



*St. Augustine Chapter
Sons of the American Revolution
News Letter for March 2012*

Most Americans are aware of the support provided by the French during the American Revolution and some even know of the support provided by the Spanish. But what was happening in the home country-- England? Though usually addressed only as a footnote in American history texts, there was support for the cause in London and other cities. That support came from some of the most notable and politically astute people of the day—and not all were men.

LONDON—Lady Georgiana Spencer was the great-great-great-great aunt of Diana, Princess of Wales (who died tragically in 1997) and was nearly as famous in her day. In 1774, the then 17-year-old Georgiana achieved immediate celebrity status by marrying one of England's richest and most influential aristocrats, the Duke of Devonshire.

This marriage immediately launched Georgiana into a world of wealth and power where she quickly became the queen of fashion; was adored by the Prince of Wales; established a close friendship with Marie-Antoinette; and became the leader of one of the most important and powerful salons of her time.

Not content with her role as a society hostess, the Duchess used her connections to become involved in politics, eventually becoming more influential than most of the men who held office in the British government.

Georgina was a *de facto* leader of the radical Whig faction in English politics and openly supported the cause of American independence. Georgina and her friends wore blue and buff clothing, similar in color and design to that worn by the Continental Army, especially George Washington. They held parties to celebrate American victories and, with the Prince of Wales as one of their strongest supporters, openly accused King George III of causing the war and of being a tyrant.

The Whig party's female faction, led by Georgina, made shows of the latest military campaigns, marched in parades dressed in their blue and buff military uniforms cut to resemble the uniforms worn by men in the "colonies" and actively supported of the causes espoused by their male counterparts. Georgina even made political speeches and openly campaigned for leaders of the Whig party. This was very different from what was an expected, even demanded, of a society and/or political wife in the 18th century.

The Whig Party of the period openly opposed the crown and wanted more power vested in parliament and the people, often characterizing George III as "mad," a characterization that had a solid basis in reality, as later events would prove.

Yet, in supporting the cause of American independence, Georgina (commonly known as "G") and her supporters were characterized in the opposition press as traitors.

Their views were, however, generally mirrored among the common people of England and there is some suggestion that the male leaders of the Whig party—Charles Fox and Charles Grey (Georgina's paramour)—communicated directly with Thomas Jefferson and

Benjamin Franklin during the war, possibly passing military information to the American side. After the American victory, the Whigs hoped that the Revolution would spread to England. Charles Fox's election as Prime Minister appears to have prevented this, however.

Charles Fox was a staunch opponent of George III; supported various anti-monarchy causes; was a noted anti-slavery campaigner; and a leading advocate of religious tolerance and individual liberty. Though he served a relatively short term as Prime Minister, his impact on English politics was, as was Georgina's, invaluable in establishing more freedom and liberty in that nation and in what became the United States.

FLAG CERTIFICATE TO CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE



The St. Augustine Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution presented the City of St. Augustine with a Flag Certificate recognizing its proper and patriotic display of the U.S. flag in front of City Hall/Lightner Museum. The presentation was made during the regular City Commission meeting on March 12, 2012.

L to R: Oscar Patterson III, Mayor Boles

Accepting the certificate on behalf of the City of St. Augustine was the city's mayor, Joseph L. Boles. The certificate was presented by Dr. Oscar Patterson III, president of the St. Augustine Chapter. Also attending the presentation on behalf of the chapter was Mr. William Roberts, past president.

The Flag Certificate is presented to government agencies, businesses and private citizens who display the U.S. flag in the proper manner and for patriotic purposes. The certificate may be presented by the national society, the state society or the local chapter.

Nominations of agencies, businesses and private citizens to receive the Flag Certificate may be made to any member of the St. Augustine Chapter or by sending the nomination in an email message to opatters@comcast.net.

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

The St. Augustine Chapter recently presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Mr. David W. Humphrey and Atlantic Engraving and Graphics for their support of our chapter's Eagle Scout program. Mr. Humphrey has prepared a number of items for that Committee thus making the presentations to the scouts so honored even more impressive.



L to R: David Humphrey, George McCabe Jr.

Mr. Humphrey has done this work at no charge to the chapter. The presentation was made to Mr. Humphrey by past Chapter presidents, George E. McCabe Jr. and John D. Tinny at the Atlantic Engraving and Graphics office in Jacksonville Beach, FL.

MEMORIAL FUND FOR FORMER MEMBER: A Memorial Fund has been established for the family of former Compatriot George E. McCabe III, who was killed in a tragic highway accident in October 2011 in Costa Rica. George E. McCabe III lived in that country with his wife and five children. He was the son of Compatriot George E. McCabe Jr., past Chapter president, and his wife Connie.

Compatriots wishing to show their support and sympathy for George, Connie, the widow of George III and the five children may make a

contribution to the “G. E. McCabe III Memorial Fund” at the Wells Fargo Bank in Ponte Vedra Beach or any Wells Fargo branch. The last four digits of the account number are 0267.

BOM MEETING MAY 2012: The Spring BOM meeting will be held on May 4, 5 & 6. The five chapters in the Northeast Region are responsible for providing manpower for the registration desk and hospitality room. Our chapter is one of the five in the region. Please let the Chapter president know if you will attend the May BOM and if you are willing assist with registration. The Ladies Auxiliary has graciously offered to take care of the hospitality part of the mission, but we should be prepared to offer them our assistance as needed.

SAR VETERANS’ CORPS: The Chapter has now recognized all World War II veterans who are current chapter members.

We will continue collecting information from Chapter members who are veterans of other wars: Korea, Vietnam, Lebanon/Grenada, Panama and Gulf War/War on Terrorism. **If you served in the U.S. military during any of those conflicts, please complete the form included in this newsletter. If you served in World War II and have been recognized, but also served in Korea or Vietnam, for example, please submit one form for each war.**

VETEREANS OF ALL WARS: If you are a veteran and served in any war, you may submit a copy of your DD 214 or other discharge papers for authorization to wear the NSAAR War Service Medal. Send this information to the Chapter secretary or president.

WHO’S WHO IN THE ST. AUGUSTINE CHAPTER: Over the summer the Chapter will develop and distribute a directory of Chapter members. At the end of this newsletter you will find a form to complete and return to the Chapter president to have your information included in the directory. All members are encouraged to submit a photograph to appear with their entry.

ENDOWMENT TRUST FUND COORDINATOR: The Chapter president, Dr. Oscar Patterson III, is the Endowment Trust Fund Coordinator. He will collect records of all reimbursable expenditures and, on a regular basis, submit the proper ETF request to our state office. A copy of the ETF request will also be sent to Chapter Treasurer Bob Tarrant.

APPRECIATION FROM DAR: The Maria Jefferson Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution expressed their sincere appreciation for the contribution the St. Augustine Chapter made to the John “Don Juan” McQueen commemorative marker. A ceremony will be held on Saturday, April 28, 2012, at 4:00 p.m. at the Tolomato Cemetery to dedicate the marker. A reception will follow at Grace United Methodist Church. All St. Augustine Chapter members are invited to attend both the dedication and the reception.

MARCH 2012 CHAPTER MEETING

The Chapter’s regular meeting was held on Saturday, March 17, 2012 (St. Patrick’s Day), at the Le Pavillon Restaurant in St. Augustine. The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. The invocation was given by Chapter Chaplain David Hoffman followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The SAR Pledge was led by Chapter Historian John Tinny.

Members present: George Brenick, Arthur Herrington, David Hoffman, George McCabe Jr., Bill McPherson, Edward Neely Sr., Oscar Patterson, William Roberts, Dean Smith, James Smith, Sydney Spink, Bob Tarrant and John Tinny.

Guests: Lorie Brenick, Nancy McPherson and Julie Patterson

Prospective member: Rev. David Baker

Speaker: COL Ron R. Radford (USAF, Ret.)

Total: 18

Featured Speaker: The featured speaker at the March Chapter meeting was COL Ron R. Radford (USAF, Ret.). COL Radford is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy with a B.S. in engineering. He earned the M.S. in aeronautical and astronautical engineering at Stanford University. He is also a graduate of the Air War College, the Defense Management College and the Air Command and Staff College.

During his military career, COL Radford served in various assignments including over 10 years in management positions involving F-16 avionics, space systems and test ranges.

COL Radford is currently on the board of the local chapter of the Military Officers Association of American where he proposed and now chairs The St. Augustine 450th Military Commemoration Committee of the Veterans Council of St. Johns County.

That committee's first event was "To Arms, 450 Years of Military History of St. Augustine" presented on February 16, 2012, at the Flagler College Auditorium.

The Committee's vision is to establish St. Augustine as a premier destination for learning about the vital role of the military as demonstrated by 450 years of continuous protection of our city, our state and our nation. To achieve this vision, the Committee will engage our citizens and visitors in a series of quality educational and entertaining heritage and cultural events, and by establishing, preserving and interpreting our legacy heritage sites.

The Committee's projects include the production of documentary films, staging historical symposiums combined with period re-enactments, and the establishment of permanent legacy sites with related interpretive media.

Organizations or individuals interested in assisting the Committee in its efforts and activities may contact COL Radford at ronrad267@aol.com



and/or LCDR John Montcastle at john_montcastle@yahoo.com.

At the conclusion of the presentation, COL Radford was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation as well as a pocket-sized copy of the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution and

L to R: Oscar Patterson, COL Ron Radford

several pamphlets describing the SAR and its activities.

BUSINESS MEETING

After the presentation, the Chapter recessed for lunch. When lunch was concluded, the Chapter proceeded to its regular business meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of the February 2012 meeting were presented. Compatriot Tinny moved that the minutes be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded and the minutes approved.

Treasurer's report: The current balance in the Chapter's account is \$1,948.87. The Treasurer's report was accepted for the record.

Vice President: VP Dean Smith would like to obtain copies of any and all articles about the SAR that appear in the **Palatka Daily News**. Any compatriot who subscribes to that paper is encouraged to send all items

published to VP Smith. Copies of these articles are required to document and show proof of publication when submitting state and national reports. VP Smith noted specifically a recent article sent to The Palatka Daily News about Palatka Mayor Vernon Myers becoming a member of our chapter. Please send the entire page to VP Smith. He is required to submit not only the article and/or photograph, but the header on the page showing location and date of publication.

The St. Augustine Chapter had a photo and article in the Winter 2012 edition of **The SAR Magazine**. The article, which appears on page 26, is about the presentation of a Hero Medal to Mrs. Minaxiben J. Patel for her part in saving the life of the driver during the BP station explosion and fire on Hwy. 16 last year.

Registrar/Genealogist: Dr. Stephen R. Luckau's membership application is at National HQ going through the approval process. Rev. David J. Baker's membership application has been forward to the National HQ by the State Registrar.

Historian: Chapter Historian John Tinny noted that an article appeared recently in The St. Augustine Record about "Women in War." The documentary "Women in War" will be broadcast by WJCT-TV at 10:30 a.m. on April 5 and at 9:30 p.n. on April 12. It will also be featured at the Southeastern Branch of the St. Johns County Library system this month.

The documentary, filmed by Flagler College Communications students, gives voice to women who served in wartime in different capacities. It begins in World War II, moves on to Vietnam and concludes with stories from a female tanker truck driver in Desert Storm and an Air Police who served two tours in Iraq.

Compatriot Tinny also noted that the Florida Society, Sons of the American Revolution, has had four National Presidents, most recently Compatriot Carl Hoffmann in 1997.

It was noted during the Historian's report that the resolution passed by the Chapter to add "foreign and domestic" to the SAR pledge was not forwarded from the FLSSAR to the NSSAR.

Boy Scouts: While no activity was reported for the month, Compatriots McCabe and Tinny were complimented on their activity during 2011 which enabled the Chapter to report exceptional activity on the Chapter Challenge Report.

Flag Certificates: The Chapter will present Flag Certificates to all branches of the St. Johns County Library System at the system's meeting on Thursday, March 22, 2012 at the Southeast Branch. The presentations will be made at 9:00 a.m.

Chaplain's Report: Compatriot Romine is recovering from surgery. When any Compatriot learns of another member's illness or adversity, or an illness or adversity in a member's family, please notify Chapter Chaplain Hoffman.

JROTC: The Chapter will begin presenting JROTC Awards on Friday, March 30, 2012, with presentations at Bartram Trail High School and Palatka High School. This year the Chapter will present Good Citizenship Medals to all JROTC instructors.

Old Business: None

New Business: Compatriot John Tinny brought to the attention of the Chapter that a memorial fund had been established for the family of George E. McCabe III, son of Compatriot George E. McCabe Jr. Information about this fund is located on page 4 above.

April Meeting: The Chapter will meet on Saturday, April 21, at 11:00 a.m. at the Le Pavillon in St. Augustine. The speaker will be Mr. Chris Brown a Boy Scout executive in northeast Florida.

The **Benediction** as given by Chaplain Hoffman and the **Recessional** was led by VP Smith. The meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

President:

Oscar Patterson III
904-825-1594
opatters@
comcast.net

Vice President:

Dean Smith
904-797-4459
deano54@
bellsouth.net

Secretary:

Syd Spink
904-940-1077
linsyd@
bellsouth.net

Treasurer:

Bob Tarrant
904-797-3865
kaynbobtar@
bellsouth.net

Genealogist/Registrar

William A. Roberts
904-825-1594
roberts237@
bellsouth.net

Chaplain:

David Hoffman
904-797-5673
rdavidhoffmann@
bellsouth.net

Parliamentarian/Sgt-at-Arms

Don Erdmann
904-829-6601
bronvedog@
bellsouth.net

Past Presidents

1981-82 Michael H. Charles
1983 John L. Mikel
1984-85 Alan R. Edwards
1986 Charles A. Tigley
1987 James A. Keamey

Past Presidents

1988 George L. Houghtalling
1989-90 Charles A. Tingley
1991 Harry A. Stowell III
1992-93 Donald R. Fisher*
1994-97 John D. Tinny

Past Presidents

1998 George I. Knowles
1999 John D. Tinny
2000 Richard E. Welty
2001-2003 George E. McCabe III
2004-05 Norman L. Antle

Past Presidents

2006-07 Syd Spink
2008-10 William A. Roberts

RECORD OF MILITARY SERVICE

If you served in any branch of the U.S. military during any of the following wars, please complete the form below and return it to:

Oscar Patterson III, Ph.D.
248 Patrick Mill Circle
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082-4013

Or email it to

opatters@comcast.net

Name: _____ State Society No. _____ Nat. No. _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Service Period: _____ (Example—Korea)

Dates of service: Beginning on _____ Ending on _____

Branch of service (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines): _____

Rank held at discharge: _____

If still Active, Reserve or National Guard Current Rank: _____

Overseas service: Unit(s) _____ Country _____

Last unit/ship to which assigned _____

Last duty location (base, unit and country) _____

Most significant or memorable event of your military service:

If you would like authorization to wear the SAR War Service Medal attach a copy of your DD214 or discharge papers to this form and authorization will be granted.

**ST. AUGUSTINE CHAPTER DIRECTORY
COMPATRIOT INFORMATION**

FULL NAME: _____

NATIONAL NUMBER: _____ **STATE NUMBER:** _____

CURRENT ADDRESS: _____

CONTACT INFORMATION: PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

SPOUSE'S NAME: _____

IS SPOUSE A MEMBER OF THE DAR: YES ____ **NO** ____

PATRIOT'S NAME: _____

PATRIOT'S SERVICE: _____

(PATRIOT'S NAME AND SERVICE MAY BE FOUND ON YOUR RECORD COPY OF YOUR APPLICATION.)

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT PATRIOT [use back of form is necessary]:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR DIRECTORY (i.e. YOUR MILITARY SERVICE, COMMUNITY SERVICE, ACTIVITIES, OFFICES IN SAR, MEMBERSHIP IN OTHER SOCIETIES, EMPLOYMENT PAST OR PRESENT [use back of form is necessary]:

**RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO DR. OSCAR PATTERSON III,
CHAPTER PRESIDENT**