

2026 Battle of Alligator Creek Bridge



SAR

The Sons of the American Revolution is a historical, educational, & patriotic non-profit, United States 501 (c) 3 corporation that seeks to maintain and extend (1) the institution of American freedom, (2) an appreciation for true patriotism, (3) a respect for our national symbols, (4) the value of American citizenship, and (5) the unifying force of *e pluribus unum* that has created, from the people of many nations, one nation, and one people.

We do this by perpetuating the stories of patriotism, courage, sacrifice, tragedy, and triumph of the men who achieved the independence of the American people in the belief that these stories are universal ones of man's eternal struggle against tyranny, relevant to all time, and will inspire and strengthen each succeeding generation as it too is called upon to defend our freedoms on the battlefield and in our public institutions.

The Florida Patriot

The *Florida Patriot* is the official magazine of the Florida Society, Sons of the American Revolution (FLSSAR). It is published quarterly. The digital subscription to this magazine is part of the Florida Society SAR dues. Products and services advertised do not carry the FLSSAR nor the NSSAR endorsement. The Florida Society reserves the right to reject content of any copy.



2026 Battle of Alligator Creek Bridge



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Submission Deadline Dates

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

Fall 2026 Issue 9/30/2026

Winter 2027 issue 1/15/2027

Spring 2027 Issue 3/15/2027

Summer 2027 Issue 6/15/2027

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Florida Ladies' Auxiliary Officers

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For more information, contact Kathy Markoe at daydreamr613@aol.com

Content Submission

The Editor of the Florida Patriot actively seeks manuscripts and articles for publication. Suitable topics are articles about the state and local SAR, their activities, and members. Articles should be approximately 100 to 500 words and photos should be included when possible. All submissions will be printed in a timely manner. Chapter News submissions should be 150 to 200 words; single photo size should be at least 600x600 pixels. Other article submission should be original material or submit other author's articles with publication releases accompanying the submission.

The Florida Society assumes no responsibility for statements made or opinions of contributors. All submissions are requested by email. The Society is not responsible for items sent through the mail. Please do not send original or irreplaceable materials or photographs.

The Editor reserves the right to make any editorial conformity of style. Authors grant the Florida Society print & electronic publication rights. To submit material to the Editor via email at swampfoxsar@gmail.com or via mail at 1535 Skyline Drive, Kissimmee, FL 34744-6687.

Society President's Message

Compatriots and Friends,

As the new President of the Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution, I would first like to congratulate our outgoing President, Chris Washler, for his dedicated service and outstanding leadership. Through Chris's guidance, the Florida Society demonstrated what it is truly capable of accomplishing. It was an honor to work with him, and I am grateful for the example he has set for all of us.



The Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution truly excels in fulfilling the mission of the SAR. Through the hard work of our committees, the dedication of our compatriots, and the continued support of the Ladies Auxiliary, our Society has shown that we can accomplish remarkable things when we work together.

As I write this message to the Society, I find myself reflecting on the Bicentennial celebration. During that time, I resided just outside Washington, D.C., and I remember the tremendous sense of patriotism, pride, and unity that surrounded the commemoration of our nation's 200th anniversary. It was a time when Americans paused to honor the courage, sacrifice, and vision of those who secured our independence.

Today, we have another extraordinary opportunity before us as we prepare to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the founding of our nation. The Semiquincentennial is not only a time to remember our history, but also a time to renew our commitment to preserving it. As members of the Sons of the American Revolution, we have a special responsibility to educate, inspire, and ensure that the legacy of our Patriot ancestors continues for future generations.

I look forward to working with each of you as we continue to strengthen our chapters, support our programs, honor our veterans, promote patriotism, and educate our communities, particularly our younger generation about the principles upon which this nation was founded. The Florida Society has a proud history, and together we will continue to build upon that foundation.

American Creed

by William Tyler Page

I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed, a democracy in a republic, a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it, to support its Constitution, to obey its laws, to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies.

—Written 1917, accepted by the United States House of Representatives on April 3, 1918.

Preamble of the U.S. Constitution

We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.



Thank you for the trust you have placed in me. I am honored to serve as your President, and I look forward to all that we will accomplish together.

In patriotism,

Jonathan Hunt

Florida Society President, 2026-2027

Event Calendar

August 15, 2026: 244th Anniversary of the Battle of Blue Licks

September 27, 2026: 248th Anniversary of the Battle of Baton Rouge, LA

October 2, 2026: Fall Leadership at the Galt Hotel in Louisville, KY

October 16-17, 2026: FLSSAR Fall BOM in Kissimmee, FL

March 4, 2027: Spring Leadership at the Galt Hotel in Louisville, KY

March 13, 2027: Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution at the Brevard Veterans Military Center Amphitheatre - Merritt Island, FL

July 9, 2027: 137th NSSAR Congress - New Orleans, LA

July 6, 2028: 138th NSSAR Congress - Columbus, OH

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New Members

The FLSSAR would like to welcome the following new members that has joined the Sons of the American Revolution since the last publication of the *FLSSAR Florida Patriot*. Please welcome them as they attend one of the local SAR chapter meetings.

Name	Chapter		
Taylor, Glenn Kevin	Panama City	Montie, William	Central Florida
Taylor, Nicholas J	Panama City	Devolve, Noah Leslie	Central Florida
Taylor, Lawrence E	Panama City	Devolve, Benjamin William	Central Florida
Taylor, Travis James	Panama City	Christman, James Eric	Lake-Sumter
Taylor, Raymond Leslie	Panama City	Menchhofer, Owen Ray	The Villages
Porter, Warren Derek	Jacksonville	Ames, Russell Thomas	Clearwater
Porter, Brent Warren	Jacksonville	Swartz, Donald Burton	South Shore
Porter, Mark Logan	Jacksonville	Swartz Jr, Donald Burton	South Shore
Swanson, Braxton Dennis	South Shore	Fatool, Samuel Michael	Jacksonville
Ickes, Samuel Border	South Shore	Webster, Christopher Matthew	Jacksonville
Ickes, Robert Scott	South Shore	Davis, George Dewey	Emerald Coast
Schofield II, Jack H	Ocala	Salestrom, James Kevin	Jacksonville
Schofield III, Jack H	Ocala	Adams, Connor Samuel	Jacksonville
Johnson, Robert Michael	Naples	Adams, Samuel Ellis	Jacksonville
Dupuis, Daniel William	Naples	Weeks, Jon Anthony	Emerald Coast
Dupuis, Coast Lee	Naples	Drescher, David Aaron	Ft Lauderdale
Luttman, Michael G	The Villages	Drescher, Ari Mayer	Ft Lauderdale
Petersen, Christopher Ray	The Villages	Pickering, Matthew Avery	Tampa
Dickinson, Michael Studstill	Tampa	Pickering, Matthew Peyton	Tampa
Buchanan, Bruce James	Naples	Pickering, Joe Avery	Tampa
Marshall, Oliver Robert	Naples	Lindgren, Lucas Neil	Jacksonville
Davids, Jeremy Robert	Tampa	Sapp Jr, Willard Judson	St Augustine
Cyphers, Brett Jason	Tallahassee	Sapp III, Willard Judson	St Augustine
Herbert Jesse Eli	Ft Lauderdale	Sapp IV, Willard Judson	St Augustine
Griffin, Ian Franklin	William Dunaway	Sapp, Ryder James	St Augustine
Ordner, Larry Wayne	Tallahassee	Hitt, Logan Alexander	St Augustine
Budge, Gregory W	Withlacoochee	Landis, Collin Dean Michael	Withlacoochee
Burback, Brian Wesley	Withlacoochee	Beltz, Larry Dale	St Petersburg
Greenleaf, James Robert	St Augustine	Walker III, Robert James	Clearwater
Greenleaf, Jacob Michael	St Augustine	McCarthy, David Lewis	Central Florida
Ferguson, Hal	Withlacoochee	Lewis, Tyson Christopher	Central Florida
Seymour, William David	Naples	Lewis, Reed Harrison	Central Florida
Peavy, Byron Lee	Daytona-Ormond	McCarthy, Henry Lewis	Central Florida
Andrews Jr, Charles Lee	Tampa	Lewis Jr, John F	Central Florida
Keck, Joshua Aaron	Tampa	Barnes, John Charles	Naples
Berry, Henry Lucas	Emerald Coast	Munjak, Alexander Keith	South Shore
Hines, Gary	Lake-Sumter	Downey, Bradford Cowing	Ft Lauderdale
Mitchell, Robert Bruce	Jacksonville	Hall, Richard Leon	The Villages
Dedecker, Jeffrey Ames	Caloosa	Skeim, Jeffrey Turner	Jacksonville
Enns, Joel Andrew	Tampa	Ireland, Sean Neale Alberto	Jacksonville
Shubrick, John Templer	Lake-Sumter	Wright, David Howell	Clearwater
		Mixon Jr, Paul Smith	Emerald Coast

Mixon, Matthew Taylor	Emerald Coast	Gordon, Samuel Elijah	Saramana
Mixon, Michael Paul	Emerald Coast	Brown, Christopher Erik	Tampa
Eberhart, Dan Kyle	Naples	Rashka, Kirk Michael	Tampa
Edgerton, Craig Eugene	William Dunaway	Bage, Robert Stanley	Emerald Coast
Collins Jr, Robert Earl	Tampa	Lampman, David Donald	Tampa
Wahl, Jarad Matthew	Naples	Lampman, Dale James	Tampa
Gordon, Thomas	Emerald Coast	Lampman, David William	Tampa
Reeves, Randy Clay	Clearwater	Brooks, Scott David	Saramana
Matthews, Richard David	Tampa	Brooks, Jackson Wolf	Saramana
Brostrom, Arthur Stuart	Caloosa	Richardson, William Webb	Caloosa
Aden, Timothy Clinton	Emerald Coast	Fleming, Tyler James	Jacksonville
Aden, Eric Scott	Emerald Coast	Fleming, Shane Ryan	Jacksonville
Maloney Jr, Robert Peter	Emerald Coast	Gray, Cordell Thurston	The Villages
Dahlke, Tod Allen	Naples	Porter, Robert Burns	Jacksonville
Barton, William Massey	The Villages	Fulwood, David Lee	St Augustine
Crosbie III, Clifton Francis	Central Florida	Dawson, Christopher Ira	Lake-Sumter
Crosbie, Morgan Clifton	Central Florida	Weidensaul, Todd K	Withlacoochee
Crosbie, Ian Patrick	Central Florida	Farlin III, Dan Cobaugh	Saramana
Hall, Steven Allen	Charlotte	Mill III, Albert John	St Lucie River
Sparks, Samuel Nathan	Emerald Coast	Mill, Steven Douglas	St Lucie River
Davis, Jaimie Allan	Daytona-Ormond	Mill, Alexander John	Central Florida
Hidy, David Dale	Naples	Mill, Harrison Grant	Central Florida
Aldred, Josh Ryan	Panama City	Mountcastle, Trevor James	St Augustine
Gordon, Charles Samuel Squire	Saramana		

The Last Roll

It is with deep sympathy that the FLSSAR announce the passing of the following members since the last publication of the *FLS-SAR Florida Patriot*. Please remember & let the families know that we are thinking of them at this time.

Death Date	National#	Name	Chapter
3/15/2026	163706	Pardee, John Austin	Lake-Sumter
3/9/2026	151036	Cahill, Donald Barton	Naples
3/25/2026	147067	Godby, Steven Wayne	St Augustine
4/10/2026	226111	Branham, Richard Austin	Central Florida
4/11/2026	125427	Cardell, Richard Bruce	Jacksonville
1/2/2026	164058	Griswold Jr, Arthur Gorman	Palm Beach
3/22/2026	79311	Tucker, Irving Harris	Naples
4/16/2026	233997	Roese, Ronald Roy	Charlotte
4/7/2026	235805	Roberts, Matthew Todd	The Villages
5/23/2026	233524	Hilton, Harvey Conklin	Naples
5/22/2026	73197	Myers, Albert Edwin	Caloosa
5/20/2026	202089	Shannon, Howard William	Ft Lauderdale



SKELTONS IN THE CLOSET - No 3

Ramblings of a SAR Registrar/ Genealogist



The SAR chapter registrar/genealogist performs three critical roles - first contact, cheerleader/salesman, and application wizard. The chapter registrar/genealogist is the primary contact for the applicant during the application process, which can be completed in a matter of days or take several months or even years. Since today's application process is demanding in terms of meeting a high level of professional genealogical standards, the chapter registrar/genealogists must maintain a high level of enthusiasm and responsiveness in terms of documentation acquisition during the application process. He also serves as a cheerleader in terms of touting the values of SAR membership and the benefits of becoming an active chapter member as well as a seller of the Family membership program. Finally, the chapter registrar/genealogist must prepare a "complete," meaning almost every data line filled, application that will be approved and become a legacy application that can be used by future applications wishing to apply through it.

A chapter registrar/genealogist's job is done once an application is approved. Mentoring a new member and retaining members is the responsibility of the chapter president, members of the Executive Committee, and membership secretary.

The chapter registrar/genealogist needs to be free to focus his attention on new regular, junior, memorial, and supplemental applications. New regular and junior member applications are his primary focus. Although the chapter registrar/genealogist oversees the preparation of supplemental and memorial applications they must not be completed at the expense of delaying new member applications.

A chapter registrar should contact a prospective new member with 24 to 48 hours of receiving a membership referral from a chapter member, recruitment activity, state, national or other source. The most effective approach is an informative, friendly, and enthusiastic email. In an age when most individuals do not answer their phone, phone calls can be used to follow up, but not as an initial contact. Texting as a first contact method is not recommended but can work as a follow-up.

The chapter registrar/genealogist has four contact goals: (1) obtain detailed contact information and explore what the applicant knows about his potential Revolutionary War ancestry, (2) develop a personal relationship with the applicant by learning about his interest and his family, (3) help him understand the value of joining and participating in the SAR, and (4) explain the documents needed to complete an application.

Most applicants, even those submitting a DAR or SAR application, useable or not useable, in support of an application have little understanding of modern documentation requirements or the research skill necessary to prove a lineage, especially in the upper generations beyond the death certificate and census era. As a result, the chapter registrar/genealogist needs to continually encourage and show them to obtain needed sources as well be willing to do "some" of the research (usually the heavy lifting) necessary to complete a successful application. It is critical that a positive "the task can be finished attitude" is essential.

Application information arrives sporadically. Each time the applicant provides a requested document or the registrar/genealogist finds a document, the information should be acknowledged or shared. The feeling that progress is being made, even slowly, is essential.

Finally, the chapter/registrar works best when his chapter recognizes and encourages his work. A few pats on the back go a long way. Including the registrar/genealogist in a member induction ceremony also is an excellent way to honor his involvement.

WHAT'S NEXT - Don't Shoot the Registrar/Genealogist or SAR Staff Genealogist Reviewer.

10 Strategic Pillars to Modernize and Interest Younger Members

by Martin Calkins, Ph. D.

President, Charlotte Chapter, FLSSAR

Recruit in Terms of Core Human Values, Not History—The fatal mistake made by many hereditary societies is a fundamental misalignment in what they actively market to the public: they recruit for history.

The reality of modern generational engagement is that younger men rarely join an organization simply to study the past. Instead, successful growth requires recruiting for core human values: *identity, family legacy, citizenship, leadership, community impact, belonging, and purpose*.

History is not the final product; it is the vehicle through which these values are delivered. - The national mission of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) already emphasizes patriotism, education, community service, and America's founding principles. To capture a younger demographic, local chapters must shift their perspective. A forty-year-old man is rarely scanning his community for a genealogy meeting. Instead, he is asking fundamental life questions: How do I connect my children to something truly meaningful? How do I serve my community? How do I meet high-quality peers? How do I leave a legacy? By reframing operations around these questions, chapters can transform their presence from a quiet historical society into a vital community institution.

To operationalize this shift and ensure long-term vitality, chapters can employ ten strategic pillars to modernize engagement, streamline member acquisition, and build a sustainable generational pipeline.

Strategic Pillars for Generational Growth

1. Rebrand the Public Facing Message

Traditional calls to action like "Join the Sons of the American Revolution" often fail to resonate because most men have never considered that they might actually qualify for membership. Public messaging should pivot toward personal discovery, using evocative hooks such as: *"Discover Your Revolutionary Ancestor," "Could One of America's Founders Be in Your Family Tree?"* or *"Your Family Helped Build America. Find Out How."* Promoting the powerful insight that roughly half of the American population descends from Revolutionary-era patriots establishes an immediate, accessible entry point for the average citizen

2. Establish a Free Ancestor Discovery Program

One of the single most effective recruitment tools is a low-barrier, community-focused service. Rather than pushing membership applications immediately, chapters can host "Revolutionary Ancestor Search Days" at local libraries, veterans' parks, community centers, and county fairs. Advertising a basic or rudimentary free family history search to help men discover whether their ancestors supported American independence reframes the interaction entirely. The objective is not to recruit a member on the spot, but to help a neighbor discover their own story. Once that personal connection is forged, membership becomes a natural and desired next step.



3. Focus Intentional Campaigns on Fathers

While older demographics often approach hereditary societies from the perspective of grandfathers looking back on life, younger prospective members are typically fathers looking forward. Recruitment campaigns should speak directly to this dynamic under a cohesive theme: *Your Children's Legacy Begins With Knowing Their Story*. Visual imagery featuring fathers, sons, family trees, and patriot ancestors should be paired with a simple, profound truth: *"Every family inherits a story. Have you discovered yours?"* This positions membership as an active gift of identity passed down to the next generation.

4. Build a "Founding Principles" Civic Series

Leveraging landmark historical milestones—such as the upcoming Semiquincentennial (America 250) initiative of the Charlotte Chapter, FLSSAR—provides a perfect platform for public intellectual leadership. Chapters can also host quarterly public programs centered on the core pillars of America's founding principles: Natural Rights, Popular Sovereignty, the Rule of Law, the Separation of Powers, and Individual Liberty. Presenting these topics strictly as objective civic education rather than partisan politics establishes the SAR as a trusted educational authority. This gives younger professionals a compelling reason to engage with the chapter well before their genealogical paperwork is fully completed.

5. Partner with Existing Community Organizations

Ideal prospects are already gathering within established professional and civic networks. Chapter leaders should actively seek out speaking opportunities at local Rotary, Kiwanis, and Lions clubs, the Chamber of Commerce, regional leadership programs, and veterans' groups like the American Legion or VFW, as well as Scouting America adult leaders. Delivering a crisp, twenty-minute presentation titled *"Could You Be Descended From a Revolutionary Patriot?"* followed by an offer for a free ancestry consultation, allows the chapter to tap directly into an audience already primed for civic service.

6. Cultivate a Dedicated "Young Patriots" Network

Many men in their thirties and forties hesitate to join organizations where the average age skews significantly higher. To bridge this gap, chapters can form a targeted subgroup—a "Young Patriots Network"—specifically for members and prospects aged 30 to 55. Catholic religious organizations have done this for decades with young men (novices and those in "formation") having set aside times and places for their own activities. These activities blend casual social interaction with purposeful action. They can be lighthearted or serious, including brewery nights, family picnics, community service projects, historic monument workdays, and history walks. For this demographic, the strength of the social connection is typically as vital as other aspects of the organization.

7. Discover the QR Code and Leverage Public Exhibits as Lead Generation Engines

Major public installations, such as a Charlotte Chapter's America 250 History Walk, should be treated as sophisticated recruitment mechanisms rather than passive displays. Every single information panel should feature a prominent call to action: *Discover Your Revolutionary Ancestor*, accompanied by a scannable QR code. This code should direct visitors to a simplified online interest form offering a free initial ancestry search. If a high-traffic exhibit attracts thousands of community visitors over its lifespan, even a modest one per cent response rate will yield a steady stream of highly qualified, local leads.

8. Lead with a Distinct Community Service Brand

Younger professionals are drawn to action-oriented organizations that visibly impact their immediate surroundings. While genealogy remains the bedrock of the SAR, public-facing promotions should emphasize the organization's tangible contributions: veteran support initiatives, youth scholarships, teacher recognition programs, JROTC/ROTC sponsorships, and civic flag education. Broadening the chapter's public identity ensures it is recognized as an active force for local good.

9. Tell Stories Instead of Making Announcements

Standard social media updates detailing meeting times and agendas rarely generate organic engagement. Instead,



chapters should utilize narrative storytelling to capture the public imagination. Posts should highlight real people making real discoveries, such as: *"Meet Joe from Punta Gorda. He just discovered his sixth-great-grandfather supplied vital provisions to Washington's Army,"* or educational spotlights like, *"Did you know there are more than twenty distinct types of civil and military service that qualify an ancestor for SAR membership?"* Stories naturally inspire curiosity, whereas logistics do not.

10. Implement a Standardized Recruiting Funnel

Many traditional chapters experience stagnation because they attempt to introduce prospective members directly to the final, most bureaucratic step of the process. Sustainable growth requires a structured, multi-tier engagement funnel that respects the newcomer's journey:

[Step 1: Public Awareness] --> Citizen encounters a Facebook ad or public poster.



[Step 2: Low-Barrier Offer] --> Citizen requests a "Free Revolutionary Ancestor Search."



[Step 3: Personal Contact] --> Prospect meets a dedicated chapter volunteer genealogist.



[Step 4: Active Engagement] --> Prospect attends a History Walk or open chapter event.



[Step 5: Membership] --> Candidate submits the formal application.

CONCLUSION: A VISION FOR SUSTAINABLE EXPANSION

For a mid-sized regional footprint of roughly 250,000 residents, a structured campaign aligned with these ten pillars provides a highly realistic roadmap for growth. Over the course of the America 250 celebrations, a chapter can reasonably target 100 structured ancestry inquiries, translating into 30 serious prospects, and ultimately resulting in 10 to 15 capitalized new members—with at least five falling under the age of 55.

The ultimate anchor for this modern outreach strategy lies in a unified, compelling value proposition: **Discover Your Revolutionary Ancestor. Preserve Your Family Legacy. Help Teach America's Story.** By beautifully balancing personal identity, family preservation, intellectual purpose, and community service, chapters can successfully inspire, enlist, and retain the next generation of American leaders.

FLSSAR BOM Registration Policy

(created 5/29/2026)

The Executive Administrator (ExAdmin) will publish the BOM room reservation link and registration form 8-10 weeks prior to the BOM weekend. It will be published on the FL website under the appropriate "event".

Hotel room reservations, at the group rate, must be made no later than 14 days prior to the BOM weekend.

Registration forms must be received by the ExAdmin no later than 10 days prior to the BOM weekend.

Pre-payment of registration is now mandatory. Payment options are:
By check, mailed to the ExAdmin, as noted on the registration form.

It is recommended to not send cash in the mail. If you wish to pay with cash, the recommendation is to obtain a money order and mail that to the ExAdmin.

Payment via Bank Transfer / "Zelle" using the email: flssar.treasurer@gmail.com

Payment must be received no later than 10 days prior to the BOM weekend. This will allow the FLSSAR to meet its contractual obligations to notify the hotel of final numbers prior to the event. Once the hotel has been notified of final numbers, we are required to pay for that number of meals.

If payment is not received by the deadline, seats at the banquets will not be available.

The ExAdmin will notify members upon receipt of payment. If notification is not received within two weeks of mailing, it is advisable to contact the ExAdmin.

Payments will be deposited within two weeks of receipt.

Seats for any lunch/banquet will not be offered without payment for the meal.

BOM Banquet cancellation policy mirrors national policy - Any cancellation occurring after the Registration Deadline will not be reimbursed. After that time, the cancellation policy listed in Appendix A below will apply.

Hard-copies of the Proceedings Book will no longer be provided. An electronic copy will be published on the FL website (under "My Membership", "Library", "BOM_Proceedings") approximately two weeks prior to the BOM weekend. Attendees are encouraged to use the electronic copy, or print all or part of the book themselves, for review during the meeting. Pertinent pages from the book will be projected on a screen for review during the meeting.

BOM financial overview.

The FLSSAR budget does not include any funds to support the BOM. The BOM weekend is expected to pay for itself.

The registration fee is expected to pay for the Hospitality room and the guest room.

Meal prices are set to cover the prices charged by the hotel, plus an additional amount to cover any guest meals. Guest meals would include the President General and First Lady (or his representative), the FSDAR Regent, the FS C.A.R. President (and family), the FS C.A.R. Senior President, and any Youth Contest winners and their families.

Appendix A - BOM Cancellation Policy

This cancellation policy shall apply to all FLSSAR meetings requiring registration and the payment of any fees.

All fees must be paid at the time of registration. No fees will be deferred until later.

Any cancellation occurring after the registration deadline will not be reimbursed. The only exceptions will be as follows:

A full 100% refund will be provided in the following circumstances, regardless of whether the registration deadline has passed, if a member who has registered to attend the event:

Passes away after registering

His spouse passed away after registering

A member of his immediate family (defined as parents, spouse's parents, children, or grandchildren or their spouses) passes away after registering

Is hospitalized and physically unable to attend

Other exceptions may be granted only by the FLSSAR President or EXCOM

Exception requests must be sent to the Executive Administrator in writing (electronic or regular mail) for forwarding to the FLSSAR President for his or the EXCOM's decision

Unsung Heroes of the American Revolution

Charles Gravier, Comte de Vergennes (1719 – 1787)

French Diplomat Who Was The Quiet Architect Of American Independence

Charles Gravier, Comte de Vergennes, is certainly one of the least known of any of the “unsung heroes” of the American Revolution. However, his importance to the success of the War for Independence can never be overstated. In fact, Gravier was not merely France's foreign minister during the American Revolution—he was, in many ways, the quiet architect of American independence. Without his strategic patience, diplomatic finesse, and unwavering commitment to weakening Britain, the Revolution might well have col-

lapsed under the weight of its own shortages and diplomatic isolation. His importance is so fundamental that one could legitimately argue the United States owes its existence as much to Vergennes' decisions in Versailles as to our military's victories in the field. And you probably never heard of him!

A Diplomat Who Saw the Future Before Anyone Else.

When the American rebellion erupted in 1775, most European statesmen dismissed it as a passing colonial disturbance. Vergennes saw something different. He recognized that the revolt offered France a rare opportunity to reverse the humiliation of the Seven Years' War, restore French prestige, and shatter Britain's global dominance. But he also understood the risks: open support for the Americans could trigger a premature war with Britain, one France was not yet ready to fight.



Thus, from the very beginning, Vergennes pursued a careful, calculated strategy—one that balanced covert aid, diplomatic ambiguity, and long-term preparation. His vision was not ideological; it was geopolitical. Yet his realism ultimately served the American cause better than any idealistic enthusiasm could have.

The Lifeline of Covert Aid. Before France dared to openly support the Revolution, Vergennes ensured that the Americans received the supplies they desperately needed. Through the fictitious trading company *Roderigue Hortalez & Co.*, he funneled muskets, gunpowder, uniforms, and money across the Atlantic. This covert pipeline—organized with the help of playwright-turned-spy Pierre Beaumarchais—kept the Continental Army alive during its most fragile early years.

By 1777, French aid accounted for the majority of American gunpowder. Without it, Washington's army could not have fought at Trenton, Princeton, or Saratoga. Vergennes understood that revolutions do not survive on ideals alone; they require matériel, and he ensured the Americans had it.

The Turning Point: Saratoga and the Treaty of Alliance. The American victory at Saratoga in October 1777 was the moment Vergennes had been waiting for. It proved the Americans could win—and that supporting them would not be a futile gesture. But even then, he moved with caution. He needed to be certain that France would not fight Britain alone. Spain, France's Bourbon ally, was reluctant to join the war. Britain, meanwhile, was offering the Americans sweeping concessions to lure them back into the empire.

Vergennes acted decisively. He invited Benjamin Franklin to Versailles and negotiated the **Treaty of Amity and Commerce** and the **Treaty of Alliance** in early 1778. These agreements recognized American independence and committed France to war with Britain until that independence was secured.

This was the single most important diplomatic victory of the entire Revolution. It transformed the conflict from a colonial rebellion into a global war. Britain now faced not only the Continental Army but the French navy, French money, and French military power.



Managing Allies, Containing Rivals. Vergennes' work did not end with the alliance. He had to manage a volatile coalition of American, French, and later Spanish interests—each with its own goals and suspicions. He navigated these tensions with remarkable skill.

He restrained American ambitions when they threatened to alienate Spain, particularly regarding the Mississippi River. He kept Spain engaged even when its priorities diverged from France's. And, he prevented Britain from driving a wedge between the allies through secret peace overtures. Vergennes' diplomacy ensured that the alliance held together long enough to achieve decisive results.

The French Navy and the Road to Yorktown. Vergennes was not a military commander, but his decisions shaped the strategic environment that made Yorktown possible. He championed a naval strategy that prioritized the Caribbean and American coasts, forcing Britain to stretch its fleet thin. He supported sending the Comte de Rochambeau and thousands of French troops to America. And he backed Admiral de Grasse's bold move to sail north from the Caribbean in 1781. The result was the Battle of the Chesapeake, where de Grasse's fleet defeated the British navy and sealed off Cornwallis' escape route. Without French naval supremacy—made possible by Vergennes' long-term planning—the victory at Yorktown would not have occurred.

Securing Peace on American Terms. Even after Yorktown, the war was not over. Britain hoped to negotiate a separate peace with the Americans. Vergennes insisted that the alliance remain intact and that American independence be non-negotiable. Although the American commissioners briefly negotiated behind his back, Vergennes ultimately accepted the preliminary terms because they achieved the essential goal: recognition of the United States. His restraint prevented a diplomatic rupture and ensured that the final Treaty of Paris in 1783 reflected the new geopolitical reality he had helped create.

Why Vergennes Matters. Charles Gravier de Vergennes was indispensable to the American Revolution for three overarching reasons: **He provided the early lifeline**—supplies, money, and diplomatic cover—that kept the rebellion alive. **He secured the alliance** that transformed the war and made American victory possible. **He managed the international dimensions** of the conflict with extraordinary skill, ensuring that France's support remained steady and effective.

Washington won battles. Franklin charmed courts. But Vergennes built the world in which American independence could become a reality. His legacy is subtle, diplomatic, and often overshadowed by the drama of the battlefield. Yet without him, the Revolution might have been remembered as a noble failure rather than the birth of a nation.

Florida Parent Educators Association (FPEA) Convention

Education Outreach Committee members Kevin Shurte, Phil Markoe, Michael Meyer, and Dave Hitchcock attended the FPEA Homeschool Convention in Kissimmee, Florida on May 21-24, where they hosted an informational booth promoting the Society's educational initiatives, patriotic programs, and outreach opportunities. The convention attracted more than 10,000 homeschool teachers, parents, and students from across the state, providing an exceptional opportunity to engage with families and educators interested in American history and civic education. Committee members highlighted SAR youth and education contests, distributed educational resources, and shared information about the mission and activities of the Florida Society while also promoting membership opportunities and strengthening public awareness of the SAR. Adding to the event was a surprise visit from FLSSAR President Jonathan Hunt, who stopped by the booth while traveling to a chapter meeting in Daytona.

Chapter News

Brevard Chapter

On July 4th, the chapter along with the local CAR and DAR chapters participated in the Merritt Island parade. On that day also, members participate in the BVMC 250th Anniversary ceremony. Both events were great, but very hot. Herein are some of the pictures from these events.



Caloosa Chapter



L to R: VP Maier and Pres. Parfitt holding runner-up Certificates for Mary and Karl Peterson (Video Contest), Andy Peterson's poster of "The Turtle" with Grampa Andy Peterson holding Alasdair's Certificate and Poster and accepting his grandkids' awards as they could not attend personally



Proud winners, parents and grandparents (L to R) Top row: Matt Davis, Brian Hogsed, Ari Hogsed, Tarenne Hogsed, Tom Gillaspie and Bottom row: Elysianne Davis, Abraham Hogsed, Ezra Hogsed, and Jayma Gillaspie

Our recent Chapter meetings have concentrated on the SAR Americanism Youth Contests, and the meetings have been filled with fun and excitement. The participants of the various contests and their families have all joined us in attendance, and the Caloosa Compatriots have been impressed with the quality of the entries, and have learned quite a bit from what information has been presented by the students.

Annually, the National SAR conducts contests open to students depending upon the grade level they are currently in. Students in Grades 3-5 can choose to participate in the Poster Contest, while those in Grades 6-8 may enter the Brochure Contest. Kids in High School may enter an Essay Contest and/or an Oration Contest, and, very recently, the SAR began sponsoring a new contest: the Youth Video Contest, which is open to students 6th through 12th Grades. Participation in the Youth Contests begins at the local Chapter level, and our Caloosa Chapter had entrants in each of the contest categories. The kids had a blast, learned a lot, and were seen smiling ear to ear as their Certificates of recognition were presented as well as their winning checks for the cash awards given to 1st through 3rd place winners.

The Elementary School Poster Contest was developed to stimulate 3rd, 4th and 5th Grade students in the study of American History. The students design their own posters based on figures and events of the American Revolutionary Era. First Place Chapter Winner was **Audrey Golden**, with her sister, **Abigail Golden**, **Alasdair Peterson** and **Zion Havlykee** in the runner up positions. Audrey's poster, which depicts the Boston Tea Party then moved on for judging at the FLSSAR Spring BOM Meeting in Kissimmee in May where she won 1st Place, so her poster is now on its way for judging at the National Congress this summer.

The SAR Middle School Contest is to create a tri-fold brochure out of a typical 8 ½ x 11" piece of paper. The brochure must conform to the contest theme which is set each year. The brochure is judged on content, creativity and correctness. This year, **Abraham Hogsed** won 1st Place for his brochure on the Battle of Kings Mountain. Runner up was **Aya Havlykee** whose brochure highlights our United States Constitution.

The "new" SAR Youth Video Contest provides its entrants with the opportunity to share what you know about a person, battle, document or event during the American struggle for independence and do it in video format. The key is to be creative. The student's project could be filmed or animated, look like a cable news broadcast or a pretend movie trailer. It could even be a music video or a rap battle. But each entry must contain original content and based on scholarly research of the presented topic.

Our 1st Place Winner was **Ezrah Hogsed** whose video spotlighted the life and Revolutionary War exploits of General Henry Knox. Ezra's video was then judged at the State level, where she also placed first! The video entered by our runners-up, **Mary and Karl Petereson** was a shadow-box type video on the life and death of American Hero Nathan Hale. Rounding out the contests, were the Essay and Oration Youth Contests which are run at the high school level. The George S. & Stella M. Knight Essay Contest requires students to submit an original 800 to 1,200 word essay based on an event, person, philosophy or ideal associated with the American Revolution, Declaration of Independence, or the framing of the United States Constitution. Each essay is judged based upon its histori-



L to R: President Parfitt, Chaplain Moody, Brian Mangan, Jeff Dedecker, Registrar Chris Jenner



(L to R) Jonathan Hunt, Rick Parfitt, Art Brostrom, Chris Jenner



Compatriot Mangan holding the War Service Medal with Bronze Service Bar and the accompanying Certificate presented in grateful recognition for his service during the Global War on Terrorism

cal accuracy, clarity, organization, grammar and spelling, and documentation. **Ari Hogsed** was our overall Essay Contest winner, with **Elysianne Davis** coming in second. Adding to the excitement of celebrating with the Chapter's SAR Americanism Youth Contest winners and their families, the Chapter also celebrated the induction of two new members in April: **Brian Mangan** and **Jeff Dedecker**'s whose months-long journeys to gain approval of their re-

spective applications, climaxed with their swearing-in ceremony. Seeing the pride in the eyes of each new member during the proceeding is always a joy as all of us join together to carry on the mission of our Patriot ancestors.

Our Chapter meetings would not be complete without an America250 Moment presented by Chaplain Moody, whose April selection was the first American naval victory, which occurred on April 7, 1776, off the coast of the Virginia, when the American brig *Lexington*, commanded by John Barry, encountered the British tender *Edward*. The *Lexington*, a converted merchant vessel serving in the Continental Navy, was on patrol when it came across the smaller but well-armed British ship. Despite the *Edward* being a Royal Navy vessel, Barry acted decisively. He closed the distance and engaged in a brisk firefight that lasted roughly an hour. The *Lexington*'s crew, though relatively inexperienced compared to British sailors, fought with determination and accuracy. Barry's leadership proved critical as he maneuvered his ship effectively to bring its guns to bear while minimizing exposure to enemy fire. The British crew resisted but was ultimately overwhelmed. The *Edward* sustained significant damage, and with mounting casualties and little chance of escape, her captain struck his colors and surrendered. Barry took possession of the vessel, making it the first American naval capture of the war. Rev. Moody concluded by instructing us that this victory had importance beyond its scale. It provided a much-needed morale boost to the Patriot cause at a time when American naval forces were still developing. It also demonstrated that the Continental Navy could successfully challenge British ships at sea. Barry's success in this engagement helped establish his reputation as one of the most capable naval officers of the Revolution and marked an early step in the emergence of American naval power.

In May, our President gaveled the meeting to order, and following the prayer of Invocation, the Pledge of Allegiance, and usual order of events and welcoming comments and introductions, President **Rick Parfitt** and Chapter Member-at-Large **Jonathan Hunt** both stepped to the front, and called **Art Brostrom** to join them for his formal induction into the SAR. Art's Patriot ancestor is Daniel Pettit who served in the Bucks County, Pennsylvania militia.

Art lives in Cape Coral, and is proud of his designation as a Professional Engineer. He is a Navy Veteran, having served on the USS Dwight D. Eisenhower aircraft carrier which, during his period of service, had been stationed off Iran during the prior crisis which had occurred a couple of decades ago. Art looks forward to meeting all of his Compatriots, and I look forward to doing a story on his Patriot ancestor in a future issue of the Caloosa Patriot.

Following the induction of Compatriot Brostrom, recent inductee, **Brian Mangan**, was asked to come forward for the purpose of recognizing him for his service in the United States Army during the Global War on Terrorism. Presenting him with the SAR War Service Medal were President Parfitt and our Member at Large (and now FLSSAR President) Jonathan Hunt.

The SAR War Service Medal was first authorized in 1899 for members who served in the Spanish-American War. It was subsequently authorized for members who served in World War I and World War II. Following WWII, the NSSAR authorized a generic War Service Medal with specific service periods indicated by bronze bars. Available bronze bars include WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Southwest Asia, Kosovo, Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Global War on Terrorism (which is the one Compatriot Mangan was recognized for).

Incidentally, SAR recognition for service in the military is not limited to those who served in time of war. The companion Military Service Medal may be presented to a Compatriot in recognition

of military service which does not otherwise qualify for the War Service Medal. The SAR greatly appreciates those who have served during war or during a period of peace. The War Service Medal and Military Service Medal have equivalent precedence in the ranking of awards, which are two of the NSSAR's highest awards. Compatriots who have served, and are interested in how to apply for the award and provide proof of service are encouraged to discuss the matter with any Chapter Officer. Each of your Compatriots would like to thank and recognize you for your service to us and our country.

Our Compatriot **Jonathan Hunt** wrapped up the May meeting with updates on what was going on at the FLSSAR level, which included the unveiling of a brand new website – something sorely needed, and which now has come to fruition after lots of hard work. Our Florida Society Officers are quite proud of it, and we all were encouraged to “sign on and try it out” as soon as possible.” In addition to the report on the website, he let us know what will be going on at the Spring BOM, and reminded us that there will be a special America250 “Fourth of July” event to be held on July 1, 2026 on the steps of the Federal Courthouse in downtown Fort Myers, during which uniformed SAR members will conduct the program, including a firing of muskets! Not to be missed so plan on it, and bring the family.

Central Florida Chapter



On May 19, a Liberty Tree was planted at the Lake Nona Veterans Hospital. Those in attendance were members from the Orlando, Mary Virginia Cabell, and William P. Duval Chapters of the DAR, members of the Central Florida Chapter SAR, people from the Veterans Hospital, and people from Lukas Nursery. The dedication is scheduled for August 6 at 10:00 a.m.

CONGRATULATIONS to Compatriot Randal Allen from the Central Florida Chapter, who has been appointed **Parliamentarian** for the NSSAR.

That is just to go along with all of the other things he does for the SAR as a whole.

- Color Guard Drummer – Extraordinaire
- Chapter Chaplain
- Chapter Member-at-Large
- Chapter Parliamentarian
- Chapter Committee Chairman – Flag Committee
- State Recording Secretary
- State Committee Chairman – Patriotic Activities
- State Committee Member – multiple
- Gold Good Citizenship Award Winner
- National Committee Member - multiple
- National Parliamentarian



New FLSSAR President Jonathan Hunt stopped by the FPEA Conference on Saturday, May 24, to visit the Compatriots working the event. Working the conference from the Central Florida Chapter were Phil Markoe and Michael Meyer. From the Ft Lauderdale Chapter was Kevin Shurte. The estimated attendance for the three-day event was between 20,000 and 24,000. It was the largest attendance since COVID.



On Memorial Day, seven members of the CFLSAR Color Guard participated in a flag-raising ceremony at the New Dimension High School Memorial Day program. Those present from left to right were Michael Meyer, Kim Cullars, Randal Allen, Robin Preston, Andrew Sechler, Rich Lester, and Phil Markoe.



Congratulations to Maria Preston on her recent election as President of the Ladies Auxiliary Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution

Clearwater Chapter



RIBBON CUTTING PHOTO: (L to R) Clearwater SAR President Dwight McEntire, Warren Wilson, Robbie Robinson, FLSSAR President Johnathan Hunt, Clearwater City Manager Jennifer Poirrier and Tim Shaner.



Working in conjunction with the City of Clearwater, FL, and the Clearwater Parks & Recreation Department, the Clearwater SAR Chapter had an America 250 Semiquincentennial History Walk placed at the popular Coachman Park venue.

The 16-panel History Walk guides visitors through the defining events, people and ideas that shaped the founding of the United States, to include the causes of the Revolution and the road to independence; key battles and turning points; the role of ordinary citizens, soldiers and leaders; the global impact of America's fight for freedom and the lasting legacy of the Revolutionary War. Designed for all ages, this self-guided experience was dedicated on June 26, 2026 and will remain at Coachman Park through Veterans Day (November 11, 2026).

Daytona-Ormond Beach Chapter



The Daytona-Ormond Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution attended several events throughout this year. March saw every weekend full of activities by its members. Chapter members participated in the 1st Amphibious Landing Monument Dedication, The Last Naval Battle, The Battle of Thomas Creek Bridge, as well as Liberty Tree, Naturalization, and Grave Marking Ceremonies. Members of the Chapter's John Parker Color Guard have also participated in the George Washington Festival Parade in Eustis and The Celtic Festival Parade in Ormond Beach FL.

At the Spring FLSSAR Board of Management Conference our chapter received several awards including the 1st place Chapter Challenge streamer and certificate for the 2nd year in a row as the #1 Small Chapter in the State of Florida! Kelly Crumley received the State Compatriot Grave Marking Medal for participating in 15 Compatriot Grave Marking ceremonies. Bill Elder received the SAR Patriot Medal and his wife, Cara Elder, received the State Martha Washington Medal.



On May 18th, President William Ashmore was the guest speaker (playing the role of Capt. James Ormond) at the Capt. James Ormond DAR Chapter Meeting in celebration of their 60th Anniversary. Colors were presented by the Daytona -Ormond Chapter's - John Parker Color Guard led by Commander Ken Nunnellely with flag bearers, Kelly Crumley, Larry Scovotto, Clifford LaPlante, William Ashmore, and Bill Elder.

During our last meeting before the summer break on May 23rd several supporters of the chapter and chapter members were presented with awards. DAR Regent of the Sugar Mill Chapter Melissa Pena, Past DAR Regent of the Capt. James Ormond Chapter Susan Demorsky, and Stacey Simmons were awarded the SAR Medal of Appreciation. The Sugar Mill DAR and CAR were presented with the SAR 250th Flag Streamers. Sissie Nunnellely was awarded the Lydia Darragh Medal, Demra Ashmore was awarded the Chapter Martha Washington Medal, and Cara Elder was awarded the Bronze Henry Knox Medal.

SAR Lifesaving Awards were presented to Police Lieutenant Compatriot Corey Mead, and Paramedic/Firefighter, Ryan Burke for saving the life of a heart attack victim.

SAR 250th Anniversary Medals were Awarded to Corey Mead (Gold), Larry Scovotto (Silver), Sissie Nunnellely (Silver), Mike McGowen (Bronze), Clifford LaPlante (Bronze), Stacey Simmons (Bronze), and Susan Demorsky (Bronze). The chapter has now awarded 27 Bronze, 15 Silver, and 7 Gold Medals to its members and partners.

Individual chapter medals were awarded to Bill Elder, Distinguished Service Medal, Corey Mead, Meritorious Service Medal, Kelly Crumley, Roger Sherman Medal, and Ken Nunnellely, Henry Knox Medal. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Mel Rollins, President of the Adam Quinn Post 6 of the American Legion in DeLand, Rick Gallup, Newton White, Bob Crawford, Cliff LaPlante, Michael McGowen, and Richard Kuhns.

Florida Society President Jonathan Hunt made a surprise visit to the chapter meeting. He assisted in presenting awards, swore in our newly elected chapter officers, and presented newly

elected President Kelly Crumley with the Daytona-Ormond Chapter Gavel.

Sunday, May 24th the Color Guard presented the Colors at the Veteran's Memorial Service held at the Westside Baptist Church in Daytona Beach. This was followed by the Daytona Beach Concert Band and Patriotic Concert held at the Ormond Beach Performing Arts Center. Compatriot Corey Mead was honored as the Daytona-Ormond SAR Chapter "Patriot of the Year" as part of the Veterans Memorial Ceremony.

May 25th the chapter participated with the Memorial Day Ceremony at the Spruce Creek Cemetery in Port Orange. Bill Elder (aka - George Washington) and William Ashmore were the guest speakers. Our color guard again presented the colors, under the command of Ken Nunnellely and Chapter President Kelly Crumley. Flag bearers were compatriots Cliff LaPlante, Corey Mead, Bill Elder, and William Ashmore.

The chapter continues to support the 250th Anniversary of our independence through community engagements, ceremonies, and public education.

Clearwater Chapter

On May 26, 2026, Assanali Ashimov was presented with certificates and monetary awards as the winner of the Sgt. Moses Adams Memorial Middle School Brochure Contest for the Clearwater Chapter and the second place winner of the Florida Society contest. The Florida Society Ladies Auxiliary also provided Assanali with a certificate and monetary award for taking second place in the state competition. Assanali is an 8th grade student at Farnell Middle School in Tampa, FL.

Pictured (l to r) are Clearwater Chapter President Dwight McEntire, Assanali Ashimov, his mother, Mrs. Ardak Sadykova and Compatriot Art Hays.



Fort Lauderdale Chapter



The Fort Lauderdale Chapter (FTL) remained exceptionally active during the second quarter of 2026, highlighted by the successful completion of its Education Outreach Program and participation in numerous patriotic, educational, and veterans-related events throughout South Florida.

The chapter achieved a significant milestone during the 2025–2026 school year by becoming the only Florida Society chapter to participate in all eight SAR Youth Education Contests. Working in partnership with five public



schools and two private schools across Broward County, the chapter's outreach efforts produced impressive results at the Florida Society Spring Board of Managers meeting. Fort Lauderdale students earned first place in the FLSSAR Brochure Contest, second place in the Enhanced JROTC, Youth Video, and Oration Contests, and third place in the Elementary School Poster Contest. Throughout March and April, chapter members attended numerous school awards ceremonies recognizing outstanding student achievement. Compatriots presented 27 JROTC and Sea Cadet Medals while attending 22 school ceremonies and delivered six additional medals to schools conducting private presentations. Members also participated in elementary and middle school recognition programs honoring local winners of the Youth Video, Brochure, and Poster Contests.

On April 11, members of the Samuel Nicholas Camp #23 and other chapter compatriots attended Honor Flight South Florida's Mission 38 Homecoming at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport, welcoming veterans home and honoring their service and sacrifice. Continuing its support of Honor Flight South Florida, the Fort Lauderdale Color Guard presented the colors on May 3 at the organization's annual fundraising concert featuring the Fort Lauderdale Symphonic Winds volunteer orchestra. During the show's intermission, the Fort Lauderdale Chapter Veterans Affairs Chairman presented the VA Centenarian Award to distinguished World War II veteran, Frank Orilio.

On April 19, chapter members attended a meeting of the Swamp Fox Society, Children of the American Revolution (C.A.R.), at the Hagen Ranch Road Library in Palm Beach County. The Fort Lauderdale Color Guard joined C.A.R. members in posting the colors for the meeting.

From April 24–27, chapter members volunteered at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Moving Wall display hosted by the Town of Davie in cooperation with the Veterans Coalition of Coral Springs. Volunteers assisted veterans and family members in locating names on the memorial panels and provided support to visitors throughout the event. Special recognition goes to Fort Lauderdale

dale Compatriot Jason Ramsey, President of the Veterans Coalition of Coral Springs, whose leadership was instrumental in bringing the memorial to Broward County.

Seven chapter members and four spouses attended the Florida Society Spring Board of Managers meeting in Kissimmee from May 14–17. During the conference, two members completed NRA Black Powder Certification training, qualifying them to participate in black powder firing demonstrations at SAR events throughout the state. Compatriots Chuck Adams, Rick Kidder, Kevin Shurte, and Mark Snider received numerous awards and recognitions. Compatriot Steven DePaul was presented the Silver Meritorious Service Medal in recognition of his service as Florida Society America 250 Committee Chairman. Compatriot Chuck Adams was reelected Southeast Regional Vice President, while Kevin Shurte was elected to his first term as Florida Society Historian. The chapter also captured first place in the 2025 Chapter Challenge Contest.

The Southeast Region hosted the conference Hospitality Suite, which many attendees described as one of the finest in recent memory. Much of its success was due to the efforts of the Southeast Region Wives of the Sons of the American Revolution (WOSAR), whose coordination of food, beverages, games, and decorations created an enjoyable gathering place throughout the conference. From May 21–24, Florida Society Education Outreach Committee Chairman Kevin Shurte attended the Florida Parent Educators Association (FPEA) Homeschool Convention in Orlando. Alongside fellow committee members, he promoted SAR youth programs, educational contests, and Society outreach initiatives while increasing awareness of the SAR mission among thousands of homeschool families from across Florida.

On Memorial Day, the Fort Lauderdale Color Guard led the Honor Guard procession during the Veterans Park Memorial Day Ceremony in Boca Raton. The procession included representatives from local Vietnam Veterans organizations, JROTC units, and Scout troops. Sponsored by Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation and VFW Post 10556, the event honored the sacrifices of America's military veterans while also recognizing the service of the nation's first veterans through the dedication of an America 250 commemorative bronze plaque by the Estahakee Chapter, DAR.

The chapter's Color Guard remained active throughout the spring. On May 30, members posted the colors during the Sample-McDougald House Birthday Bash in Pompano Beach, commemorating the 110th anniversary of the historic home. On Flag Day, June 14, Fort Lauderdale Color Guardsmen joined local Sea Cadets in presenting the colors during a Flag Retirement Ceremony sponsored by the DAR Regents Council of the Palm Beaches. Looking ahead, Color Guard members are preparing to serve as Honor Guard for the Weekley Brothers Pro Rodeo in Davie and to participate in the Idlewyld Independence Day Parade in Fort Lauderdale.

Through its educational outreach initiatives, support of veterans, participation in community events, and active Color Guard program, the Fort Lauderdale Chapter continues to advance the mission of the Sons of the American Revolution while honoring America's history, heritage, and those who have served our nation.

Gainesville Chapter



FROM THE FREEDOM TRAIN TO THE LIBERTY TREE By Randal L. Highsmith

In November 1976, during America's Bicentennial celebration, I toured the American Freedom Train when it came through Jacksonville, Florida. As a young boy, I was fascinated by the exhibits and by the patriotic spirit surrounding that historic journey across our nation. At the time, I had no way of knowing that the experience would plant a seed that would grow into a lifelong interest in American history, genealogy, and the men and women who helped build our country.

Nearly fifty years later, as America prepares to celebrate its 250th anniversary, I had the privilege of helping dedicate a Liberty Tree in Newberry, Florida, through the Gainesville Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution.

The original Liberty Tree in Boston became a symbol of resistance and liberty during the years leading up to the American Revolution. When British soldiers cut it down in 1775, they believed they could destroy the movement it represented.

But liberty does not live in wood and leaves; it lives in the hearts of people.

Today, communities across the nation are planting Liberty Trees once again — not in protest, but in remembrance and renewal. They serve as reminders that freedom is not self-sustaining. Each generation must learn it, cherish it, defend it, and pass it on.

For members of the Sons of the American Revolution, these symbols remind us why historical memory, patriotic education, and public remembrance remain so important.

Looking back, I cannot help but see a connection between those two moments in my life. The Freedom Train inspired Americans to remember their heritage during our Bicentennial. The Liberty Tree reminds us of our responsibility as we enter our nation's next quarter millennium.

The past inspires us. The present calls us. The future is in our hands.



Jacksonville Chapter



The Jacksonville Chapter dedicated a Liberty Tree plaque on Saturday, April 4, 2026, honoring Jacksonville's historic Treaty Oak at Jessie Ball DuPont Park. Estimated to be more than 250 years old, the Southern Oak tree predates the founding of the city in 1833.

According to 1930's historical accounts by Florida Times-Union journalist Pat Moran, early treaties between Indigenous peoples and European settlers were signed beneath the oak's branches—giving the tree its enduring name. The Treaty Oak is among the few mature trees nationwide to receive the Liberty Tree designation.

The ceremony included remarks from local and state representatives, including Harrison Conyers, Director of Military and Veterans Affairs for Mayor Donna Deegan, who read a proclamation designating April 4, 2026, as "America's 250th Liberty Tree Day in Jacksonville Florida". Greetings were also shared on behalf of U.S. Senator



Ashley Moody, along with remarks from Florida SAR President Christopher Washer and Florida CAR President Jaylen Tillman. Additional presentations included a historical background of the DuPont family by Paul Tucker, Chapter President, Rumbaugh Oration Contest winner by high school student Zender Fontaine, and stories about The Sons of Liberty and Boston Liberty tree by Gray Chandler, Chapter Registrar and past president.

The SAR Liberty Tree plaque joins an existing Daughters of the American Revolution plaque at the park entrance.

Lake-Sumter Chapter

Our Chapter has been very busy these last few months. The chapter's color guard participated at the Pompano Beach monument dedication March 14. The Color Guard attended GAS-SAR grave marking (Midway Church) event attended by Compatriots Paul Pardee, Mike Cross, and Matt Carter. Along with our Regional VP Earl Mathews. On April 13th, the Color Guard participated at a DAR Revolutionary War Monument dedicated at the Veterans Memorial Park in Leesburg.

Our chapter awarded prizes (May 2) for the Poster Contest at Monteverde Academy, as well as our Brochure contest to Aurelia Cole Academy. Our chapter participated May 23, placing flags on cemetery markers for Veteran's Day - Lone Oak Cemetery, Leesburg. The Color Guard attended at a Lake County Liberty Tree Dedication on June 2 at the Fruitland Park Library.



Panama City Chapter



On May 18, 2026, the Panama City Chapter met at Bay County Public Library in which Featuring Speaker, Associate, Gary Wilbanks. He spoke on Smallpox And The American Revolutionary War.

Palm Beach Chapter

FMR Chapter President Lanman Honored 8 Chapter Officers with a variety of medals in recognition & appreciation of their 12+ years of faithful selfless service to the Chapter, FLSSAR & SAR. Recognition included Distinguished, Meritorious, Roger Sherman & Good Citizenship service medals presented to Compatriots Johnston, Tidwell, Parkinson, Boggs, Anderson, Bright, Bird & Shea.



Lastly, our Color Guard attended the May 27, Villages Honor Flight - as well as one of our members was a Villages veteran who attended Mission 71. Compatriot Fred LeBarron (Image attached) and his wife attend this flight. Our color guard welcomed him home.

Okeechobee Chapter

The Okeechobee Chapter SAR Color Guard presented the colors for the Okeechobee Memorial Day observance in the Veterans Park. The Guard presented the SAR 250 flag with the American flag.

The Chapter also awarded 6 DAR Daughters with the SAR Bronze Good Citizenship Medal in recognition & appreciation of their dedicated service to the Community & Palm Beach Chapter SAR.



Fire Fighter William Murphy was Honored with the First Responder Commendation Medal by FMR President Greg Parkinsen & President Garrison.



FMR President Lanman was the Key-Note Speaker at the 21st Forgotten Soldiers Memorial Day Ceremony. In colonial uniform, Lanman delivered a compelling review of America's First Veterans of the Revolutionary War. Joining Lanman at the podium was DAR Honorary Regent Daughter Karen Christie with a moving speech on little known facts about the RW.



Compatriots Johnston, Parkinson, Lanman, Bright joined DAR Daughters the annual Flag Placement Ceremony at the So. FL. National Cemetery placing over 400 flags at the tombstones of fallen Veterans.



Compatriots Parkinson & Lanman represented the Chapter along with Ft. Lauderdale, DAR & CAR patriots at the 10th Annual DAR Regents Council Flag Retirement Ceremony respectfully & honorably retiring tattered American Flags.



FMR President Lanman, designed & introduced the Chapters 2026 Commemorative Coin featuring the Chapter's 1938 Founding along with Florida Revolutionary War Battles listed on side A & America 250 Anniversary honor on side B.



Pensacola Chapter

We had a great turnout May 8th for about 8 hours of activities: the Battle of Pensacola Commemoration, Galvez Celebration, and Wreath-Laying Ceremony. SAR and DAR Compatriots attended (despite the on-off rain) from all over FL (7 SAR Chapters) and some from Louisiana, Georgia, Virginia, and several from Alabama.

The Pensacola Chapter along with the City of Pensacola, were pleased to sponsor the first SAR Battle of Pensacola-Galvez Scholarship Contest. The Oratorical Contest Winner cadet was awarded a **\$1,000. Scholarship** (from a private SAR Donor) to the University of West Florida in Pensacola, Florida to be applied to their AFROTC Program expenses, as they determine. The cadet winner was Cadet R. Adam Jackson.



South Shore Chapter

South Shore conducted its Liberty Tree ceremony on May 2nd, 2026 in Apollo Beach, FL. Compatriots from surrounding chapters assisted as members of the Color Guard during the event. Pictured are: (Left to right) Joseph Flack – South Shore ; WC RVP Richard Young ; Bill Swain – Tampa ; James Gaskins – Jacksonville ; Ronzell Windsor – South Shore ; Terry Doan – Tampa ; Sheldon D. Ickes – Chapter President, South Shore ; Jeffry Michaelson – South Shore ; Mike Williams – Tampa ; and, William Barron, Sr. – South Shore.



At the May 20th meeting of the Colonel George Mercer Brooke Chapter NSDAR, Ron Windsor was awarded the Hannah White Arnett Medal by Registrar and Cemetery Preservation Chairman Vicki McDonnell. Compatriot Windsor, who is a recent past-President of the local Southshore Chapter Sons of the American Revolution, has dedicated many hours to supporting the work of the DAR chapter including work at Ruskin Memorial Cemetery locating, cleaning and marking Veterans' graves. In addition, Mr. Windsor has participated in various DAR activities such as work days for the Keep the Flags Flying, Constitution Day, and the Memorial Day ceremony at Kings Point Veterans Theatre. His loyalty and support are truly appreciated.

The Hannah White Arnett Medal is a DAR award recognizing SAR members for exceptional support and service to the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Saint Augustine Chapter

The St. Augustine Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution enjoyed an active and patriotic summer from May through the end of August 2026, continuing its mission of remembrance, education, and service. Members participated in Memorial Day commemoration activities, helping to honor veterans and ensuring that graves and memorial sites were marked with dignity and respect.

The Chapter also supported commemorations connected to the Battles at Alligator Creek Bridge and Thomas Creek, helping preserve awareness of Florida's Revolutionary War history and the sacrifices made on its early frontier. In addition, the Chapter supported the Seminole War Celebration, further strengthening public understanding of Florida's military heritage.

As Independence Day approached, Compatriots gathered for the Independence Day picnic at Ft Mose', sharing fellowship, patriotic reflection, and renewed dedication to the SAR mission. Members participated in the public Reading of the Declaration of Independence, reminding the community that liberty, self-government, and civic duty remain central to America's identity.

America 250 celebrations were an important summer highlight. The Chapter teamed with the Maria Jefferson Chapter NSDAR and the city of St. Augustine Beach to dedicate another Liberty Tree as part of the national commemoration of the 250th anniversary of American independence. This is the Chapter's third Liberty Tree dedication to strengthen public awareness of Revolutionary history and patriotic responsibility. At least one member represented the Chapter by attending the Philadelphia AM250 SAR festivities, connecting St. Augustine's local efforts with the national SAR celebration.

Additional summer activities included the VFW Flag Retirement Ceremony, which was unique in our Nation's 250-year history in that an American flag from each of the 50 states, the Capitol, and several others that flew over hallowed monuments were retired with dignity. Our SAR Chapter was proud to participate in this meaningful tribute to the American flag and the veterans who defended it.

Together, these events demonstrate the Chapter's strong commitment to patriotism, historical education, community service, and honoring our Bloodlines of Liberty and founding legacy.

Saint Petersburg Chapter

At the March 21, 2026 Saint Petersburg Chapter meeting at the St. Petersburg Yacht Club, our guest speaker was Joseph Bourdow of www.radiosrpets.com. President Harry Fuller presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation for being our guest speaker. Our Chapter also presented a Supplemental Certificate to Compatriot David Randle for his ancestor Samuel Fleming. 7 people attended the meeting.

At the April 18, 2026 Saint Petersburg SAR Chapter meeting at the St. Petersburg Yacht Club, our guest speaker was Lori Coffey who spoke about women during the Revolutionary War. President Harry Fuller presented her with a Certificate of Appreciation for being our guest speaker. 14 people attended the meeting.

At the May 16, 2026 Saint Petersburg SAR Chapter meeting at the St. Petersburg Yacht Club, our guest speaker was Wayne Asper from the Tampa Bay Automobile Museum. President Harry

Fuller presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation for being our guest speaker. We also inducted Larry Beltz and William Pejack Jr. Into our chapter. 14 people attended the meeting.

Tallahassee Chapter

The first week of July was very busy for the Tallahassee chapter SAR. On July 1st, for the Sauls-Bridges American Legion's Post #13 July 250th celebration, the TLH Color Guard opened the meeting by presenting our national colors, followed by the pledge of allegiance led by members of the Ponce De Leon Society, Children of the American Revolution.

On July 2nd, the TLH SAR Color Guard and members of the Ponce de Leon Society CAR participated in the "Revolution Road Trail" historic sign unveiling-ribbon-cutting ceremony in Chipley, Florida.

Finally, on July 4th (Independence Day) members of the TLH Color Guard and Ponce de Leon Society CAR marched in the Bristol, Florida, 250th July 4th parade.

After the parade, we posted the national, state, SAR, Betsy Ross and 250th flags in front of the replica of the Liberty Bell recently gifted to Liberty County Florida by Governor DeSantis in celebration of America 250th.

At 12 PM EST we struck the Bell thirteen times in commemoration of the thirteen colonies that declared independence, as part of the national-annual "Let Freedom Ring"- "Bells across America" ceremony.

We struck the bell a fourteenth time for the great free state of Florida's role in the American War for Independence, followed by a stirring reading of the Declaration of Independence by TLH SAR chapter president Craig Porter FitzGerald. The ceremony at the bell was followed by the induction of our chapter's newest member, Compatriot Timothy FitzPatrick, in front of the replica of the Liberty Bell with the help of TLH SAR VP Lee Norris.





The Tallahassee Chapter held their 69th Annual George Washington Birthday Celebration Luncheon on February 22, 2026, with 67 SAR and DAR members plus guests attending. Our speaker was Dale Cox, an award-winning author and historian. His subject was "Revolutionary Road: The Pensacola-St. Augustine Road".

The Suwannee River Fife & Drum Corps provided our entertainment during our luncheon program. The colors were presented by a joint color guard from the Tallahassee and Panama City SAR Chapters.

We presented our chapter Eagle Scout award and scholarship to Ryan Lagwig, who was selected as the winner of the FLSSAR Eagle Scout Award and Scholarship. Ryan is

pictured with (from L-R) his parents Glenn & Crystal Lagwig, Chapter Secretary and Presenter Jay Lindsay and Chapter President Craig Fitzgerald.

The chapter presented the following awards and recognitions during the program: (a) Michael Tehurne – Fire Safety Award, (b) Bill Gladwin – 45 Year Membership Service and Past President's Awards (c) Don Wilham – Henry Knox Award, (d) Kevin Vislocky – Meritorious Service Award (e) Vic Hanna – 10 Year Membership Service and Military Service Awards. (f) John Folsom – War Service Award, (g) Tom Rankin – 5 Year Service and Service to Veterans Awards, (h) Dale Macumber – Service to Veterans Award, and (i) Shawn Cloud – America 250 Silver Award.





Tampa Chapter

It is with deep regret that the Tampa Chapter announce the passing of Past President Cyril "Cy" Gamber. please keep Cy's wife, Marilyn and the extended Gamber family in your thoughts and prayers. Go to <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/tampa-fl/cyril-gamber-12970541> to access his obituary.

The Tampa Chapter has officially placed our 250 Liberty Tree/Bench order at Veterans Memorial Park located at 3602 US 301 in Tampa. Chapter president, Roger Roscoe, would like to express my deep gratitude to everyone that was able to donate on this project. He especially would like to thank 2nd Vice President Joe Dato and Treasurer Judge Holder for leading this committee to success. It will take around three months for the bench to be created and engraved. We are planning on having a ribbon cutting ceremony and reception in the fall. The City of Tampa has agreed to donate a Liberty Tree and plaque to the Tampa Chapter at the Julian B. Lane Riverfront Park in downtown Tampa.



Cadet/Major Arthi Gouravelli, a Junior at Middleton High School who was our Tampa Chapter winner had been awarded the JROTC Outstanding Cadet of the Year from the Florida Society as well as the National Society's 1st Place Outstanding Cadet of the Year. This is the second time in four years that the Tampa Chapter JROTC student from Middleton High School has been presented this Florida and National Society's Top award. We are extremely proud and happy for Arthi. I want to thank Terry Doan, our JROTC Chairman for all of his time working with all of the Hillsborough County Schools for another successful year with the JROTC program.

The Tampa Chapter Color Guard participated again this year at the American Legion Post 5 Memorial Day Ceremony. Compatriot Terry Doan was the Master of Ceremonies for this very special and moving ceremony.

Withlacoochee Chapter

Withlacoochee continues to be very active, and well-travelled. Chapter President and North Central Regional VP, David Hitchcock and his wife Charlotte, travelled to David's home to Brimfield, MA where he marked the grave of his Patriot, Deacon Joseph Hitchcock, with a granite marker, assisted by member of the local SAR Color Guard. The following day David enjoyed a well-attended, and widely covered celebration of his family's deep roots, and historical impact on the community.

Recording Secretary and Color Guard Commander, Thomas Bowen, attended the 20th Anniversary Purple Heart Ceremony at the Citrus County Fairgrounds in Inverness, FL, hosted by the Aaron A Weaver, Chapter 776 Military Order of the Purple Heart. Tom was selected and invited by Chapter Commander Richard Hunt, a decorated veteran himself, to award the Badge of Military Merit to wounded Vietnam Veteran William Korber. It was, of course, a very moving evening.

Compatriot Charles 'Chuck' Wilson and wife Patricia, travelled to Pompano Beach, FL to join in the National Event celebration for the First Amphibious Assault Memorial dedication. Chuck and Patricia were representing themselves as donors to the memorial, as well as the Withlacoochee Chapter, President/NC Regional VP David Hitchcock, and Treasurer Richard Bailey who also proudly donated.

Withlacoochee being well-represented at the Spring BOM, a highlight was the Black Powder Training Class conducted by our Compatriot Mark Johnson, attended by eight members from multiple Chapters, in the day leading into the BOM. The class covered safe handling, loading, and firing and was considered very successful. Black Powder safety training is a point of emphasis in the SMART Report for 2026, combining both Americanism and Stark Reports. Mark Johnson is a certified NRA Black Powder Firearms instructor. He also hit the road, driving up to Delaware, to deliver a talk on Black Powder safety to the Delaware Chapter, having been invited by Former Secretary General William Greenley. Mark will be very active at the Regional and State level assisting with Black Powder Training.

Our Thomas Jefferson, Camp 11 Color Guard under Commander Thomas Bowen appeared at multiple events, including the weekend-opening of the musical play '1776' at the Stage West Playhouse in Spring Hill, over successive weekends. The Guard also joined Tampa and Clearwater chapters at an amazing Honor Flight celebration at St. Petersburg International Airport. We estimated well over 1,000 participants consisting of what looked like every veteran-oriented organization in the region, as well as countless members of the public.

Of course, 'George Washington Tent Experience' outings continued, including our presence with multiple SAR and DAR chapters, and dignitaries at the Putnam County Liberty Tree Dedication at Palatka, FL.

Numerous Youth Awards were bestowed in April and are fully detailed in our newsletter.

Celebrating America's 250th in the Heartland

On June 26, 2026, with several hundred attendees gathered to commemorate America's 250th anniversary, the Hardee Arts and Cultural Trust hosted its Semiquincentennial celebration, Celebrating America 250 in the Heartland, at the Hardee County Agri-Civic Center in Wauchula, Florida. The event featured a diverse array of historical exhibits, living history demonstrations, patriotic performances, and educational presentations.

Activities began at 5:00 p.m. as visitors toured the George Washington War Tent exhibit, sponsored by the Withlacoochee Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, and met George and Martha Washington interpreters Bill and Cara Elder. At 6:00 p.m., SAR members certified in black powder arms presented an authentic Revolutionary War-era musket firing demonstration, providing spectators with a memorable glimpse into 18th-century military life.

The evening's formal program commenced at 7:00 p.m. as ten members of the Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade Color Guard, representing SAR chapters from across the state, presented the colors. Their ceremonial entrance opened a 90-minute patriotic program featuring a choir, orchestra, historical video presentations, and a dramatic reading of the Declaration of Independence by George Washington interpreter Bill Elder, highlighting the enduring principles of liberty and self-government upon which our nation was founded.



Musket Safety & Certification Class

On Thursday, October 15, 2026, FLSSAR Safety Officer Mark Johnson will conduct a musket safety and certification class for the first ten members who register. The cost of the training is \$85 per participant.

To register, please email Mark Johnson at markmcj@gmail.com with the following information:

Full name
Address
Date of birth
Email address
Phone number
NRA membership number, if applicable

Color Guard at the Atlanta Braves - NY Mets Game

On the 250th Anniversary of our nation, 33 members of color guards from several states gathered to present the colors for the Atlanta Braves and the New York Mets at Truist Ballpark in Atlanta, Georgia, on Independence Day 2026. The color guard consisted of Flag 9 Bearers, 13 Militia who fired two musket volleys, 9 cannon crew members who also fired a volley, a drummer, and our Color Guard Commander Ed Rigel Jr.

The stadium, which holds 41,000, was packed as everyone stood and chanted "USA" during the presentation. The cannon and musket fire after the National Anthem was spectacular. The opening ceremony also included an Air Force C-130 flyover, a huge America 250 flag covering the outfield, and the unfurling of a giant American flag by nearly 200 people, covering half of the ballfield.



Pictures from the Spring BOM/Annual Meeting



Florida Society
Sons of the American Revolution
REGISTRATION FORM

Fall BOM Meeting Oct 16-17, 2026

Embassy Suites Lake Buena Vista South, 4955 Kyngs Heath Road, Kissimmee, FL 34746

Registrant Info (fill in only green highlighted fields)			
Name:		Chapter:	
Date:		Email address (for confirmation):	
Guest Names:			

BOM Voting Authority (Article II, Section 1, FLSSAR By-Laws)

BOM Voting Members include FLSSAR members in good standing who are a past FLSSAR President, Patriot Medal recipient, incumbent or past NSSAR officer, incumbent FLSSAR officer or committee chairman, incumbent Florida National Trustee, incumbent chapter President and most recent past President. Additional voting members from chapters, based on chapter size, must be submitted in writing to the FLSSAR Secretary, from the chapter, prior to the BOM.

Dress Code:	<p>Saturday banquet - Business/Formal.</p> <p>Friday Meetings - Business Casual. Saturday Meetings - Business Dress.</p> <p>Colonial attire is always acceptable.</p>
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Meal Reservations (fill in only green highlighted fields)			
Special Dietary Needs: 			
Friday Ladies Tea Luncheon (Ladies only)		Saturday Evening Banquet	
Tot number of meals		at \$ 47 = \$ -	Tot number of meals at \$ 69 = \$ -
Enter number of Vegetarian meals			Enter number of Vegetarian meals
Enter number of No-Sugar Desserts			Enter number of No-Sugar Desserts
Total Amount to Pay			
			Registration Fee (Members only) \$ 20
			Total Amount Due \$ 20

Hotel room reservations, at the group rate, must be made no later than 14 days prior to the BOM weekend. (Oct 5, 2026), via the online reservation link or at 407-597-4000.

Registration forms must be received by the ExAdmin no later than 10 days prior to the BOM weekend. (Oct 5, 2026) (Email preferred)

Pre-payment of registration is now mandatory. Payment options are:

By check (payable to "FLSSAR"), mailed to the ExAdmin at:

Scott Breckenridge
1862 Buckridge Rd
Jacksonville FL, 32225

It is recommended to not send cash in the mail. If you wish to pay with cash, the recommendation is to obtain a money order and mail that to the ExAdmin.

Payment via Bank Transfer / "Zelle" using the email: flssar.treasurer@gmail.com

Payment must be received no later than 10 days prior to the BOM weekend. This will allow the FLSSAR to meet its contractual obligations to notify the hotel of final numbers prior to the event. Once the hotel has been notified of final numbers, we are required to pay for that number of meals.

If payment is not received by the deadline, seats at the banquets will not be available.

The ExAdmin will notify members upon receipt of payment. If notification is not received within two weeks of mailing, it is advisable to contact the ExAdmin.

Payments will be deposited within two weeks of receipt.

Seats for any lunch/banquet will not be offered without payment for the meal.

BOM Banquet cancellation policy mirrors national policy - Any cancellation occurring after the Registration Deadline will not be reimbursed.

hello

TAKE NOTICE,

A CALL TO ARMS & HONORABLE SERVICE

GOOD CITIZENS, PATRIOTS AND LOVERS OF LIBERTY,
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO JOIN IN THE NOBLE
REMEMBRANCE OF VALOR AND SACRIFICE AT THE
ANNUAL REENACTMENT OF THE BATTLE OF BLUE LICKS!!



RE-ENACTORS & VENDORS
WANTED!!!!



STEP FORWARD AND TAKE YOUR PLACE AMONG THE
BRAVE SOULS WHO BRING HISTORY TO LIFE. YOUR
PRESENCE IS MOST EARNESTLY DESIRED.

* THE BATTLE IS ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 15TH @ 5:00PM *

* PRE BATTLE SAFETY CHECK IS AT 4:00PM
AT THE BLUE LICKS BATTLEFIELD MUSEUM *

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT,

MATTHEW DOLLAR,
PARKS PROGRAM SERVICES SUPERVISER
BLUE LICKS BATTLEFIELD STATE PARK
(859) 289-5507
MATTHEW.DOLLAR@KY.GOV
10299 MAYSVILLE ROAD, CARLISLE, KY

Chapter Meeting Locations

Chapter	Meeting Location	Monthly Meeting Day	Months Not Meeting
Brevard	The At-Ease Club at the Indian River Colony Club 1936 Freedom Dr, Melbourne, FL 32940	3rd Sat., 11:00 AM	July & August
Caloosa	Famous Dave's BBQ 12148 S Cleveland Ave, Ft Myers, FL 33907	2nd Tues. 11:45 AM	June - August
Central Florida	Winter Park Elk's Club - 4755 Howell Branch Rd, Winter Park, FL 32792	2nd Sat. (Typically)	June - August
Charlotte	American Legion Post #110 3152 Harbor Blvd., Port Charlotte, FL 33952	2nd Fri., 11:30am	June - September
Clearwater	The Regency Oaks 2751 Regency Oak Blvd, Clearwater, FL 33759	3rd Wed, 11:30 AM	June - August
Daytona-Ormond	Varies	varies	
Emerald Coast	Faith Independent Baptist Church, 1309 Valparaiso Blvd, Niceville, FL 32578	2nd Sat., 8am	
Flagler	Palm Coast Library - 2500 Palm Coast Pkwy, Palm Coast, FL 32137	3rd Wed., 1pm	
Ft Lauderdale	Outback Steakhouse, 2725 S. University Drive, Davie, FL	3rd Sat., 11:30 a.m.	August & December
Gainesville	Mi Apá Latin Café 14209 W Newberry Rd Suite B, Newberry, FL 32669	3rd Tues., 5:30 PM	June - August
Highlands	Dee's Restaurant, 138 N. Ridgewood Drive, Sebring Florida 33870	3rd Sat., 11:30 am	June - August
Jacksonville	Holiday Inn & Suites, 620 Wells Rd, Orange Park, FL	3rd Tues.	June - August
Lake City	Ole Times Country Buffet, Lake City Mall	2nd Monday 6pm	June - August
Lakeland	Cleveland Heights Golf Club, 2900 Buckingham Ave, Lakeland, FL 33803	3rd Sat., 11:30am	June - August
Lake-Sumter	John Gella Memorial American Legion Post 219, Fruitland Park, FL	1st Sat., 11am	July - September
Miami	American Legion Post 98, 303 Alhambra Circle, Coral Gables, FL 33134	3rd Sat., noon	
Naples	Tiburon Golf Club 2620 Tiburon Drive Naples, FL 34109	2nd Thurs., noon	June - September
Ocala	Ocala Elk's Club - 702 NE 25th Ave, Ocala, FL 34470	3rd Wed., 11:30am	
Okeechobee	Brown Cow Sweetery, 103 SW Park St, Okeechobee, FL 34974	2nd Sat.	
Palm Beach	Embassy Suites Hotel, 1601 Belvedere Road, West Palm Beach, FL	3rd Tues.,noon (Typically)	June - September
Panama City	Sonny's BBQ Restaurant at 2240 S. Hwy. 77, Lynn Haven, FL	4th Tues., 05:30 PM CST	
Pensacola	Calverts in the Heights, 670 Scenic Hwy, Pensacola, FL	3rd Mon., 5:00 PM CST	
Sarasota	Der Dutchman Restaurant, 3713 Bahia Vista St, Sarasota, FL 34232-2409	2nd Sat., 11:45am	June - September
South Shore	The Plaza Club at 3932 Upper Creek Drive, Sun City Center, FL	2nd Sat., 11:30 AM	
St Augustine	Chapman Community Education & Conference Center	2nd Sat., 2:00 pm	June - August
St Lucie River	Mission BBQ, Port St Lucie, FL	2st Sat, 11:00 AM - 1 PM	June - September
St Petersburg	St Petersburg Yacht Club; Quarterdeck Room; 11 Central Ave, St. Petersburg, FL 33701	3rd Sat, 9am - 11am	June - August
Tallahassee	Sauls-Bridges Post 13 229 Lake Ella Drive Tallahassee, FL 32303	3rd Sun., 6 pm	
Tampa	Arthenia Joyner Community Library, 13619 N 22nd Street, Tampa, FL 33613	2nd Sat., 11:30am	June - August
The Villages	Captiva Recreation Center, the Village of Sanibel, 658 Pinellas Place The Villages, FL 32163	2nd Sat., 10AM to Noon	
William Dunaway	Jim's Buffet and Grill, 4329 Lafayette Street, Marianna, FL	2nd Thurs., 6:00pm	
Withla-coochee	22495 Chinsegut Hill Rd, Brooksville, FL 34601	2nd Sat., 10:30 AM	June - August