the following Youth Programs committees:

- **Americanism Youth Contests**
- **Eagle Scout Scholarship**
- **George S and Stella M Knight Essay Contest**
- **Jospeh S Rumbaugh Oration Contest**
- **ROTC/JROTC**
- **Tom and Betty Lawrence American History Teacher Award**
- **Youth Video Contest**

PASSED.

Ethics Committee

Jonathan D. Hunt, Chairman

This will be my last year as Chair of the Ethics Committee. I'd like to thank Compatriot Kevin Kuhens , Rene Jewett, Randy Conway and Charles Nuckolls for their hard work. The work this committee does requires the highest degree of attention to details and I'm proud to say these Compatriots exemplify what this committee is all about. This Committee only report their findings directly to the FLSSAR ExCom.

Genealogy Committee

J. Gray Chandler, Chairman

Since October 2024 BOM, the FLSSAR Genealogy Committee continues to work with chapter registrars, genealogists, and registrar genealogists throughout the state to improve the quality of FLSSAR new member and supplement applications.

The FLSSAR led the nation in approved new member applications

Summer 2024 (Vol 118, No 4) of SAR Magazine.

- 1). Florida – 79
- 2) North Carolina – 58
- 3) Texas -- 48

Winter 2024-2025 (Vol 119, No.3) of SAR Magazine

- 1) Florida -- 55
- 2) North Carolina -- 41
- 3) Michigan – 39
- 4) Texas -- 36

At the request of Gray Chandler, acting on behalf of a recommendation from the FLSSAR Genealogy Committee, FLSSAR President Jim Gaskin appointed four additional members to the FLSSAR Genealogy Committee. They are:

1. Chuck Adams (Fort Lauderdale)
2. Kelly Crumley (Ormond-Daytona Beach)
3. John Moore (The Villages)
4. John Robinson (St Augustine)

Parks Honeywell confirmed his interest in remaining on the Committee

Although no longer a “formal” member of the FLSSAR Genealogy Committee, Harry L Rinker, FLSSAR Member at Large, at the request of FLSSAR Genealogist Gray Chandler organized and hosted the FLSSAR Genealogy Committee training and educational Zooms of November 18, 2024, January 13, 2025, and March 12, 2025. He will organize and host the May 10, 2025 FLSSAR Genealogy Committee Zoom. Gary Green, FLSSAR Genealogist General, is a regular attendee of the FLSSAR Zooms.

The FLSSAR Genealogy Committee appointed a FLSSAR State Helper's Group for those registrar/genealogists who are having trouble completing applications. Brian Jensen and Harry L Rinker volunteered to serve on the Helper's Committee.

The FLSSAR Genealogy Committee conducted two worktable sessions at the Fall 2024 BOM. It will return with a formal one-hour training session on Friday morning at Spring 2025 BOM in addition to offering one worktable to work one-on-one with individuals needing help with applications.

Meeting Arrangements-BOM

Steven R. Fields - Chairman

No report submitted.

Membership Promotion & Retention

Matt Mathews, Chairman

- There are now 6 members to this committee, 3 participating at national level
- National Committee has updated and continues to examine National policies for the 3 R's, Recruitment, Retention, Recover and implementing them at the chapter local level
- A Presentation of Officer Duties was presented at the BOM in Oct. The chapter is core of the SAR. Poor leadership has poor consequences.

- The National Membership in conjunction with National Communication and Education committee has established at the National website and series of video training of/for officers of the chapter via SAR University. This training has been published via email throughout the SAR.

Note: There is no means of recording who has taken the course or even making it mandatory at this time. At last review, there still are compatriots who have not even signed into National.

The below 2 statements of the charter are unreasonable to retain. The software of CE (Club Express) has the ability to send out notices to encourage reinstatement s of members for the whole state. This can be performed on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis. This timing has not been established, but has proved to be a very helpful tool for our society and national as well.

To encourage each chapter which had a member dropped for nonpayment of dues to seek his reinstatement. Poll chapters to find what methods they've used successfully and not-so-successful to develop a reinstatement protocol/checklist for chapters to use.
To obtain State Society assistance in urging reinstatement.

The last paragraph needs to be removed, as this is a direct function of the registrar/genealogist. Membership committee members are probably not trained or informed of what national is proposing for genealogist or registrars. The state has 2 officer positions, Genealogist and a Registrar to help in these areas.

To encourage, support and advise chapter Registrar/Genealogists with genealogical problems regarding new and prospective members. This can be done in tandem with the Genealogy Committee. There is no reason to have a prospective member fail to become a member of NSSAR because there was no one to help the local Chapter find enough documentation to ensure his approval by the NSSAR genealogy staff.

New Chapter Development

Jeff Sizemore, Chairman

There have been no inquiries recently about setting up a new chapter.

Newsletters and Periodicals

Jeff Sizemore, Chairman

Winners of this year's FLSSAR newsletter contest will be announced at the awards banquet. This year we received some new entries from chapters that have been included in this contest.

The stated deadline each year for the National Newsletter and FLSSAR State Society Contest is December 15, 2025. To enter, please send a pdf version of year newsletter to the committee.

Strategic Planning Committee

Lee Popham, Chairman

SAR - CLUB EXPRESS CONTINUES TO GAIN ACCEPTANCE AND MOMENTUM !!!!

We wanted to get out a quick update about the CLUB EXPRESS National Dues Billing Task Force project rollout. For those who don't know, CLUB EXPRESS is the Society and Chapter membership dues management and communication system that will allow Societies and Chapters to receive online dues payments for FUTURE dues cycles.

During the 2025 Dues cycle, the Florida SAR suffered a 15+% membership loss, primarily from non-renewals of memberships as a result of non-payment of the 2025 Dues. When we analyzed these results, we learned that the Florida SAR Chapters that did NOT take advantage of the Club Express Online Dues Payment system experienced a 17.4% non-renewal rate; while the "Club Express" Chapters experienced only a 12.5% non-renewal rate.

The Florida SAR started this year with 2,088 Active members, after the dues reconciliation process was completed. As of May 1, 2025, our Active membership has increased to 2,365, for an increase of 277 members in only four months. It is significant to note that during the same four-month period, only 135 of those new members came from Approvals of New Membership Applications. The other increase of 142 members came from Reinstatements.

Why so many Reinstatements? Because 696 Reinstatement Requests were emailed to all 2023 and 2024 Florida Non-Renewals, and they were given the opportunity to Reinstate their membership by simply clicking a couple of online links, and paying their dues with their credit/debit card.

Several Florida SAR Chapters have already elected to join the Club Express system for the collection of dues, and for use as a Chapter communication system. Every Florida SAR Compatriot has the ability to receive another email from Club Express, inviting you to update your profile information and account.

Please do not discard or disregard the Club Express email as spam! If there is any question about whether an email received from Club Express (or any other entity) with respect to the SAR is legitimate, please don't hesitate to contact your chapter president or Florida SAR Secretary Scott Breckenridge.

You will still receive your dues notice from your Chapter, as you have in the past. You may continue to pay your dues as you wish to. Club Express will merely give you the option of paying your dues online, but only if you wish to do so.

ALL Florida SAR members whose Chapters have elected to join our Club Express automated dues invoice system will be receiving their 2026 dues invoices in September. You can then elect to pay your dues online, or you can continue to send your checks to your Chapter representative.

Our other Chapters are welcome to join the Club Express system at any time, and their members will also be able to pay their 2025 dues online. But you can always continue to pay your dues by check to your Treasurer, based upon the invoices that are sent to you directly by email through Club Express.

Chapters wishing to join Club Express should contact us by Reply All email, and we will get you into the system as soon as possible.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our consultant Peter Mitchelson at EuroPWM@mindspring.com. Or contact National Dues Billing Task Force Committee members Wm Lee Popham (WmLeePopham@outlook.com) or Matt Mathews (EMathewsJr@comcast.net).

Technology Advisory Committee

Lee Popham, Chairman

No report submitted.

Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade

Scott Breckenridge – Commander

Jeff Brunelle – Vice-Commander

Kevin Shurte – Adjutant

Commander's report

It has been my honor and pleasure to have served this fine Color Guard unit for the past 6 years, the last 2 as its Commander. Our Guardsmen may not sacrifice their lives and fortunes, as our ancestors did, but they do sacrifice much in time and resources to support our Society's goals of history, education, and patriotism, and they do it very well. I'm proud of each and every one of them.

I'd like to thank my mentors, Commander Dick Young (2019-2021) and Commander Steve Fields (2021-2023). Their instruction and advice have been invaluable to me.

I'd also like to thank Vice-Commander Jeff Brunelle and Adjutant Kevin Shurte for their support. They have stepped up and taken charge when I was unable to do so. The Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade will be in their good hands going forward.

During my term as Commander, it has been my pleasure to approve 7 Bronze CG medals, and to review and get National approval for 11 Silver CG medals, 2 Molly Pitcher medals, 1 Youth CG medal, and 3 Von Steuben CG medals. My congratulations to all of these recipients. In addition, I've approved the creation of 3 new Camps, and the reactivation of 3 previously inactive Camps. We currently have 20 active Camps/Outposts with a combined approximately 150 guardsmen.

Scott Breckenridge, Commander

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

The Jacksonville Chapter George Washington Camp 1 began our 2024/2025 season with presentation of colors at our September 19, 2024, scheduled meeting. From October through May 2025, we have been active in multiple

events in various categories as noted in this report below. Of the various activities the Color Guard has participated in, we feel one of the most important of all is our efforts in educational outreach within our served communities. The Color Guard Members are the primary participants in our Educational Outreach Efforts. Our educational program as of this date consists of Presentations of The History of the Flag, Traveling Trunk artifacts, Molly Pitcher, Weapons of the Revolutionary War/ Colonial Period, question and answer session, tribute to the Founding Documents, and distribution of The Declaration of Independence/ Constitution pocketbook with inclusion of Founders Quotes and document discussions. This is a 2.5-hour program we feel is a contribution to the youth of our community in expanded learning of the Founders and THE BLESSINGS OF LIBERTY that have been inherited by citizens of the United States of America. These young Americans are the future of this great country, and we hope to contribute to their knowledge of the blessings of liberty and where and how it originated.

We are looking at additional presentations and the use of the Rarities' Project and other SAR audio/visual productions to expand our efforts and offer presentations on Patriots and events that have shaped our Country's formulation and History. At present we have been invited to private and parochial schools only due to our member solicitations and efforts but are in hopes through SAR state efforts that there may be a future for public school programs that local chapters may participate in. Participating schools to date are St. Michael's Academy Fernandina, Florida, Lindisfarne Hall Fernandina Florida, Home School Group Fleeming Island, Fl., Trinity Christian Academy, St. John's Academy Fleeming Island, Florida, and St. John's Academy Orange Park, Florida. Both St. John schools are members of the Hillsdale College Schools. Our new Educational Outreach Chairman Ralph Peters has made solicitations to area public schools and initial responses are positive. 2025/2026 we hope to make inroads into public venues. We have benefited greatly by inclusion in our educational program the wife of Compatriot Darryl Ingle. Mrs. Laura Ingle is a DAR Member and a former teacher. We have to date delivered the patriotic message to approximately 300 Duval, Nassau, and Clay County students with that count expected to increase with the scheduled Colonial Days program at St. Michaels Academy in Fernandina, Florida on May 8, 2025.

The Jacksonville Color Guard participates in a host of activities as follows: Naturalization Ceremonies, Color Presentations for many SAR and local events, Educational Presentations, ROTC events and merit recognition programs, DAR/CAR Events, BSA Events and recognition, Veterans Events such as Wreaths across America, Memorial Day, Veteran's Day Parades, Honor Flights, Flag Retirements, family requested funeral events, public service recognitions, etc. In our tri-county area we have the following Organizations that we honor annually: 28 ROTC/JROTC- Sea Cadets- Atlantic Coast Young Marines organizations. 20 Public Safety Organizations and 40 Boy Scout-Eagle Scout Awardees.

The Jacksonville Color Guard presently consists of 23 active members. We continue our active recruiting efforts in hopes of expanding the CG Membership which will greatly enhance our abilities to participate in conflicting events and adding events that will further our mission, aspirations, and goals.

Event Participation:

10/01/-05/01/2025-Multiple Monthly Naturalization Events Federal Court
 10/01/-05/01/2025-Multiple ROTC /BSA Awards Chapter Tri-County Schools
 11/10/2024-First Baptist Church Jacksonville, Fl Vet. Recognition Day
 11/10/2024-Mandarin Veteran Patriot Remembrance
 11/11/2024-Jacksonville, Fl. Veteran's Day Parade
 11/16/2024-Tolomoto Cemetery St. Augustine, Fl. Annual Patriot Recognition
 11/16/2024-Carl Huffmann Past President NSSAR Memorial St. Augustine, Fl.
 11/23/2024-Ft. Morris Come and Take it annual commemoration
 12/14/2024-Wreaths Across America Jacksonville National Cemetery
 02/08/2025-Liberty Tree Ceremony St. Augustine, Fl.
 02/22/2025-DAR Regional George Washington Birthday Celebration
 02/26/2025-Home School Fleeming Island, Fl. Program
 03/11/2025- Trinity Christian Academy Program Jacksonville, Fl.
 03/14/2025-St. John's Academy Program Fleeming Island, Fl.
 03/29/2025- Thomas Creek Annual Commemoration
 04/16/ 2025-DAR 250 Patriot Memorial Jacksonville, Fl Beach
 04/19/2025-DAR 250 Historic Marker Atlantic Beach, Fl. Veteran's Park
 04/19/2025-Ft. Frederica, Naval Action St. Simons, Ga.
 04/27/2025-Library Open House Lineage Society Jacksonville, Fl.

2. Francis Marion Camp #2, Ocala Chapter – Inactive
3. Commodore Barry Camp #3, Brevard Chapter – Nicholas Mihora, Commander
 No Report Submitted.

4. Samuel Adams Camp #4, Clearwater Chapter – Robbie Robinson, Commander
 The Clearwater SAR Chapter's Color Guard participated in the following events since the last FLSSAR BOM, on the dates listed below:
 - Belleaire Christmas Parade - 7 Dec 2024
 - DeSoto DAR Christmas Luncheon (w/Tampa SAR) - 13 Dec 2024
 - Dunedin DAR Christmas Parade - 14 Dec 2024
 - Caladesi DAR Genealog Meeting - 6 Feb 2025
 - Clearwater SAR Chapter Meeting - 19 Feb 2025
 - Genesis Prep School Washington Day - 21 Feb 2025
 - George Washington Dinner Gala - 22 Feb 2025
 - NSDAR Plaque Ceremony in Clearwater - 5 Apr 2025
 - Honor Flight at St Petersburg Airport - 15 Apr 2025
 - Tampa DAR Luncheon Meeting - 10 May 2025 (projected)
5. Yorktown Camp #5, St. Lucie River Chapter – Inactive
6. Marquis de Lafayette Camp #6, Gainesville Chapter – Sean Tonnelier, Commander
 Nothing to report. Camp was just reactivated on 2/26/2025.
7. Nathan Hale Camp #7, Pensacola Chapter – Chris Washler, Commander
 The Nathan Hale Camp is still actively recruiting new Color Guard members and is continuing our uniform grant fund through 2025 to encourage more members to purchase a uniform and participate.
 Participation in events since our Fall Report:
 15 February 2025 – Compatriot Jeremy Findley participated as a member of the Color Guard for an America 250 Bench Dedication for the Galvez Chapter from Alabama
 28 February 2025 – Compatriot Washler participated in the Color Guard for the Friday night banquet at the NSSAR Spring Leadership Meetings
 29 March 2025 – Compatriot Washler participated in the Battle of Thomas Creek event in Jacksonville.
8. Nathaniel Green Camp #8, Saramana Chapter – Steve Fields, Commander
 No Report Submitted.
9. Thomas Paine Camp #9, Miami Chapter – David Mitchel, Commander
 On 01 February 2025, the Color Guard posted the colors at the South Florida Daughters of the American Revolution Regents luncheon in Miami, FL.
10. Daniel Morgan Camp #10, Central Florida Chapter – Philip Markoe, Commander
 No Report Submitted.
11. Thomas Jefferson Camp #11, Withlacoochee Chapter – Bob Thomas, Commander
 September 7, 2024 – Three Members Participated in DAR Yearly Meeting at Orlando Florida.
 September 21, 2024 - Five Members Posted Flags for DAR Spring Hill Event.
 October 27, 2024 – Six Members Massing of Colors for Veterans Day Program.
 November 11, 2024 – Three Members Day Parade Inverness
 December 14, 2024 - 2 Members Posted Wreaths Florida National Cemetery
 December 14, 2024 – 4 Members Parade Brooksville
 February 27, 2025 - 1 Member DAR Orman Beach Washington Birthday
 March 15, 2025 – 1 Member Last Naval Battle Meritt Island
 March 29, 2025 – 1 Member SAR Battle of Thomas Creek
12. General Thomas Sumter Camp #12, Lake Sumter Chapter – Paul Pardee, Commander
 11 February 2025: Guardsman Paul Pardee marched in continental uniform with the Sons of Liberty Brigade in dedicating the first Liberty Tree consecrated on the grounds of the Oldest House in St. Augustine, FL.
 22 February 2025: Guardsmen Jim Carl, Tim Donihi, Richard Cole, John Moore, Jack Oden, Paul Pardee, and Ron Toops marched in uniform at the 123rd George Fest Parade in downtown Eustis, FL in celebration of George Washington's 293rd birthday.
 15 March 2025: Guardsman Paul Pardee marched with the Sons of Liberty Florida Brigade in continental army uniform at the Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution 242nd anniversary commemoration at Merritt Island.

19 April 2025: Guardsman Paul Pardee marched with the NSSAR Color Guard in Concord, Massachusetts to commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the Battles of Lexington and Concord. Guardsman Pardee also marched with the CTSSAR Color Guard in a separate parade in Lexington, Massachusetts honoring the same event.

13. Bernardo de Galvez Camp #13, Naples Chapter – Jim Meerpohl, Commander

Honor Flight Welcoming to RSW, 09/28/2024

Chapter Meeting Naples, 11/07/2024

DAR Veterans Memorial Plaque in Cambier Park (Big Cypress Chapter), 12/08/2024

DAR Chapter Naples on the Gulf Birthday 12/09/2024 with State Regent

14. Hillsborough River Camp #14, Tampa Chapter – Dick Young, Commander

The Camp has been busy since October proudly representing the SAR and our patriot ancestors whenever possible. For those events with "(250)" at end means we presented and/or posted the SAR 250th Anniversary flag as well as the National colors.

09 Nov - Marched in the Veterans Day parade at the James A Haley Veterans Hospital in Tampa (250)

11 Nov - Participated in the Veterans Day Ceremony and Veterans recognition at the Mission BBQ on Waters Avenue in Tampa

07 Dec - Marched in the annual Christmas parade in Safety Harbor leading a convoy of military vehicles of the local Preservation of Military Vehicles Association (250)

13 Dec - Presented the Colors at the opening of the annual Christmas meeting of the DeSoto Chapter of DAR in Tampa

14 Dec - Presented the Colors, along with the Jefferson HS JROTC, at the opening of the Wreaths Across America Ceremony at the American Legion "USS Tampa" Post 5 in Tampa (250)

11 Jan - Presented the SAR Silver Color Guard medal to Robbie Robinson and William (Bill) Swain at the annual Officer Installation Luncheon of the Tampa Chapter

22 Feb - Presented the Colors at the opening of the Annual George Washington Birthday Banquet held at the St Petersburg Yacht Club (250)

29 Mar - Presented the Colors at the Vietnam Veterans Day and Vietnam Veterans Recognition at the Mission BBQ in Temple Terrace (Tampa) (250)

15 Apr - Participated as part of the Honor Guard escorting veterans from Honor Flight 52 at the St. Petersburg/Clearwater airport (250)

10 May - Looking forward to presenting the Colors at the 100th Anniversary meeting of the Tampa Chapter DAR in Tampa

The following compatriots participated in some or all of the above events. Members of the Clearwater Chapter also join us at many of our events. They are designated with a "(c)".

Walter Arnold (c), Matthew Balencie, David Bryant, Joseph Dato, Terry Doan, Dwight Hamborsky, Robbie Robinson, Tim Shaner (c), Bill Swain, Will Wagner-Hart, Warren Wilson (c) and Dick Young, Commander

15. General Lighthorse Harry Lee Camp #15, Caloosa Chapter – Jeff Brunelle, Commander

No Report Submitted.

16. Gabriel Long Camp #16, St. Petersburg Chapter – Inactive

17. Lake City Chapter Outpost #17, Lake City Chapter – Charles Millican, Commander

No Report Submitted.

18. Lakeland Chapter Outpost #18, Lakeland Chapter – Inactive

19. USS Alliance Camp #19, Charlotte Chapter – Noel Reese, Commander

No Report Submitted.

20. William Dunaway Chapter Outpost #20, William Dunaway Chapter – Inactive

21. Panama City Chapter Outpost #21, Panama City Chapter – Brad Marble, Commander

- On Veterans Day, November 11, 2024: Brad Marble, Jim Haynes, Benny Raffield, and from the Marianna Chapter: Tom Rankin, and Dale Macumber provided a Color Guard for the Event at the Clifford Sims State Veteran's Nursing Home in Panama City, Florida.

- On November 22, 2024, Brad Marble and Benny Raffield participated as Color Guard at the commemoration of the Siege of Fort Morris on November 25, 1778.
- December 6-7, 2024, Brad Marble and Benny Raffield attended the FALL BOM in Kissimmee, Florida on December 6th and 7th. Participated in color guard Activity on the second day.
- On March 29th, Benny Raffield and Brad Marble presented a wreath and participated in Color Guard Activities at the commemoration of the Battle of Thomas Creek in Jacksonville, Florida.
- On April 27, 2025, Benny Raffield will attend grave marking at Midway, Georgia and present a wreath on behalf of the Panama City Chapter.
- On May 9, 2025, Benny Raffield will participate in the observance of Galvez Day in Pensacola, Florida.

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

23. Samuel Nicholas Camp #23, Ft Lauderdale Chapter – Kevin Shurte, Commander

Since October 2024, members of the Fort Lauderdale Chapter Color Guard, Samuel Nicholas Camp #23, actively participated in a variety of chapter, state, and national color guard events.

- October 19, 2024 – Chuck Adams, Tom Carpenter Jr., Tim McLane, Paul Moore, Braeden Shurte, Kevin R. Shurte, and Mark Snider posted colors at the FTL Chapter meeting in Davie, Florida.
- October 26, 2024 – Chuck Adams, Jim Clark, and Tim McLane participated in the Honor Flight South Florida Flight #33 Homecoming parade at Fort Lauderdale International Airport.
- October 11, 2024 – Chuck Adams, Tim McLane, Paul Moore, and Mark Snider participated in Veteran's Day Celebration at the Alexander Nininger State Veterans Nursing Home in Pembroke Pines, Florida.
- October 11, 2024 – Kevin R. Shurte participated in the presentation of colors with the FLSSAR Color Guard at the Merci Boxcar Ceremony commemorating its 75th anniversary at Holly Hill City Hall in Holly Hill, Florida.
- November 16, 2024 – Kevin R. Shurte participated with the Jacksonville Color Guard in the presentation of colors at the DAR Patriot Memorial Ceremony at the Tolomato Cemetery in Saint Augustine, Florida attended by President Jim Gaskins.
- November 16, 2024 – Kevin R. Shurte participated in the posting of colors at former PG Carl Hoffman's memorial service at the Saint Augustine Yacht Club.
- November 23, 2024 – Tom Carpenter Jr., Jim Clark, Tim McLane, Paul Moore, Kevin R. Shurte, and Mark Snider posted colors at the FTL Chapter meeting in Davie, Florida.
- December 5, 2024 – Chuck Adams, Steve DePaul, Paul Moore, Braeden Shurte, and Kevin R. Shurte marched in the Yuletide Parade in Pompano Beach, Florida.
- December 7, 2024 – Chuck Adams and Kevin R. Shurte participated in the posting of colors with the FLSSAR Color Guard at the Fall BOM in Kissimmee, Florida.
- December 14, 2024 – Chuck Adams, Jim Clark, Paul Moore, Braeden Shurte, Kevin R. Shurte, and Mark Snider posted colors for the Wreaths Across America opening ceremony at Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens North in Pompano Beach, Florida.
- January 11, 2025 – Jim Clark, Paul Moore, Braeden Shurte, Kevin R. Shurte, and Mark Snider posted colors at the FLSSAR SE Regional meeting in Davie, Florida with President Gaskins present.
- February 8, 2025 – Jim Clark, Paul Moore, Braeden Shurte, Kevin R. Shurte, and Mark Snider posted colors at the FTL Chapter meeting in Davie, Florida.
- February 15, 2025 – Kevin R. Shurte participated with the FLSSAR Color Guard in posting and retiring ceremonies at the 94th F.S.C.A.R. State Conference in Melbourne, Florida.
- March 1, 2025 – Chuck Adams, Braeden Shurte, Kevin R. Shurte, and Mark Snider marched in the Parade of Pipes, Drums, and Clans at the Southeast Florida Scottish Festival and Highland Games in Plantation, Florida.
- March 15, 2025 – Chuck Adams and Kevin R. Shurte marched in the Last Naval Battle Commemoration in Merritt Island, Florida.
- March 22, 2025 – Jim Clark, Steve DePaul, Jim McHugh, Paul Moore, Kevin R. Shurte and Mark Snider posted colors at the FTL Chapter meeting in Davie, Florida.
- March 29, 2025 – Chuck Adams, Jim Clark, Steve DePaul, Braeden Shurte, Kevin R. Shurte, and Mark Snider presented colors at the Fontenada Chapter DAR 250 Patriot Plaque dedication ceremony at the Pompano Beach Cultural Center.

- April 5, 2025 – Chuck Adams, Braeden Shurte, Kevin R. Shurte, and Mark Snider participated in the Honor Flight South Florida Homecoming parade at Fort Lauderdale International Airport.
- April 12, 2025 – Kevin R. Shurte participated with the Highlands and Okeechobee chapters in the Patriots Day celebration at the Highland Heritage Festival in Fort Basinger, Florida.
- April 13, 2025 – Chuck Adams, Steve DePaul, and Mark Snider participated with the Highlands and Okeechobee chapters in the Patriots Day celebration at the Highland Heritage Festival in Fort Basinger, Florida.
- April 19, 2025 – Jim Clark, Kevin R. Shurte, and Mark Snider posted colors at the FTL Chapter monthly meeting in Davie, Florida.

24. Swamp Fox Camp #24, Okeechobee Chapter – Brian Bray, Commander
 Nov 11, 2024: Posted Colors at community Veterans Day ceremony
 Mar 8, 2025: Participated in community Speckled Perch Festival parade with a float
 Apr 12&13, 2025: Presented Colors at Highlands County Heritage Festival

25. John Parker Camp #25, Daytona-Ormond Chapter – Ken Nunelley, Commander
 No Report Submitted.

Liaisons

C.A.R. and Junior Members Liaison

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

Scott Cook, Chairman

No report submitted.

DAR Liaison

Phil Markoe, Chairman

DAR Spring Conference at the Omni Hotel Championsgate.

On Friday, March 7 and Saturday, March 8 the SAR set up their table in the pineapple promenade. Friday set up began at approximately 8 AM until 4 PM. Members of the DAR Liaison committee manned the table to help DAR members with SAR membership, sign up, giving out information on the SAR contests and to show our support for the DAR.

Friday evening the FLSSAR Color Guard posted the colors at the DAR banquet and President Jim Gaskins brought greetings from the FLSSAR. On Saturday morning the table was up and ready for business, ending at approximately 4 PM.

Through this last year, our committee members have gone to many DAR meetings, plaque dedications and Honor Flights.

I look forward to being your DAR Liaison chair for the 2025/2026 year.

FLSSAR Ladies Auxiliary Liaison

Hampton Allen, Chairman

Nothing to report.

Historic Sites

Historic Sites & Celebrations

Chris Washler, Chairman

The Historic Sites and Celebrations Committee responsibilities include not only supporting the several battlefield celebrations already having national recognition, expanding recognition of historic sites in Florida, but also actively engaging in helping chapters and the State Society create and promote activities celebrating the 250th Anniversary Program.

This year, the Historic Sites and Celebrations committee has set three primary goals for the committee:

- 1) Reach the milestone of 100 America 250 Gold Medals for FLSSAR Compatriots

- 2) Build a ‘History of the Revolution in Florida’ product that tells the history of our 4 Revolutionary War battles.
- 3) Build greater support across the region and National Society for all of our battle commemorations. (This effort will include trying to get the battles featured on an episode of NSSAR’s podcast, “Revolutionary War Rarities.”)

Unfortunately, we have not reached our goal of 100 America 250 medals for FLSSAR Compatriots. At my last count, we were at 37 Gold Medals awarded to Florida Compatriots. I know we can do better! I know that your chapters are recognizing all of the events that took place during the Revolution, and I know that you are celebrating our 250th anniversary on a regular basis. Keep track of your attendance at those events and track your points!

Since the last BOM, we have definitely succeeded in building more support for our Revolutionary War battle commemorations in Florida. The Last Naval Battle event at the beginning of March was a huge success, and the Thomas Creek event at the end of March was one of the largest events they’ve ever had! As of this writing, the Battle of Pensacola event on May 9th hasn’t happened yet, but it is shaping up to be another fantastic event drawing SAR compatriots from around the Southeastern U.S.!

In addition to our battle commemorations, the St. Augustine chapter held a Liberty Tree dedication in February that was a resounding success and brought together SAR, DAR, and like-minded historical organizations from around St. Augustine. The Daytona-Ormond Chapter worked with their local DAR Chapter to re-dedicate a plaque to the known Revolutionary War Soldiers who moved to the State of Florida. The Highlands Chapter celebrated Patriots Day by participating in the Heritage Festival at the Pearce Homestead. The Emerald Coast chapter is working on installing not one, but TWO America 250 benches at locations in Okaloosa County in the near future!

And finally, we are making progress on the fundraising for the First Amphibious Assault Memorial planned for Pompano Beach. Chapters should reach out to that committee to find out how your chapters and members can help support the building of the monument and how this will be the Florida SAR’s gift to preserving a little known piece of our American Revolutionary War heritage.

As your chapters plan events over the next year, please make sure that you keep the new Historic Sites and Celebrations Committee Chair, Robin Preston, up to date on your activities so that the committee can help to publicize them and help in any way possible!

Battle of Pensacola Committee

Chris Washler, Chairman

The Battle of Pensacola Commemoration for 2025 is being held in conjunction with Pensacola’s Galvez Day Celebration on 9 May 2025 in downtown Pensacola. This year’s celebration will start with the SAR Color Guard Parade of Colors from Fort George on Palafox Street down to the Galvez Monument to open the Galvez Day ceremonies. At noon, there will be a luncheon at the Pensacola Yacht Club which is near the actual landing site for General Galvez. Finally, at 3pm, there will be a wreath laying sponsored by the SAR and DAR at the Minuteman Monument in Veterans Memorial Park. Please check the Pensacola Chapter website for the most current information as it becomes available (<http://pensacolasar.org/chapter-programs/battle-of-pensacola-commemoration/>).

Battle of Thomas Creek Committee

David Ramseur, Chairman

The 248th Anniversary of the Revolutionary War Battle of Thomas Creek (The Southmost Battle of the American Revolutionist War) was held on Saturday March 29, 2025. With beautiful weather again the ceremony was held at the battle location of Seaton Creek Historic Preservation Park in Jacksonville. Attendance was great again with SAR Compatriots, DAR Daughters and C.A.R. Children along with guests with a large, estimated attendance of 150 for our eleventh year.

For this National Color Guard Event, we were honored to have our National Color Guard Commander Scott Collins, who commanded a 32-man color guard. Greetings were given by the City of Jacksonville, NSSAR from VPG Scott Collins, Florida State President, James Gaskins. Greeting were given by FSSDAR Regent Elect Kim Zeman, N.E. Regents Council, by Marsha Byers, FSSC.A.R. by State President Caleb Golden. Compatriot Dr. Roger Smith again gave us an enthusiastic presentation on why General George Washington wanted to make N.E. Florida our 14th Colony.

At the ceremony people were encouraged to register for the Alligator Bridge ceremony on Saturday June 28th. This battle was the fourth attempt after the Thomas Creek Battle to make N.E. Florida the 14th Colony as ordered by General George Washington

We are looking forward to next year’s Thomas Creek Ceremony to be held at the Seaton Creek Historic Preservation Park on Saturday March 28, 2026, as we march towards our Nations 250th Anniversary.

First Amphibious Assault Memorial

(First Amphibious Assault Memorial Committee)

Steve DePaul, Chairman

The First Amphibious Assault Memorial Committee has conducted the following activities since the Fall BOM, as highlighted below:

- We have selected Steve Fields to be the deputy chairman, responsible for social media, and Robbie Robinson to be the committee secretary. The secretary will maintain all applicable documentation.
- Obtained approval from the FLSSAR EXCOM to submit a letter of intent (LOI) to the monument manufacturer, Premier Precast, to work with our engineer & architect, and provide structural submittals for final plans that will be submitted for permitting.
- We have established three fundraising campaigns to raise a total of \$122,700 by mid-December 2025. These funds are essential to ensure we meet the scheduled dedication ceremony for the monument in Pompano Beach on March 7, 2026, which will mark the 250th anniversary of the historic event.

The campaigns are as follows:

- Minuteman: For donations up to \$249.
- 250 for the 250th: For donations of \$250 or more.
- The Chapter Challenge: This program recognizes chapters that collectively contribute donations from their members.

So far, these initiatives have generated over \$15,000 for the "250" program, \$11,000 for the Chapter Challenge, and \$425 for the "Minuteman" program.

- We have solicited a request for funding from the NSSAR George Washington Endowment Fund, and we were granted \$14,500 for 2025. We anticipate a further request for funding for 2026.
- We have established a campaign to provide applicable information to other state SAR organizations; already we have received \$3000 in donations and pledges from two different states to date.
- We have received a total of \$53,975 in cash contributions and pledges from all sources to date. The funding still needed is \$68,700. As a result, we are currently at 67% of the total funding required to construct the monument.
- We have designed a commemorative coin that will be given to anyone who contributes \$250 or more to the monument project. These are a limited run, the first in an anticipated series of three. These coins are expected to arrive by 22 May 2025, after which we will begin delivery. The following coins will be available for sale at the next Congress and online.
- We established four large donor categories: platinum (\$20K or more), gold (\$10K or more), silver (\$5K or more), and bronze (\$2500 or more).
- We have received approval from the city of Pompano Beach to install plaques that will recognize our donors. These metal plaques will be prominently displayed next to the monument.
- We are collaborating with the City of Pompano Beach and local business leaders to raise funds. Additionally, we are partnering with the Pompano Beach Tourism Committee, hoteliers, and restaurants to provide accommodation and discounts for the event.
- We have started developing a standalone website to raise awareness among the general public, states, and chapters that will provide information regarding the 1776 assault landing, event literature, dedication details, photographs, nearby hotels and restaurants, notable sites, the muster roll, and much more.
- The committee has also been communicating with two very senior US Marine Corps officers to help get the applicable information out to active duty and retired Marines. Information about the monument has been sent to the Commandant of the US Marine Corps and his staff.
- We have established a strong connection with a senior member of the Marine Corps League (MCL), who is distributing information about our monument to MCL members nationwide. We have also received one pledge of \$2,500 for the monument project from a CSSAR compatriot.

- Established a communications link with the Florida State representative who is a member of the state's 250th Anniversary commission.

- We have drawn up a set of PowerPoint slides to help educate other organizations about the monument and how to support our efforts to erect this historic monument, which is periodically updated.

Last Naval Battle

(Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution Committee)

Joel Etherton, Chairman

No report submitted.

Youth Programs

Americanism Youth Contests

David Hitchcock, Chairman

The Winner of last years Brochure contest was Gina Manns From Ft Lauderdale FL

The winner of the Poster contest was Scarlet Taylor from Hernando FL

2023-2024 we had 7 entries for the poster contest and 6 entries for the Brochure

This year so far we have 3 Chapters submitted Poster contest winners by the May 1st deadline

We have 4 Chapters submitted Brochure Contest winners by the May 1st deadline

Compatriots we all need to step up our efforts locally, at FLSSAR and National. To be successful and reach our targets (The students) We have to build a better line of communication. I reached out to every Chapter president asking who their chairman was of the Poster and Brochure Contest. I got 7 out of 32 chapters to identify their chairmen. If that is being successful then we are in the wrong business. If your email address isn't correct on the state website, it is your responsibility to get it corrected.

2025-2026 School year is going to be a little different because they have added a Video contest, they also added an addition winner submittal form. In the header of the form, they included all contests. The National Chairman of the Youth Contest said the new form will be required this coming year for al contest.

The national SAR change the name from Americanism Contest to Youth contest I think we should do the same. We call the Americanism contest from National the chapter Challenge and the Americanism Contest is the Brochure/ Poster Contest. The pathway to success is clear directions

The good news is we hopefully will have a new website this year. That will be a blessing for all of us.

Eagle Scout Scholarship Committee

David Bryant, Chairman

No report submitted.

History Fairs

Jonathan Hunt, Chairman

Due to conflicting schedules the committee has been unable to meet by Zoom.

Knight Essay Contest

(George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest Committee)

Hampton E. Allen, Jr., Chairman

The 2024-2025 Knight Essay Contest has been completed and we have selected our FLSSAR Entry which has been submitted to the NSSAR Chairman for entry into the National Knight Essay Contest. We had six essays entered in our State Contest this year. Our First Place Essay was submitted through the Palm Beach Chapter. The winner and their parents have been invited to attend our Annual Youth Awards Luncheon at the 2025 Spring BOM/Annual meeting in Kissimmee on Saturday, May 17th where she will

receive the State Knight Essay Winner Medal, certificate and her monetary award. She will also be asked to read their essay during the luncheon.

Knight essays were received from the following Chapters: Caloosa; Daytona-Ormond; Gainesville, Lakeland; Miami; and Palm Beach. The final results of the contest were as follows:

1st Place Jesse Brooke Baxter, Jupiter High School, Palm Beach Chapter

2nd Place Jielianne Rodriguez, School for Advanced Studies, Kendall Campus, Miami Chapter

3rd Place Paige Malykhin, Harrison School for the Arts, Lakeland Chapter

During our Youth Awards Luncheon during the Spring BOM Jesse will receive her medal, certificate and a check for \$1,000. Jielianne will receive a certificate and a check for \$500; and Paige will receive a certificate and check for \$250.

We greatly appreciate all of the chapters that participated in the 2024-2025 Knight Essay Contest and would encourage your participation again next year with the 2025-2026 Contest. We would also like to encourage all of our Florida Chapters to get involved with our Youth Contest. It is a great way to get information out about our Society.

It is never too early to start soliciting Knight Essay entries for next year's contest. It is also important that you advertise your Chapter's deadline date for submitting essays to the Chapter as well as the FLSSAR deadline of 31 December for all chapter entries to be submitted to State. We had a number of inquiries come in late due to the confusion over the 15 February deadline posted on the National website which is the National deadline for receipt of all the State Essay entries.

For the Chapter's winning essay submission to State must be in five parts in the formats indicated as follows: 1. the Knight Essay Application (PDF) (which now must be signed and dated by the student); 2. the Bibliography (Word); 3. The Biography (Word) (Student's name must be on this document); 4. The Essay (Word); 5. The Title Page (Word). This will allow the judges to finalize their evaluations of the essay; make any minor corrections as necessary; and submit our State winner to the national NSSAR committee by their February 2026 deadline. FLSSAR prizes for the 2025-2026 contest are \$1,000/\$500/\$250. The NSSAR prizes presented at the NSSAR Congress this year were 1st - \$6,000; 2nd - \$3,000; 3rd - \$2,000; 4th - \$500; and 5th - \$500. See SAR.ORG for complete details.

The new school year for 2025-2026 will be upon us before we realize it. The September timeframe would be a great time to engage with your local school systems to get involved with the many Youth Award Programs that we offer through the SAR. While I understand from our experiences last year some of the local school systems were reluctant to get involved with our different programs. I would suggest that there are a couple of other avenues that we could explore to get the word out about our Youth Awards Programs and give the students an opportunity to participate. If your chapters are involved with your local DAR Chapters, CAR Societies, Scouting and JROTC Programs or other civic organizations, they offer us a great opportunity to introduce our Youth Awards Programs to both parents and students. I would also recommend looking into the local Home School Programs that are being offered within many of our communities.

Rumbaugh Orations Contest

(Joseph P. Rumbaugh Orations Contest Committee)

Tom Bowen, Chairman

The Rumbaugh Oration Committee had two candidates this year. Our committee composed of Hamp Allen, Ben Tidwell, Kevin Yarnell and Thomas Bowen were pleased to see some serious interest in entering this very difficult contest. The entry forms and paperwork are lengthy and detailed and we appreciate the Jacksonville and Fort Lauderdale Chapters who got the job done in submitting the detailed and lengthy forms, paperwork and video of their candidate. The Oration must be five minutes and no more than six minutes and must be totally a memorized speech. No notes are permitted.

Our entries this year were Xander Fontaine, a high school senior from the Jacksonville Chapter and Chloe Cave a high school freshman from the Fort Lauderdale Chapter. The Florida Rumbaugh Committee conducted their judging of the videos on April 1, 2025 and Xander had the highest score. Xander is a senior student at the First Coast Christian School in Jacksonville, FL and has many honors in his high school career. He is already an experienced public speaker with multiple state championships in Speech and Biblical Recitation and has been on the Dean's list for 7 years. He is also a varsity footballer. His speech was titled "**The Liberty Tree: Cornerstone of Social Justice**".

He will not be able to give his speech at the BOM as he will be on a family cruise and the Chapter President Paul Tucker will accept the \$1000 check on Xander's behalf. There are typically only about 20 states that submit an Oration to National and 6 finalists are chosen based on their videos by the National Committee. We feel that Xander has an excellent chance of being one of the National finalists based on his confident and smooth delivery of his speech to our state committee.

ROTC / JROTC Committee

Dale Bottom - Chairman

At the behest of President Gaskins, the ROTC Committee established its 2024/2025 goals. They are as follows:
Identify any chapters that have a school offering JROTC and ROTC in their area that are supporting them with medals or other activities. Encourage chapter leadership to consider including ROTC support for any Senior ROTC programs in their area.

1. Encourage chapter JROTC leadership to contact the Primary Military Officer in each high school, offering their support.
2. Encourage every chapter to support every JROTC program in their designated chapter area. If it is not possible to have a presenter available for a JROTC Awards Program, at a minimum, provide a Bronze Medal and Certificate to be presented by the school.
3. Create a database, as it were, of Florida JROTC high schools and ROTC colleges and universities by Chapter location.
4. Emphasize the Senior ROTC program in colleges and universities. The various services rely on these programs for officers.
5. Encourage chapters to promote the Enhanced JROTC program. Participation dropped off during COVID and is slow to come back. The goal was to have a minimum of 10 entries in the Enhanced program.

The Committee identified 343 Florida high schools offering JROTC programs of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Space Force and Coast Guard. There is at least one JROTC unit in each of the 32 Florida SAR Chapter service areas. The number ranges from 1 in the Okeechobee Chapter to 38 in the Central Florida Chapter. Chapters were encouraged to award each program with a Bronze JROTC Medal and Certificate and ideally have it presented to a cadet by a Chapter Representative at the School's award ceremony.

Thirteen Chapters support one or more Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force ROTC programs at colleges and universities in their Chapter Area. It is difficult to determine the total number of colleges or universities served by the Chapters as some programs include cadets from nearby schools that do not have a ROTC detachment.

A complete list of all the JROTC and ROTC schools, by Chapter Service Area, was created. We were unable to identify all the Sea Cadet, Civil Air Patrol or Young Marine programs by chapter as we found no public record of such programs. However, several chapters reported their support for these units, and they are included in the information base we now have.

The Committee communicated with Chapter Leadership and ROTC Points of Contact regularly throughout the year, encouraging them to support JROTC and ROTC. A special emphasis was placed on the Enhanced Program as our goal was to have a minimum of 10 Chapter nominations for the 2024/2025 year. We fell short of that goal as we received only 5 entries. While the Committee is disappointed with these results, a contact protocol has been established that could make future years for the Enhanced Program more productive.

Enhanced JROTC Contest Results.

First place: Caleb Walker, Ft Lauderdale Chapter

Second place: Landon Baird, Tampa Chapter

Third place: Madison Yates, Naples Chapter

The Following Chapters have reported their JROTC/ROTC and other Awards

Caloosa Chapter- 17 Bronze Medals and Certificates. A \$1500 Scholarship presented to a Cadet who exhibited Leadership and Scholarship.

Daytona-Ormond Chapter- 8 Bronze Medals and Certificates. 1 Silver Medal and Certificate.

Flagler Chapter – 2 Bronze Medals and Certificates.

Fort St Lucie Chapter - 10 Bronze Medals and Certificates.

Ft Lauderdale Chapter – 30 Bronze Medals and Certificates. Bronze Outstanding Cadet Medal and Certificate and cash prize.

Second and Third Place Enhanced contestants received Bronze Good Citizenship Medal and Certificates. 1 Bronze Good Citizenship Sea Cadet Medal.

Lake City Chapter- 4 Bronze Medals and Certificates.

Miami Chapter – 36 Bronze Medals and Certificates. 6 Silver Medals and Certificates. 3 Good Citizenship Awards to Sea Cadets. 5 Good Citizenship Awards to Civil Air Patrol. 1 Good Citizenship Award to Young Marines. Miami Chapter not only supports Miami-Dade County and Monroe County schools but Caribbean and Puerto Rican schools as well, providing a total of 51 Awards.

Naples Chapter- 8 Bronze Medals and Certificates, 1 Enhanced JROTC neck ribbon with device. 1 Bronze Good Citizenship Medal to an outstanding Sea Cadet.

Pensacola Chapter – 8 Bronze Medals and Certificates. 2 Silver Medals and Certificates.

St Augustine Chapter – 6 Bronze Medals and Certificates. 2 Bronze Good Citizenship Awards.

Tampa Chapter – 10 Bronze Medals and Certificates. 1 Silver Medal and Certificate. 1 Sea Cadet Good Citizenship Medal.

The Committee suggests the Florida Society should consider establishing a recognition program to honor chapters that demonstrate exceptional dedication and success in supporting JROTC and ROTC programs. This will not only motivate chapters to strive for

excellence but also highlight the best practices that can be emulated by others. The Committee is committed to fostering a supportive environment that encourages innovation for the JROTC/ROTC program.

The ROTC Committee expresses its appreciation for the commitment of all chapters and the chapter leadership to this exceptional youth service program. We are especially appreciative of Brevard, Ft Lauderdale, Miami, Naples and Tampa Chapters for their support of the Enhanced JROTC program.

Finally, the Chairman extends a personal thank you to Compatriots Rene Jewett, Doug Gibbens, Bob McQuire, Bill Hayes and Jon Hunt, for their dedication and contribution to the achievement of the Committee's 2024-2025 goals.

Youth Video Contest Committee

Steve Hohman, Chairman

The first Youth Video Contest was held this year. Two entries were received, with Dana Anduquia (sponsored by the Fort Lauderdale Chapter) winning the Florida competition. Dana competed nationally and did well, placing in the top 50%. Ten states were represented at the national level.

The Youth Video Contest allows students from 6th to 12th grade to submit a 3 to 5-minute-long video related to the American Revolution. Many school systems in Florida have either an in-house video production program or an Adobe Academy, which teaches how to use Adobe Premiere Pro, an industry-leading video production software package, with many having both programs. There is no reason why any chapter with a school that has this type of program should not receive multiple submissions each year. Please contact Committee Chair Steve Hohman (shohman@withsar.org) to see if your school system has either of these programs, and how we can connect with that school.

Community Outreach

Habitat for Humanity Committee

Ron Grove, Chairman

No report submitted.

Patriotic Activities Committee

Jonathan Hunt, Chairman

Since the committee is comprised of just the Chairman, I'd like to encourage any/all Compatriot to join. During the Summer break I've been reaching out to Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion Post across south Florida. When talking to the Commander it's been alarming of how many didn't realize the 250th is upon us. This is hopefully opening doors for some joint participation. It's my hopes that every Compatriot in FLSSAR will do something to promote the 250th.

Public Service and Heroism

Jerry Hanchett, Chairman

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 here. 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 and rename the file identifying your Chapter and name on your computer. Do not fill out the blank form on the above links. After saving the blank reporting form to your computer, open from your computer and fill out the form completely. Use the second button-bar at the top, right-side of the form labeled "Click to Save and Email," to save the completed form

to your computer and simultaneously send the completed form to the PS&H Committee. If you do not receive a receipt confirmation of the completed form in 3-4 days, contact the chairman of the PS&H Committee. 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. Department heads generally welcome the opportunity to recommend deserving individuals for recognition. The commendations may be presented at either chapter meetings, departmental meetings, or other suitable events. 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. The presentation of PS&H commendations at chapter and state meetings should be noted and reported by local media optimally; however, the recipient may elect not to have the commendation published for privacy concerns. 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.

Publicity Committee

Jeff Sizemore, Chairman

This year, we received five entries & the winner will be announced at this year's banquet.

The stated deadline each year for the Marlin Publicity Contest is March 1, 2026. 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 later this year. All submittals are to be sent to the email address above.

American History Teacher Award

(Tom & Betty Lawrence American History Teacher Award Committee)

Kevin Shurte, Chairman

The state committee is pleased to announce Hannah Levitt, sponsored by the Fort Lauderdale Chapter, as the 2025 recipient of this prestigious award. A graduate of the University of Florida with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology and a Master's in Secondary Social Studies Education, Ms. Levitt began her teaching career in 2006 at Lorenzo Walker Technical High School in Naples, Florida, where she taught AP/Honors Psychology. Since 2017, she has been teaching AP/Honors World History at McFatter Technical High School in Davie, Florida, where she also serves as the Social Studies Department Chair. Ms. Levitt is highly regarded for her professionalism and has received several accolades, including the Golden Apple Teacher of Distinction, the UChicago Outstanding Educator Award, and the 2024 Yale Educator Award. She is also a member of the Fontenada Chapter DAR.

Special second-place recognition in the High School competition is extended to Ms. Cyndal Houts of Crystal River, Florida. Ms. Houts, who is also a University of Florida alumna, teaches AP Social Studies courses and has been a dedicated educator at Crystal River High School in Citrus County since 2018. She serves as the Social Studies Department Chair and has earned the Crystal River High School Teacher-of-the-Year and Fort Cooper DAR American History awards.

Hannah Levitt, along with her guest, plans to attend the Youth Awards Luncheon on Saturday, May 17, 2025, where she will be formally presented the FLSSAR 2025 American History Teacher Award and the NSSAR 2025 Award for securing second place among the nation's high school teachers.

Hoping to increase contest participation in the coming year, the committee encourages chapter leaders to reach out to private and public schools to recognize their top American history teachers and to contact their local school districts to identify their districts' social studies teachers-of-the-year. The committee further hopes to stimulate contest interest by expanding next year's committee budget to afford first, second, and third place prizes for both the middle and high school level competitions.

Veterans Affairs Committee

Doug Gibbens, Chairman

1. 2024-2025 Committee members:

CSM W. Douglas Gibbens, Chairman
Donald K. Lanman, Member
COL Patrick J. Niemann, Member
Mark Snider, Member
Charles Hayes, Member
DeCody "Brad" Marble, Member
Philip Markoe, Member
Jonathan Hunt, Member

2. USS Stark Memorial Award

The USS Stark Memorial Award recognizes outstanding chapters and state societies for their support of veterans. This activity is taken from the proper submission of the USS Stark Scoring Sheet.

In 2024 the FLSSAR improved from 13 chapters (out of 32) reporting in 2023 to 20 chapters reporting in 2024. This represents 18% of all forms submitted to the National Veterans Committee. A few committee members did follow-up phone calls with chapter presidents and veterans chairmen in order to achieve this milestone.

Chapters that submitted a USS Stark Scoring Sheet were as follows:

Brevard, Caloosa, Central Florida, Charlotte, Daytona-Ormond, Flagler County, Fort Lauderdale, Jacksonville, Lake Sumter, Miami, Naples, Okeechobee, Palm Beach, Panama City, Pensacola, Saint Lucie River, Saramana, St. Augustine, Tampa, Withlacoochee.

A 2025 USS Stark Tracking and Scoring Sheet is available to download from the national website to enable chapters to track their Veterans activities throughout the year. Chapters are encouraged to use this form to the fullest. In 2025 the Tracking Sheet and Scoring Sheet have been combined so there is only one form to track and submit.

3. FLSSAR Veterans Battalion Membership has increased by 31 to 753. The breakdown by region is as follows:

Northeast Region – 114
Northwest Region – 60
North Central Region – 98
East Central Region – 97
West Central Region – 138
Southeast Region – 79
Southwest Region – 167
Florida Battalion – 753

Trust Funds

ETF Disbursements

(Endowment Trust Fund Disbursements Committee)

Matt Mathews, Chairman

The final closure for the year 2024:

Processed 45 ETF's totaling \$15,645.26, approved and distributed to the chapters.

Of the 45 processed, the requested amount was \$18,419.06

the difference of \$2773.80 was lost to the chapters.

Last year as a comparison, 58 requests received and \$18,901.70 was disbursed.

The interest appears to slowly decreasing.

The Endowment Trust Fund Disbursement Committee had several motions to present.

- 1. The committee moved to pay two (2) prior year ETF disbursements which were not paid although received prior to the cutoff date. The approximate amount is a total of \$500. Having come from a committee, no second was needed. Motion carried.**
- 2. The committee moved that C.A.R. reimbursements percentage be increased from 75% to 100%. Having come from a committee, no second was needed. The motion carried.**
- 3. The committee moved that scholarship money reimbursement limits for the Rumbaugh, Eagle Scout, JROTC, Knight Essay, Middle School Brochure Contest, the Americanism Poster Contest, and the Video Contest be increased to \$600 (1st), \$400 (2nd), \$200 (3rd). The American History Teacher contest be increased to \$700. Having come from a committee, no second was required. The motion carried.**
- 4. Wm. Lee Popham moved and Steve Hohman seconded a motion that chapter payments for historical sites & celebrations benefit be eligible for ETF reimbursement, not to exceed 100% or \$500 per chapter. The motion carried.**

Endowment Trust Fund

Operating Budget Trust Fund

(Florida SAR Endowment and Operating Budget Trust Funds)

Lee Popham (185977), 1/1/2022 – 12/31/2024

Jonathan Hunt, 1/1/2023 – 12/31/2025

Jim Stone (187805), 1/1/2024 – 12/31/2026

Jeff Brunelle (211174), 1/1/2025 - 12/31/2027

AGENDA:

Account Balances,		01 January 2024	31 December 2024	PERFORMANCE
3456	Florida SAR Endowment Trust Fund	\$584,761.60	\$620,282.33	8.71%
3341	Florida SAR Operating Budget Fund	\$106,959.53	\$111,429.84	9.66%

Actions for 2025:

- OBT: Transferred 5% = \$5,348.00 Budgeted 2024 Distributions from the Florida SAR OBT Fund account to the FLSSAR Operating Account during calendar 2024. Fully paid.
- OBT: 5% distribution rate for 2025 = \$111,429.84 x 5% = \$5,571.49.**
 - Full distribution by 28 February 2025.
 - Proceeds offset 2025 funding for Club Express Maintenance & Consulting Fees.
 - From this amount, OBT committed to purchase Florida Society Medals upon their approval by NSSAR. Approved by FLSSAR at Spring 2020 BOM.
- ETF: Regions Bank mails all 2025 Disbursements from the Florida SAR ETF Fund account upon approval by Distribution Committee.
 - Disbursements during the 2024 calendar year-to-date total = \$14,166.26.

- b. Recommend: 100% reimbursements (max \$500) for C.A.R., SAR Education Center and Museum (ECM), and/or 1st Amphibius Memorial – (\$2,500 Chapter max).
- 4. ETF: The 2025 Trustee Designations were set at an amount equal to 5% of the 01 January 2025 balance in the Florida SAR Endowment Trust Fund.
 - a. $5\% \times \$620,282.33 = \$31,014.12$, to be available from the #3456 Florida SAR Endowment Trust Fund for appropriate 2025 reimbursements and distributions.
- 5. ETF & OTB: Portfolio Investment Allocation Guidelines target = 60%-Equity and 40%-Fixed.
 - a. Investment Policy Statements were last updated during 2021.
- 6. Trustee Popham rolls off (term limit = 6 years max). Jeff Brunelle elected 2025-2027.

See Appendix B for Trust Fund summary results.

New Business

Christopher Washler moved that the Habitat for Humanity Committee be dissolved. Steve Hohman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Christopher Washler moved that a FLSSAR Americanism and Chapter Challenge Committee be formed. Doug Gibbens seconded. Motion Carried.

Scott Breckenridge moved the History Fair Committee be dissolved. Steve Hohman seconded. Scott Breckenridge moved to refer the motion to the Educational Outreach committee for further consideration. Steve Hohman seconded. The motion carried and the original motion was referred to the educational Outreach Committee.

Annual Meeting

The By-Laws Committee presents the proposed changes to the By-Laws as published in the Fall/Winter 2024 Patriot magazine and in Appendix A in these Proceedings.

The By-Laws Committee recommended the following By-Laws amendments which were published in the Proceedings book and also in the 2024-2025 Patriot Magazine.

Article VIII, Section 3, A (2) presently reads as follows:

(2) The text of any proposed amendment(s) must be provided to the members of the Board of Management (BOM) at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual or Special Meeting. The proposed amendment(s) will then be voted on by ballot at the Annual Meeting.

Proposed Amended Article VIII, Section 3, A (2), revised as follows:

(2) The text of any proposed amendment(s) must be provided to the members of the Board of Management (BOM) at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual or Special Meeting. The proposed amendment(s) will then be voted on at the Annual Meeting.

Justification: There is no need for a secret ballot for by-laws amendments. A voice vote is usually sufficient. If the vote is close, a hand count should suffice.

PASSED

The By-Laws committee moved to adopt all remaining by-laws amendments, as published in the Patriot Magazine and in the Proceedings Book, by a single vote for all amendments. Coming from a committee, the motion did not need a second. The proposed change to Article III, Section 1 had no actual proposed change, so it was excluded.

PASSED

By-Law changes included:

Article I, Section 3 First paragraph

Article I, Section 3.c

Article II, Section 2f,

Article I, Section 4

Article III, Section 2.A (1)(a)

Article III, Section 4

Article III, Section 5

Article V, Section 5

Election of Officers

The following slate of officers was presented by the Nominating Committee: Being from the Nominating Committee, no second was required.

President	Christopher Edwin Washler
-Senior Vice President:	COL Garald Robinson
-Treasurer:	Walter Boyer Arnold
-Secretary:	M. Scott Breckenridge
-Recording Secretary:	W. Douglas Gibbens
-Registrar:	Raymond Clyde Lantz

-Sergeant at Arms:	Phil Markoe
-Chaplain:	Hon. J. D. Peacock
-Chancellor:	Charles Klug, Jr.
-Genealogist:	Mark Barrie
-Historian:	Joel Etherton - declined
-Web Master:	COL Garald Robinson
-Member at Large:	Hamp Allen
-Editor FL Patriot:	Jeff Sizemore
FLSSAR Regional Officer Nominees:	
-NE RVP:	Charles Robert Hayes
-NW RVP:	Don Wilham
-NC RVP:	Stephen Hohman
-EC RVP:	Robin Preston
-WC RVP:	Dick Young
-SW RVP:	W. Douglas Gibbens
-SE RVP:	Charles Austin Adams, II

Stephen Hohman was nominated to fill the declined office of Historian.

Jonathan Hunt was nominated for the office of Senior Vice President.

There were no other nominations from the floor.

The nominations were closed. President Gaskins called for election of all unopposed offices. Carried unanimously.

A secret written ballot was distributed for the election of Senior Vice President. Jonathan Hunt was elected to the office of Senior Vice President by a vote of 45 votes to 28 votes for COL Garald Robinson.

Nomination of Trustee/Alt for 2025-2026.

The Nominating Committee presented its nominees for Trustee/Alternate to the membership for selection to be the Florida Society's nominees to the 2025 Congress.

National Trustee	James Gaskins
Alternate National Trustee	Christopher Washler
Carried unanimously.	

Election of Nominating Committee.

President-Elect Christopher Washler presented his nominees for the Nominating Committee for 2025-2026

The following candidates were elected as the Nominating Committee for 2025-2026

David Thomas
Kevin Shurte
Robin Preston
Robert Amason
William Lies IV

Appendix A – Proposed By-Laws Changes

Article I (The Society), Section 3 (Members)

By-Laws Article I, Section 3, first paragraph, presently reads as follows:

The FLSSAR is made up of members in good standing of the NSSAR, each of whom shall have been admitted to membership in the FLSSAR, and each of whom is a member in good standing of the FLSSAR. A Member in Good Standing is a person who has been admitted to membership in the NSSAR and the FLSSAR, who is not now in arrears in payment of his dues, and whose membership is not now suspended or terminated under the provisions of Section 3 of Bylaw 17 of the NSSAR.

Proposed Amended Article I, Section 3, first paragraph, revised as follows:

The FLSSAR is made up of members in good standing of the NSSAR, each of whom shall have been admitted to membership in the FLSSAR, and each of whom is a member in good standing of the FLSSAR. A Member in Good Standing is a person who has been admitted to membership in the NSSAR and the FLSSAR, who is not now in arrears in payment of his dues, and whose membership is not now suspended or terminated under the provisions of **Section 3 of Bylaw 17 of the current NSSAR Bylaws.**

Justification:

The NSSAR Bylaw referenced (17) is now currently Bylaw 33. It is very difficult to keep our bylaws in synch with changes to the NSSAR Bylaws. A general reference should suffice.

Article I (The Society), Section 3 (Members)

By-Laws Article I, Section 3.c, presently reads 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.

Proposed Amended Article I, Section 3.c, revised as follows:

c. Members may request to transfer from one FLSSAR chapter to another by submitting a written request to the **FLSSAR Secretary, who will coordinate the transfer with the current and new chapters.**

Justification:

The intent of this by-law was to ensure that both the current and new chapters are aware of the transfer. Restricting coordination to the chapter secretaries can delay, or even prevent, a transfer from occurring. Allowing the FLSSAR Secretary to coordinate the transfer gives him the freedom to coordinate with the chapter President when the Secretary is unavailable or (in some cases) non-existent.

Article II (The Board of Management), Section 2 (Powers)

By-Laws Article II, Section 2f, presently reads as follows:

f. Fill vacancies which may occur in any office, to serve until the next Annual Meeting of the FLSSAR except as otherwise provided in ARTICLE IV, Section 2, of these bylaws;

Proposed Amended Article II, Section 2f, revised as follows:

f. Fill vacancies which may occur in any office, to serve until the next Annual Meeting of the FLSSAR except as otherwise provided in ARTICLE **III, Section 8**, of these bylaws;

Justification:

This is obviously pointing to the incorrect section.

Article III (Officers), Section 1 (Titles)

By-Laws Article III, Section 1, presently reads as follows:

The officers of the FLSSAR, who shall be members in good standing, who shall be elected at the Annual Meeting, and who shall serve upon their installation and until their successors assume office, shall be a President, Senior Vice-President, Regional Vice-President for each Region as from time to time may be established, Secretary, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Registrar, Chancellor, Chaplain, Genealogist, Editor, Webmaster, Historian, Member-at-Large of the Executive Committee, and Sergeant-at-Arms. **A Parliamentary shall be appointed by the incumbent president.**

Does this need to be mandatory? or just as needed?

Article I (The Society), Section 4 (Annual Meeting)

Article III (Officers), Section 2 (Nomination and Election of Officers)

By-Laws Article I, Section 4, presently reads as follows:

The FLSSAR shall hold an Annual Meeting each year on a date in the month of April or May to be designated by the President, and at a place to be selected by him. In no event shall the date of the Annual Meeting be later than fifteen days prior to the opening date of the Annual Congress of the NSSAR. A quorum of an Annual Meeting of the FLSSAR shall consist of twenty members in good standing. During the Annual Meeting, the President and/or the members of the BOM shall nominate, and the BOM shall elect, a Nominating Committee composed of five members who shall have not served on a prior Nominating Committee of the FLSSAR during the preceding two years and whose term of office shall continue until the adjournment of the next Annual Meeting of the FLSSAR. Electronic meetings according to requirements in the most recent edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* are permitted.

By-Laws Article III, Section 2.A(1)(a), presently reads as follows:

(a) Election of Members. During the Annual Meeting, the President and/or the members of the BOM shall nominate, and the BOM shall elect, a Nominating Committee composed of five members who shall have not served on a prior Nominating Committee of the FLSSAR during the preceding two years, and whose term of office shall continue until the adjournment of the next Annual Meeting of the FLSSAR. Prior to the call for nominations, the Secretary shall inform the BOM of the names of persons who served on a Nominating Committee during either of the prior two years. Each member of the BOM shall vote for five of the persons nominated, on ballot forms provided by the Secretary. In the case of a tie vote that would prevent the naming of five clear winners, a runoff election shall be held between those unsuccessful candidates who, had they received one more vote on the first ballot, would have been a clear winner. If the committee is elected by acclamation, voting will not be necessary. The members of the Nominating Committee shall elect their own chairman. The Senior Vice-President shall not serve as a member of the Nominating Committee.

Proposed Amended Article I, Section 4, revised as follows:

The FLSSAR shall hold an Annual Meeting each year on a date in the month of April or May to be designated by the President, and at a place to be selected by him. In no event shall the date of the Annual Meeting be later than fifteen days prior to the opening date of the Annual Congress of the NSSAR. A quorum of an Annual Meeting of the FLSSAR shall consist of twenty members in good standing.

During the Annual Meeting, the ~~President-membership present and/or the members of the BOM shall nominate, and the BOM shall elect a Nominating Committee in accordance with Article III, Section 2 (Nomination and Election of Officers) of these by-laws. composed of five members who shall have not served on a prior Nominating Committee of the FLSSAR during the preceding two years and whose term of office shall continue until the adjournment of the next Annual Meeting of the FLSSAR.~~ Electronic meetings according to requirements in the most recent edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* are permitted.

Proposed Amended Article III, Section 2.A(1)(a), revised as follows:

(a) Election of Members. During the Annual Meeting, ~~after the election of officers,~~ the President-~~Elect and/or the members of the BOM~~ shall nominate, and the ~~BOM membership present~~ shall elect, a Nominating Committee composed of five members who shall have not served on a prior Nominating Committee of the FLSSAR during the preceding two years, and whose term of office shall continue until the adjournment of the next Annual Meeting of the FLSSAR. Prior to the call for nominations, the Secretary shall inform the ~~BOM membership present~~ of the names of persons who served on a Nominating Committee during either of the prior two years. **If more than five persons are nominated,** each member ~~of the BOM~~ shall vote for five of the persons nominated, on ballot forms provided by the Secretary. In the case of a tie vote that would prevent the naming of five clear winners, a runoff election shall be held between those unsuccessful candidates who, had they received one more vote on the first ballot, would have been a clear winner. If the committee is elected by acclamation, voting will not be necessary. The members of the Nominating Committee shall elect their own chairman. The Senior Vice-President shall not serve as a member of the Nominating Committee.

Justification:

Since the general membership elects the FLSSAR officers, they should also select the Nominating Committee. This process should only be documented in one place, to avoid any possible contradiction.

Article III (Officers), Sections 4 (National Trustee) and 5 (VPG)

By-Laws Article III, Section 4, presently reads as follows:

The BOM shall annually select individuals for nomination for National Trustee and Alternate National Trustee in accordance with the requirements of the bylaws of the NSSAR, and ARTICLE III, Section 2, or these bylaws.

By-Laws Article III, Section 5, presently reads (in part) as follows:

... in accordance with the bylaws of the NSSAR and Article III, Section 2, of these bylaws.

Proposed Amended Article III, Section 4, revised as follows:

The BOM shall annually select individuals for nomination for National Trustee and Alternate National Trustee in accordance with the requirements of the bylaws of the NSSAR, ~~and ARTICLE III, Section 2, or these bylaws.~~

Proposed Amended Article III, Section 5, revised as follows:

... in accordance with the bylaws of the NSSAR ~~and Article III, Section 2, of these bylaws.~~

Justification:

The reference by-law refers to offices that are to be filled by election by the FLSSAR.
The positions referenced in Article III, Sections 4 and 5, are not elected by the FLSSAR.

Article V (Committees), Section 5 (Finance Committee)

By-Laws Article V, Section 5, presently reads as follows:

The Finance Committee shall consist of the Treasurer, who shall be the Chairman, and two other members who shall be appointed by the President, and whose term of office shall be coterminous with that of the President who appoints them. This standing committee shall exercise management supervision over all FLSSAR finances except those of the Endowment Trust Fund and the Operating Budget Trust Fund.

Proposed Amended Article V, Section 5, revised as follows:

The Finance Committee shall consist of the Treasurer, who shall be the Chairman, and two other members who shall be appointed by the President, and whose term of office shall be coterminous with that of the President who appoints them. This **standing statutory** committee shall exercise management supervision over all FLSSAR finances except those of the Endowment Trust Fund and the Operating Budget Trust Fund.

Justification:

By definition in Article V, Section 6, the Finance Committee is a Statutory committee, not a Standing committee.

Article VIII (Miscellaneous), Section 3 (Amendments)

By-Laws Article VIII, Section 3.A(2), presently reads as follows:

(2) The text of any proposed amendment(s) must be provided to the members of the Board of Management (BOM) at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual or Special Meeting. The proposed amendment(s) will then be voted on by ballot at the Annual Meeting.

Proposed Amended Article VIII, Section 3.A(2), revised as follows:

(2) The text of any proposed amendment(s) must be provided to the members of the Board of Management (BOM) at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual or Special Meeting. The proposed amendment(s) will then be voted on **by-ballot** at the Annual Meeting.

Justification:

There is no need for a secret ballot for by-laws amendments. A voice vote is usually sufficient. If the vote is close, a hand count should suffice.

Appendix B – OBT and EFT Trust Fund Summary Reports

FLORIDA SAR ENDOWMENT TRUST FUND Summary Statement of Results and Net Assets 2024

Income:	Beginning Balance	Cumulative March	Cumulative June	Cumulative September	October	November	December	Cumulative 2024	%
Net Asset Balance, Beginning of Period	\$ 584,761.60	\$ 584,761.60	\$ 584,761.60	\$ 584,761.60	\$ 642,331.11	\$ 627,202.34	\$ 637,731.72	\$ 584,761.60	
Income Receipts	\$ -	\$ 3,121.61	\$ 6,569.72	\$ 10,229.39	\$ 945.44	\$ 948.71	\$ 8,449.53	\$ 20,573.07	
Capital Gains Distributions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Realized Gains (Losses)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Donations	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 2,145.00	\$ 2,145.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,145.00	
Transfers - Savings and Investments, Comptrolor Loans	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Total Income:	\$ 3,141.61	\$ 3,141.61	\$ 8,714.72	\$ 12,374.39	\$ 945.44	\$ 948.71	\$ 8,449.53	\$ 22,718.07	3.98%
Disbursements:									
Asset Management Fees	\$ 1,983.43	\$ 1,983.43	\$ 4,015.30	\$ 6,117.99	\$ 722.63	\$ 705.61	\$ 717.50	\$ 8,363.73	-1.45%
Distributions	\$ 862.00	\$ 862.00	\$ 862.00	\$ 6,025.01	\$ 2,346.48	\$ 5,593.77	\$ -	\$ 14,166.26	
Total Disbursements	\$ 2,845.43	\$ 2,845.43	\$ 4,877.80	\$ 12,144.00	\$ 3,269.11	\$ 6,299.38	\$ 717.50	\$ 22,429.99	
Transactions Balance, End of Month	\$ 584,761.60	\$ 585,057.78	\$ 588,598.52	\$ 584,991.99	\$ 640,007.44	\$ 621,851.67	\$ 645,463.75	\$ 585,049.68	
Unrealized Gains (Losses)	\$ 21,865.93	\$ 21,865.93	\$ 24,723.07	\$ 57,339.12	\$ (12,805.10)	\$ 15,880.05	\$ (25,181.42)	\$ 35,232.65	6.17%
Net Assets, End of Period	\$ 606,923.71	\$ 606,923.71	\$ 613,321.59	\$ 642,331.11	\$ 627,202.34	\$ 637,731.72	\$ 620,282.33	\$ 620,282.33	8.71%

FLORIDA SAR OPERATING BUDGET TRUST FUND - OBT Summary Statement of Results and Net Assets 2024

Income:	Beginning Balance	Cumulative March	Cumulative June	Cumulative September	October	November	December	Cumulative 2024	%
Net Asset Balance, Beginning of Period	\$ 106,959.53	\$ 106,959.53	\$ 106,959.53	\$ 106,959.53	\$ 118,563.81	\$ 111,184.94	\$ 114,266.06	\$ 106,959.53	
Income Receipts	\$ 602.66	\$ 602.66	\$ 1,499.28	\$ 2,278.19	\$ 147.40	\$ 150.72	\$ 824.53	\$ 3,400.84	
Capital Gains Distributions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Realized Gains (Losses)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Donations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Transfers - Savings and Investments, Comptrolor Loans	\$ 602.66	\$ 602.66	\$ 1,499.28	\$ 2,278.19	\$ 147.40	\$ 150.72	\$ 824.53	\$ 3,400.84	3.35%
Total Income:									
Disbursements:									
Asset Management Fees	\$ 362.36	\$ 362.36	\$ 734.53	\$ 1,120.63	\$ 133.38	\$ 125.08	\$ 128.55	\$ 1,507.64	-1.48%
Distributions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,346.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,346.00	
Total Disbursements	\$ 362.36	\$ 362.36	\$ 734.53	\$ 1,120.63	\$ 5,481.38	\$ 125.08	\$ 128.55	\$ 6,855.64	
Transactions Balance, End of Month	\$ 106,959.53	\$ 107,199.83	\$ 107,724.28	\$ 108,117.09	\$ 113,229.83	\$ 111,210.58	\$ 114,962.04	\$ 103,504.73	
Unrealized Gains (Losses)	\$ 3,967.13	\$ 3,967.13	\$ 4,424.90	\$ 10,446.72	\$ (2,044.89)	\$ 3,055.48	\$ (3,532.20)	\$ 7,925.11	7.80%
Net Assets, End of Period	\$ 111,166.96	\$ 111,166.96	\$ 112,149.18	\$ 118,563.81	\$ 111,184.94	\$ 114,266.06	\$ 111,429.84	\$ 111,429.84	9.66%

Appendix C – Financial Reports

<u>Statement of Activities (aka P/L)</u>		<u>YTD</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>Budget vs</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
<u>Acct #</u>		<u>Members</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Comments/Notes</u>
1000	Current Members 2025 Dues		\$35,800.00	\$38,160.00	(\$2,360.00)	Dues Collected for 2025
1001	New Member, Apprv'd After 31 Aug 2024		\$3,400.00	\$0.00	\$3,400.00	New Member Dues in 2024 for 2025
	Paid Members as of 01 January 2025	1,960				
	<u>Registrar Receipts: (New Members)</u>					
	<u>Fees:</u>					
1005	New Member Fees, 18+	112	\$2,800.00			
1006	New Member Fees, 18-25; Est Line		\$0.00			
1007	Family Plan - First Member	17	\$425.00			
1008	Family Plan - Added Member	30	\$450.00			
1009	Junior (Under 18) New Lineage		\$425.00			
1010	Junior (Under 18) Est Lineage		\$25.00			
1011	Junior (Under 18) Part Family Plan	15	\$300.00			
1012	Supplemental Applications	21	\$330.00			
1013	Supplemental Apps + added F/M		\$7.50			
1014	Memorial Fees	4	\$160.00			
	Total Fees		\$4,922.50	\$12,800.00	(\$7,877.50)	
	<u>Dues:</u>					
1020	New Member Regular, Dues	200	\$3,600.00	\$3,000.00	\$600.00	
1021	At Large		\$0.00			
1022	Dual (Primary NOT FL)		\$0.00			
1023	Reinstatement Dues & Fees	29	\$1,316.28	\$1,500.00	(\$183.72)	
	Total Dues/Paid Members	229	\$4,916.28	\$4,500.00	\$416.28	
	Paid Members Year To Date	2,189	\$9,838.78	\$17,300.00	(\$7,461.22)	
	<u>BOM Receipts:</u>					
1030	Registration Receipts		\$0.00			
1031	Youth Lunch		\$0.00			
1032	Ladies Auxiliary Lunch		\$0.00			
1033	Evening Dinners		\$0.00			
1034	Hospitality Room		\$0.00			
1035	Room Adjustments		\$0.00			
	Total BOM Receipts		\$0.00	\$20,000.00	(\$20,000.00)	
	<u>Donations:</u>					
1040	ETF		\$0.00			
1041	Meek Fund		\$0.00			
1042	Color Guard		\$0.00			
1043	Other		\$0.00			
	Total Donations Receipts		\$0.00	\$0.00		
	<u>Other Receipts:</u>					
1050	Discontinued Chapter Cash		\$0.00			
1051	First Amphibious Landing		\$0.00			
1052	Interest Income		\$2,357.56	\$0.00	\$2,357.56	
1053	National Awards		\$0.00			
1054	Operating Budget Trust Fund		\$0.00	\$5,000.00	(\$5,000.00)	
1055	Other Receipts		\$0.00			
1056	Patriot Mag Subscription		\$1,440.00	\$1,500.00	(\$60.00)	Total paid subscription paid for 4 editions of FI Patriot
1057	Patriot Mag Ad Income		\$0.00			
1058	Shirt, Ties & Medal Sales		\$0.00			
	Total Other Receipts		\$3,797.56	\$6,500.00		
	Grand Total of Receipts		\$52,836.34	\$81,960.00	(\$29,123.66)	
	Grand Total of Disbursements		\$10,201.93	\$83,790.00	\$73,588.07	
	Surplus or Short Fall		\$42,634.41	(\$1,830.00)	(\$44,464.41)	

<u>Statement of Activities (aka P/L)</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>Budget vs</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
<u>Acct #</u>	<u>Members</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Comments/Notes</u>
<u>Cash Expenses for Admin, Programs & Events:</u>					
<u>Officer Cost:</u>					
<u>President:</u>					
2000	Travel (mileage, air, etc.)	\$0.00			
2001	Meals	\$0.00			
2002	Room Cost	\$0.00			
2003	Postage	\$0.00			
2004	Office Supplies	\$0.00			
	Total President Costs	\$0.00	\$6,000.00	(\$6,000.00)	
<u>Sr Vice President:</u>					
2010	Travel (mileage, air, etc.)	\$0.00			
2011	Meals	\$0.00			
2012	Room Cost	\$695.46			
2013	Postage	\$0.00			
2014	Office Supplies	\$0.00			
	Total Sr Vice President Costs	\$695.46	\$3,000.00	(\$2,304.54)	
<u>Secretary:</u>					
2020	Travel (mileage, air, etc.)	\$0.00			
2021	Meals	\$0.00			
2022	Room Cost	\$0.00			
2023	Postage	\$0.00	\$700.00	(\$700.00)	
2024	Office Supplies	\$0.00	\$100.00	(\$100.00)	
2025	Stipend	\$1,200.00	\$4,800.00	(\$3,600.00)	
	Total Secretary Costs	\$1,200.00	\$5,600.00	(\$4,400.00)	
<u>Ex Admin:</u>					
2030	Travel (mileage, air, etc.)	\$0.00			
2031	Meals	\$0.00			
2032	Room Cost	\$0.00			
2033	Postage	\$0.00	\$100.00	(\$100.00)	
2034	Office Supplies	\$0.00	\$100.00	(\$100.00)	
2035	Stipend	\$600.00	\$4,800.00	(\$4,200.00)	
	Total Ex Admin Costs	\$600.00	\$5,000.00	(\$4,400.00)	
<u>Treasurer:</u>					
2040	Postage	\$0.00	\$150.00	(\$150.00)	
2041	Office Supplies	\$62.46	\$50.00	\$12.46	
	Total Treasurer Costs	\$62.46	\$200.00	(\$137.54)	
<u>Registrar:</u>					
2050	Travel (mileage, air, etc.)	\$0.00			
2051	Meals	\$0.00			
2052	Room Cost	\$0.00			
2053	Postage	\$390.63	\$1,000.00	(\$609.37)	
2054	Office Supplies	\$98.38	\$300.00	(\$201.62)	
2055	Stipend	\$1,200.00	\$4,800.00	(\$3,600.00)	
	Total Registrar Costs	\$1,689.01	\$6,100.00	(\$4,410.99)	
<u>BOM Cost:</u>					
2060	Youth Lunch	\$0.00			
2061	Ladies Auxiliary Lunch	\$0.00			
2062	Special Lunch	\$0.00			
2063	Evening Dinners	\$0.00			
2064	Hospitality Room	\$0.00			
2065	PG Room Comp	\$0.00	\$500.00	(\$500.00)	
2066	Printing, A/V & Other	\$0.00	\$750.00	(\$750.00)	

<u>Statement of Activities (aka P/L)</u>		YTD	April	2025	Budget vs	Monthly
<u>Acct #</u>		<u>Members</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Comments/Notes</u>
2067	BOM Refunds		\$0.00	\$20,000.00	(\$20,000.00)	
	Total BOM Cost		\$0.00	\$21,250.00	(\$21,250.00)	
	<u>Committee Cost:</u>					
2070	Americanism/Chapter Challenge		\$0.00	\$0.00		
2071	CAR Committee		\$1,000.00	\$0.00		
2072	Educational Outreach Committee		\$1,023.14	\$3,000.00	(\$1,976.86)	
2073	Florida Veterans Committee		\$0.00	\$1,100.00	(\$1,100.00)	
2074	First Amphibious Landing		\$0.00	\$0.00		
2075	Good Citizenship Committee		\$0.00	\$0.00		
2076	Historical Sites & Anniversary Comm'tt		\$155.00	\$200.00	(\$45.00)	
2077	History Fair Committee		\$0.00	\$0.00		
2078	Medals & Awards Committee		\$110.00	\$1,500.00	(\$1,390.00)	
2079	Member Recruiting/Retention Committee		\$0.00	\$0.00		
2080	New Chapter Development Committee		\$0.00	\$750.00	(\$750.00)	
2081	Newsletter & Period Committee		\$0.00	\$600.00	(\$600.00)	
2082	Other Committee Cost		\$0.00	\$0.00		
2083	Patriot Medal Committee		\$0.00	\$400.00	(\$400.00)	
2084	Patriotic Education Committee		\$0.00	\$500.00	(\$500.00)	
2085	Publicity Committee		\$0.00	\$0.00		
2086	Technology Committee		\$0.00	\$0.00		
	Total Committee Cost		\$2,288.14	\$8,050.00	(\$5,761.86)	
	<u>Contest Cost:</u>					
2090	American History Teacher		\$0.00	\$1,500.00	(\$1,500.00)	
2091	Americanism Brochure		\$0.00	\$400.00	(\$400.00)	
2092	Americanism Poster		\$0.00	\$600.00	(\$600.00)	
2093	Eagle Scout		\$0.00	\$2,000.00	(\$2,000.00)	
2094	JROTC		\$0.00	\$2,000.00	(\$2,000.00)	
2095	Knight Essay		\$0.00	\$2,000.00	(\$2,000.00)	
2096	Rumbaugh Oration		\$0.00	\$2,000.00	(\$2,000.00)	
2097	Video, 5 Mim		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
	Total Contest Cost		\$0.00	\$10,500.00	(\$10,500.00)	
	<u>Events:</u>					
2100	FSCAR Donation		\$0.00	\$1,000.00	(\$1,000.00)	
2101	NSSAR Library		\$0.00	\$300.00	(\$300.00)	
2102	SAR Museum & Learning Center		\$0.00	\$1,000.00	(\$1,000.00)	
2103	Battle of Pensacola		\$0.00	\$650.00	(\$650.00)	
2104	Battle of Thomas Creek		\$685.76	\$650.00	\$35.76	
2105	Last Naval Battle		\$0.00	\$650.00	(\$650.00)	
	Total Events Cost		\$685.76	\$4,250.00	(\$3,564.24)	
	<u>General Administration:</u>					
2110	Bank Charges/Fees		\$161.13	\$100.00	\$61.13	
2111	Bank Checks & Deposit Tickets		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
2112	D&O Liability Insurance		\$0.00	\$3,500.00	(\$3,500.00)	
2113	General Merchandise for Resale		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
2114	Other Cost		\$81.50	\$300.00	(\$218.50)	
2115	Patriot Magazine		\$1,550.47	\$5,500.00	(\$3,949.53)	Cost of 1st edition for FI Patriot Mag, still have 3 more editions this year at ~\$1,550 each.
2116	Quick Books License		\$0.00	\$440.00	(\$440.00)	
2117	Storage Fees		\$1,188.00	\$3,500.00	(\$2,312.00)	
2118	Website Hosting & Licenses		\$0.00	\$500.00	(\$500.00)	
	Total General Administration Cost ...		\$2,981.10	\$13,840.00	(\$10,858.90)	
	Grand Total of Disbursements		\$10,201.93	\$83,790.00	(\$73,588.07)	

Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution

Statement of Financial Position:

Current Assets:

<u>Acct #</u>		<u>30-Apr-2025</u>	<u>Comments</u>
3000	Operating Acct.	\$109,795	
3001	Congress Surplus :		
3001-1	National Ed & Museum	\$10,000	
3001-2	First Amphibious Assault	\$5,000	
3001-3	FLSSAR Ed Outreach	\$133	
3001-4	Operational Budget Trust Fund	\$0	
	Total Congress Surplus	\$15,133	
3002	Cash, Restricted:		
3002-1	Color Guard	\$760	
3002-2	First Amphibious Assault	\$23,225	YTD Total \$28,225 (\$23,225+\$5,000)
	Net Cash in Operating Acct	<u>\$70,677</u>	
3005	Club Express Dues Collected ¹	\$18,696	Still need detail to support new activity.
3010	Savings Account	\$2,002	
3020	CD One:	\$53,003	May take "Interest" Income in Sept if needed
	4.00%, Mature Date 28 Sept 2025		
3021	CD Two:	\$50,000	
	3.75%, Mature Date 28 Jan 2026		
3030	Miscellaneous Equipment	\$1,500	Estimate
	In storage, Flags, A/V Eq'mt		
3035	Medals & Certificates	\$2,568	Estimate
3040	Deposit Embassy Spring BOM	\$1,500	(May 2025, Oct 2025 & May 2026)
	Total Assets	<u>\$239,064</u>	

Liabilities:

Current Liabilities:

Members

Regular ¹

3200	National 2025 Dues	\$0	0
3201	FLSSAR 2025 Dues	\$0	0
3202	Chapter Dues	\$20	1
3204	Patriot Magazine 2025	\$0	0

Long Term Liabilities:

3300	None	\$0	
	Total Liabilities	<u>\$20</u>	

Stakeholder Equity

4000		<u>\$239,044</u>	
	Total Liabilities & Equity	<u>\$239,064</u>	

¹ Club Express account opening balance was \$10,000.00; any amount over that is new activity.

Schedule

Friday, 5/16/2025	Saturday, 5/17/2025
9:00-10:00 - Membership, Promotion, & Retention (Matt Mathews) 9:30-10:00 - Endowment Trust Fund (Matt Mathews) 10:00-11:00 - Genealogy Committee (Gray Chandler) 11:00-12:00 - Education Outreach Committee (Kevin Shurte) 12:00-2:00 - Ladies Auxiliary Lunch & Meeting (The Cove) 2:00-3:00 - First Amphibious Assault Memorial (Steve DePaul) 3:00-3:30 - America 250 Program (Robin Preston) 3:30-4:30 - Color Guard Roundtable (Scott Breckenridge) 5:00-6:00 - Reception 6:00-8:00 - Awards Banquet (Cypress 1,2,3)	9:00-10:30 - Chapter Toolkit (Chris Washler) 10:30-11:30 - Americanism / USS Stark Reporting (Doug Gibbens) 11:00-1:00 - Youth Awards Luncheon 1:00-4:30 - BOM/Annual Meeting (Jim Gaskins) 5:00-6:00 - Reception 6:00-8:00 - Installation Banquet (Cypress 1,2,3)
All meetings are in Cypress 1	
Registration - Friday, 9:00-4:00 - Saturday, 9:00-1:00	
Hospitality Room - 9:30am-11:00am and after Banquet	

	May 16-17, 2025											
	FRIDAY			SATURDAY								
	Mtg Room	Banquet Room	Center Hallway	Mtg Room	Banquet Room							
8:00-8:30			REGISTRATION									
8:30-9:00												
9:00-9:30	Membership			Chapter Toolkit								
9:30-10:00	ETF											
10:00-10:30	Genealogy Committee			Americanism / Stark reporting	Youth Luncheon							
10:30-11:00												
11:00-11:30	Education Outreach Committee			Lunch on your own								
11:30-Noon												
Noon-1:00	Lunch on your own	Ladies Auxilary Lunch and Meeting		BOM Annual Meeting								
1:00-1:30												
1:30-2:00												
2:00-2:30	First Amphib Mem											
2:30-3:00												
3:00-3:30	America 250											
3:30-4:00	Color Guard											
4:00-4:30	Roundtable											
4:30-5:00												
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										