



The Florida Patriot

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

Volume 53, No. 2.

Summer 2024

247th Anniversary of the Battle of Thomas Creek at the Jax Airport Hotel



SAR

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

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

The Florida Patriot

The *Florida Patriot* is the official magazine of the Florida Society, Sons of the American Revolution (FLSSAR). It is published quarterly. The digital subscription to this magazine is part of the Florida Society SAR dues. While a printed/mail subscription is available. 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.



Pictures from the Battle of Alligator Creek Ceremony



Florida Society Officers

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 SVP – Christopher E. Washler

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 RVP NW – Donald M. Wilham
 RVP NC – Stephen G. Hohman
 RVP EC – Harry L. Rinker
 RVP WC – A. Parks Honeywell
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 Parliamentarian – open (appointed)

National Trustee – Steven R. Fields
 Alt. Trustee – James Y. Gaskins

Color Guard

Commander	Scott Breckenridge
Vice Commander	Jeffrey F Brunelle

The Florida Patriot Staff

Editor	Jeff Sizemore
Membership Database	Scott Breckenridge

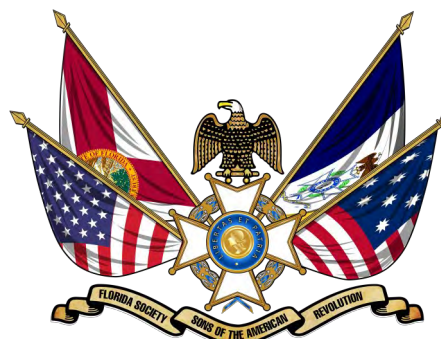
Submission Deadline Dates

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

Fall 2024 Issue	9/1/2024
Winter 2025 issue	12/15/2024
Spring 2025 Issue	3/15/2025
Summer 2025 Issue	6/15/2025

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Florida Ladies' Auxiliary Officers

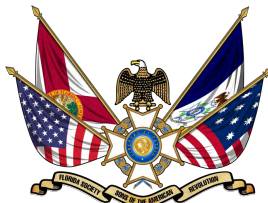
President	Jill Fields
Vice President	Cara Elder
Treasurer	Jane Myle-Brunelle
Registrar	Colleen Paige
Secretary	Joni Laramore
Historian	Anne McGuire
Chaplain	Debi Allen

Content Submission

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

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

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



Society President's Message



Compatriots,

First, I offer CONGRATULATIONS to outgoing FLSSAR President Steve Fields and Lady Jill on a job well done. President Fields took the reins and led the Florida Society to a successful year beginning with a resoundingly well-received and attended 133rd Congress. His leadership and steady hand enabled the volunteers of the Florida Society to make a hard job "look" easy and garner kudos from NSSAR.

Additionally, I want to thank each of you, the Compatriots of the Florida Society for placing your trust in me by your vote for President for 2024-2025. Clearly the volunteer membership is the strength of the Society just as the Committees provide the energy and "sweat equity" at the grass roots level to provide support for our many goals.

I've asked each of our Committee Chairmen to review their FLSSAR Charters and include both their long- and short-term goals for the year in their Committee Reports to the Proceedings. Committees have individual charters and will have different types of goals. Competition committees have a long-term goal, but if they don't attain their short-term goals there's an increased probability nothing good will happen in the end.

Senior VP Chris Washler will coordinate RVP/Chapter-level training at the Fall BOM. Please, push your needs/ideas his way and help him out when it comes to your field of expertise.

The America 250 publicly educates, recognizes, honors, and celebrates the events and heroes of the period surrounding the American Revolution. The program encourages and recognizes those compatriots, chapters and societies that participate in local, state, national and international events which Individual participation involves the planning and execution of these events, as well as attendance.

The Florida Society is alive and well. At mid-year FLSSAR membership stands at 2,365. We're growing every month. Many thanks and kudos to all our Registrars for getting the applications from the Chapter to FLSSAR Registrar and on to NSSAR for approval. FLSSAR Registrar Ray Lantz reports the FLSSAR New Member Statistics place us as Number one in the National level at 79...NCSSAR coming in second at 58 new members!

Our recruiting begins on several levels, but ultimately depends on the first-time impression that we make...remember you never know when you might be talking to our next Compatriot!

NSSAR Membership Committee released the results of their studies on recent trends and is offering tools that should enable respective Societies to reach out to Compatriots who have fallen from the rolls and encourage them to rejoin our ranks. Our Membership Promotion and Retention Committee has taken this for action and will reach out to our RVPs and Chapters. A recurring problem is the retention of current members... i.e., dues paid prior to December 31st to qualify for current membership in the final Reconciliation to be submitted to NSSAR. Participation in Chapter events throughout the year, Chapter- and State-level committee membership, holding Chapter office and Color Guard participation are proven steps to encourage continued membership...remember that enthusiasm does not well up from below!

What is an E-Book?

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

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



SONS of the AMERICAN REVOLUTION
Patriotic ★ Historical ★ Educational

Clearly-stated goals encourage the volunteer spirit that keeps the passion for the goals of our Society in the forefront. That passion easily translates into a productive, satisfying, fun-filled environment topped off with the harmony that's the strength of all societies, especially ours.

When we refer to our newly minted Mission Statement, the future of our country and the SAR is squarely focused on patriotism, service and educating our youth. Our programs that support education, Scouting, JROTC/ROTC programs, orations, essays, posters, folders, etc., and their educators focus on those goals.

Let's have fun and get to work...Many hands make light work.

MISSION STATEMENT

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

Jim Gaskins

Florida Society President, 2024-2025

Calendar of National Events

August 17, 2024: Battle of Blue Lick Memorial Ceremony
October 3, 2024: NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting - Louisville, KY
October 10, 2024: 250th Anniversary of the Battle of Point Pleasant
February 27, 2025: NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting - Louisville, KY

Battle of Thomas Creek Update

The 247th Anniversary of the Revolutionary War Battle of Thomas Creek (The Southmost Battle of the American Revolution War) was held on March 23, 2024. This ceremony is normally held at the battle location of Seaton Creek Historic Park in Jacksonville. However, due to a forecast of heavy rains at the park the location was changed to a large airport hotel meeting room.

Even though we thought the turnout would be low due to bad weather, we again had over 100 in attendance. For this National Color Guard Event, we were honored to have our National Color Guard Commander Scott Collins, who organized a large color guard of SAR compatriots and C.A.R members in presenting the colors. Greetings were given by the City of Jacksonville, NSSAR from VPG James Wyrosdick, Florida State President, Steve Fields and Georgia State President Ed. Rigel, Jr.. Greetings were given by FSSDAR Vice Regent Kim Zeman, N.E. Regents Council, President Betty Reed and by FSSC.A.R. State President Sydney Wagnstrom. Compatriot Dr. Roger Smith again gave us an enthusiastic presentation on why General George Washington wanted to make N.E. Florida our 14th Colony. All the attendees enjoyed the ceremony honoring our Patriots who fought and died in this second of three failed attempts ordered by General George Washington to make N.E. Florida our 14th Colony.

We are looking forward to next years Thomas Creek Ceremony to be held at Seaton Creek Historic Preservation Park on Saturday 29 March 2025 as we march towards our Nations 250th Anniversary.

Proposed Changes to the Standing Rules and Procedures.

The FLSSAR Executive Committee plans to present the following proposed changes to the Standing Rules and Procedures at the Fall 2024 BOM meeting.

Section 100 (Members)

Section 100, Regular Members, presently reads as follows:

A Regular Member is age 18 or older who pays annual dues. Only regular members may vote and hold office in the SAR and receive the Patriot Magazine for free.

Proposed Amended Section 100, Regular Members, revised as follows:

A Regular Member is age 18 or older who pays annual dues. **All members, except Juniors, may vote at the Annual Meeting** and hold office in the SAR ~~and receive the Patriot Magazine for free.~~

Justification:

The original text implies that Life, Active Duty, and Dual members cannot vote, and that is not the case. All members can vote only at the Annual Meeting. BOM meeting voting is restricted to BOM Members. The Patriot Magazine is no longer provided for free, except in electronic format.

Section 100, Dual Members, presently reads as follows:

A member in good standing may transfer to any other state society, subject to the acceptance of that body.

Transfer forms are available from state societies, National Headquarters, or the NSSAR web site. The Transfer form is sent to National Headquarters for registration once it is signed by the secretary of the state society of current affiliation and the secretary of the state society to which transfer is desired.

Proposed Amended Section 100, Dual Members, revised as follows:

Move to Section 100, Regular Members.

Justification:

This does not only apply to Dual members.

Section 100, Dual Members, presently reads as follows:

A member whose primary membership is in one state, and his current dues have been paid, and wishes to apply for dual membership in the Florida Society shall complete the upper half of form and send to the Treasurer of the Chapter with whom he will affiliate in Florida with a check for State dues, and the prevailing Chapter dues. The chapter secretary sends the form and two checks to the FLSSAR Secretary. Refer to the NSSAR website for current forms and fee schedules.

Proposed Amended Section 100, Dual Members, revised as follows:

A member whose primary membership is in one state, and his current dues have been paid, and wishes to apply for dual membership in the Florida Society shall complete the upper half of form and send to the Treasurer of the Chapter with whom he will affiliate in Florida with ~~a check~~ **payment** for State dues, and the prevailing Chapter dues. The chapter secretary sends the form and ~~two checks~~ **payment for State dues** to the FLSSAR Secretary. Refer to the NSSAR website for current forms and fee schedules.

Justification:

The method of payment need not be specified.

Section 105 (Regional Vice President)

Section 105, A.7, presently reads as follows:

Submit Quarterly reports to the BOM describing RVP visitations and service to Chapters – as well as information about chapter activities.

Proposed Amended Section 105, A.7, revised as follows:

Prior to each BOM Meeting, submit ~~Quarterly~~ reports to the BOM describing RVP visitations and service to Chapters – as well as information about chapter activities.

Justification:

BOM Meetings are no longer held quarterly.

Section 105, B.7, presently reads as follows:

Upon election to office at the Annual Meeting of the State Society, the State Secretary will provide each RVP with...

7. A supply of up-to-date FLSSAR letterhead and envelopes or templates.

Proposed Amended Section 105, B.7, revised as follows:

Remove from Section 105 (RVP), B.7 and from Section 106 (Secretary), j.7

Justification:

We no longer send letters.

Section 107 (Treasurer)**Section 107, 7, presently reads (in part) as follows:**

7. Maintain a record of the name, location, and custodian of, and custody receipts for, items of furniture, office equipment, flags, amplifying and/or recording equipment, and other such property items owned by the FLSSAR including inventory of library books and documents.

Proposed Amended Section 107, 7, revised as follows:

Remove this item.

Justification:

This is a duty of the Sergeant-at-Arms, not the Treasurer.

Section 110 (Registrar)**Section 110, 1, presently reads (in part) as follows:**

The Secretary shall keep a Register of the names and dates of election, transfer, resignation and death of all active members.

Proposed Amended Section 110, 1, revised as follows:

Move this sentence to Section 106 (Secretary).

Justification:

This is a duty of the Secretary, not the Registrar.

Section 122 (Vice President General South Atlantic District)**Section 122, presently reads (in part) as follows:**

Once each four year period, the FLSSAR shall nominate a qualified member of the FLSSAR to the Annual South Atlantic District Meeting to be the nominee to the NSSAR for Vice President General of the South Atlantic District.

Proposed Amended Section 122, revised as follows:

Once each four year period, the ~~FLSSAR~~ **Board of Managers** shall nominate a qualified member of the FLSSAR to the Annual South Atlantic District Meeting to be the nominee to the NSSAR for Vice President General of the South Atlantic District. **The nominee will be selected at the BOM meeting just prior to the Annual South Atlantic District Meeting.**

Justification:

We've been doing this at our Annual Meeting. But usually the Annual South Atlantic District Meeting occurs before our Annual Meeting.

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

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

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

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

Justification:

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

Section 500 (Rules of Protocol)**Section 500, Requests for Visits By the President General, presently reads as follows:**

Please refer to NSSAR Official Handbook Volume II: History, Organization and Protocol and follow the section "Requests for visits by the President General."

Proposed Amended Section 500, Requests for Visits By the President General, revised as follows:

Please refer to NSSAR Official Handbook Volume ~~on Protocol II: History, Organization and Protocol~~ and follow the section "Requests for visits by the President General."

Justification:

This section is now in Volume IV. It could change at any Congress, so just leave it out.

Section 500, Wearing Medals, presently reads as follows:

The NSSAR Color Guard in July 2011 voted to allow the State Color Guard Commander to have the authority to allow or disallow the wearing of medals by Color Guard members in his Brigade. The Color Guard Commander in charge makes the final decision on the permission to wear medals on the Color Guard uniform during SAR internal events such as chapter, state and national meetings where the general public is not present. Therefore the Color Guard Commander makes that decision for all state meetings where the general public is not present. His decision for the color guard will also be in effect for other compatriots in uniform at all state meetings. Color Guard Commander Phillip H. Tarpley in August 2011 with the members support ruled FLSSAR Color Guardsmen could wear their medals (no miniature's) if desired under guidelines set forth by NSSAR policy. The members are to follow NSSAR protocol for placement of medals.

Proposed Amended Section 500, Wearing Medals, revised as follows:**1. Rename heading to "Color Guard Wearing Medals"****Justification:**

This section only refers to the wearing of medals by color guard members.

2.

The NSSAR Color Guard in July 2011 voted to allow the State Color Guard Commander to have the authority to allow or disallow the wearing of medals by Color Guard members in his Brigade. The Color Guard Commander in charge makes the final decision on the permission to wear medals on the Color Guard uniform during SAR internal events such as chapter, state and national meetings where the general public is not present. Therefore the Color Guard Commander makes that decision for all state meetings where the general public is not present. His decision for the color guard will also be in effect for other compatriots in uniform at all state meetings. ~~Color Guard Commander Phillip H. Tarpley in August 2011 with the members support ruled FLSSAR Color Guardsmen could wear their medals (no miniature's) if desired under guidelines set forth by NSSAR policy. The members are to follow NSSAR protocol for placement of medals.~~

Justification:

While that may have been the policy at that time, it is no longer the case. As it notes, this is a decision for each Color Guard Commander, so it should not be specified here.

Section 502 (Registration and Hospitality Room)**Section 502, A.1, Regular or Special BOM Weekend, presently reads as follows:**

The registration desk personnel have the responsibility of providing the BOM Proceedings (Blue Book), meal tickets, table sign-up sheets, meeting schedule, and any other informational items.

Proposed Amended Section 502, A.1, Regular or Special BOM Weekend, revised as follows:

The registration desk personnel have the responsibility of providing the BOM Proceedings (~~Blue Book~~), meal tickets, table signup sheets, meeting schedule, and any other informational items.

Justification:

This is no longer the "Blue Book".

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.

Golding, Peter Michael	Clearwater
Cardinal, Lane Alexander	Central Florida
Cardinal, Luke Rennick	Central Florida
Swinford, Ryan Michael	St. Augustine
Swinford, Houston James	St. Augustine
Dorman, James M	Tampa
Dorman, Mark R	Tampa
Burks, Charles Daniel	Caloosa
Burks, Cameron Daniel	Caloosa
Kenney, Frank Francis	Daytona-Ormond
Kenney, Seth David	Daytona-Ormond
Kenney, Mark Allen	Daytona-Ormond
Lowe III, John Albert	Daytona-Ormond
Zumwalt, Zachary Detric	Lake-Sumter
Nichols, John Edwin	The Villages
Moore, William Lee	Pensacola
Elder, Ryan Montgomery	Central Florida
Gibbens, Evan Willard	Naples
Hermann, Christopher Lord	The Villages
Hermann, Christopher Lord	The Villages
Hermann, William Davis	The Villages
Fehervari, Alexander Kristof	The Villages
Fehervari, Nicholas James	The Villages
Bovee, H.S. Jack	Caloosa
Hewette, James Burrell	Pensacola
Calvert, Richard Scott	Pensacola
Anthony, Robin Christian	Brevard
Brass, Jason Theodore	Naples
Byer, David Eng	Emerald Coast
Roberts, Harold Fredrick	Central Florida
Johnson, Charles Reed	Central Florida
Johnson, Chase Jefferson	Central Florida
Meier, Grant Frederick	Central Florida
Meier, Matthew William	Central Florida

Holder, Gregory Paul	Tampa
Holder IV, Daniel Paul	Tampa
Holder, David Paul	Tampa
Holder, John Daniel	Tampa
Allen, Robert Louis	Palm Beach
Allen, Christopher Robert	Palm Beach
Armsbury, Ira Ray	Naples
Dennis, Andrew Walter	Withlacoochee
Scott, Matthew David	Ft. Lauderdale
Bauman, John Stuart	Naples
Cook, Jack Randall	Lake-Sumter
Cooke, David Aaron	Lake-Sumter
Rosales, Matthew Krist	Tampa
White, Keith Alan	The Villages
Dasher, Joseph Gary	Jacksonville
Parker, Stanley Thomas	Panama City
Parker, William Lee	Panama City
Cardinal, Timothy Lee	Central Florida
Cardinal, James Raymond	Central Florida
Cross, Michael	Lake-Sumter
Bradford, James Chapin	Palm Beach
Bradford, John Frederick	Palm Beach
MacMurray, Robert	Central Florida
Neal, Michael Joseph	Central Florida
Miller, Ted Kevin	St. Petersburg
Walker, John William	Charlotte
Austin, Ernest Edward	Brevard
Pike, James A.	Brevard
Gray, Richard Blain	Tampa
Cart, Brendan Avery	St. Augustine
Kaiser, Gary DeWayne	St. Augustine

The Last Roll

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

Cushing, Reynolds Prince	Charlotte
Clere, Larry Raymond	Wm Dunaway
Jones, John Clay	Caloosa
Burch Jr, Donald Levin	Lake City
Crawford, Leonard McKay	Withlacoochee
Dalley, Robert Charles	St Petersburg
Handly, James Caldwell	Tampa
Golding, Peter Michael	Clearwater



Hans Hunt receives bronze Service to Veterans medal

Chapter News

Brevard Chapter

The chapter's 2024 Youth Awards Program for ROTC/ JROTC, and Sea Cadets was again very successful. This year we recognized outstanding young people at 17 ceremonies by providing certificates and medals. These presentations were made by nine chapter volunteers who included compatriots: Bisset, Hunt, Jensen, Langan, Mihora, Miller, Russell, Scarpate, and Weaver. The members donated personal time to honor deserving individuals and provided awareness of our chapter through positive, community involvement.

The schools and organizations included: - ROTC, Florida Institute of Technology - JROTC, Cocoa High School - JROTC, Rockledge High School - JROTC, Satellite High School - JROTC, Viera High School - JROTC, Bayside High School - JROTC, Heritage High School - JROTC, Merritt Island High School - JROTC, Astronaut High School - JROTC, Palm Bay Magnet High School - JROTC, Melbourne High School - JROTC, Eau Gallie High School - JROTC, Cocoa Beach High School - JROTC, Space Coast High School - JROTC, Titusville High School - Sea Cadets, Courageous Division - Sea Cadets, David McCampbell

Division Without major support from our compatriots and a strong relationship between us and these youth organizations, this opportunity to recognize deserving young people would not occur. The Brevard Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution is proud to be engaged in local, patriotic endeavors.



Brian Jensen receives bronze Meritorious Service Medal. Christopher Ratzel receives bronze Distinguished Service medal



At the May chapter meeting, the chapter officers were installed for the upcoming 2024/2025 term.





David Garraway inducted into the Florida Society Veterans Battalion by State President James Gaskins at the June meeting.



New member Robin Anthony inducted into the Florida Society by State President James Gaskins.

Caloosa Chapter



The May 15th Caloosa Chapter Meeting was another “hit” in this year’s series and focused on the success that the JROTC Programs have had in the Lee County Schools. Our Caloosa Chapter SAR Compatriot, Major General James L. Dozier USA (Ret.), and Col. Rodney “Scott” Robinson USA (Ret.), were on hand at our May 15th meeting to proudly accept our Chapter’s \$2,000 cash donation to the JROTC Support Fund which General Dozier established, and which is named after him.

Those in attendance were treated to a power-point presentation made by Col. Scott Robinson, currently the Director of Army Instruction, Lee County,



Florida, schools.

According to Col. Robinson, JROTC offers a nationally accredited curriculum, which teaches leadership, team-building, decision-making, learning styles, emotional control, conflict resolution, financial awareness, first aid, US History, community service, personal wellness and much more. What was especially interesting was the 5-year plan that Col. Robinson explained every cadet formulates going into high school. The fact that it is a 5-year plan means that it includes the cadet’s plan for what he or she will be doing the year following graduation from high school. A plan that is carefully monitored and discussed with the cadets year to year, until graduation.

All of the Lee County High Schools offer JROTC programs, and while the curriculum is standardized, each program has unique extracurricular offerings like academic and leadership bowl, robotics, drones and aviation/flying clubs and marksmanship. JROTC cadets regularly compete in state and national contests like Robotics, Raider Challenge, Cyber Patriot Games, etc. Cadets also have the opportunity to attend STEM camp at FGCU and Adventure Camp at Camp Tanah Keeta. Instructors also take cadets to visit Fort Myers Technical College, the University of Tampa, FIU, and USF.

Some of the basic statistics that Col. Robinson shared with us were truly amazing. For example, we were told that nearly 8,000 high school students are currently enrolled in the JROTC programs in Lee County! Last school year, the cadets contributed a total of 50,000 + hours of Community Service, and over \$7 million in scholarships were achieved by the 2024 JROTC graduates. Even better, Lee County JROTC cadets had a 98.9% high school graduation rate, with 53% choosing to go on to attend college, and 19% selecting vocational technical schools. In addition, many enlist in the military.

He concluded his presentation by asking for our support in the form of cash donations to provide for more programs and scholarships.

The Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest is open to all students attending 9th through 12th grades in public, parochial or private schools, or home-school students studying at the same grade levels. Jones is a senior in high school, will be graduating in a few days, and will be attending New College of Florida this coming Fall. He plans to concentrate his studies in English Literature with the hopes of becoming a Professor in the future.



Jones decided to enter the contest at the start of his Senior year. The grandson of our Compatriot, Tom Gillaspie, and a young patriot in his own right, Jones learned that the rules of the contest required him to write an original oration of not less than 5 minutes, or more than 6 minutes. The oration must be delivered from memory, and without the use of notes or any kind of props. The subject of the oration must deal with an event, a personality, or a document pertaining to the Revolutionary War with a mention of our nation's 250th anniversary celebration. The contest rules further state that: "It is essential that each oration show the relationship it bears to America today. Evidence of historical research and creative presentation are also important. The oration will be judged based upon its composition, delivery, significance, historical accuracy, and relevance to our 250th anniversary." He chose "Courage at Lexington and Concord" as the topic of his oration, did his research, and obviously "rang the bell" in winning First Place at the Florida State SAR level.

Central Florida Chapter



Under the leadership of Past President Philip Markoe, the Central Florida Chapter awarded over 18 JROTC and ROTC medals during April and May, 2024. Phil, often accompanied by his wife Kathy, personally attended many of the award ceremonies. Pictured is Phil Markoe presenting an ROTC medal to Cadet Jackson Bradley, University of Central Florida

The Central Florida Chapter continued its commitment to a strong monthly program. When Prof Kathleen Duval, University of North Carolina, was unable to deliver her Zoom lecture entitled "The Role of the American Indians on the Southern Frontier During the American Revolution" because of illness on March 13, Harry L. Rinker stepped in on very short notice and delivered a lecture entitled "The Role of the American Indians on the Northern Frontier During the American Revolution." One of Rinker's Patriot ancestors participated in the Sullivan Exposition against the Iroquois Nation. Prof Duval's Zoom lecture has been rescheduled for January 8, 2025.

The Central Florida Chapter started a new annual tradition for its April meeting. Two to three members of the chapter were asked to become their Revolutionary War ancestors for a short 10 to 15 minute presentation. Stephen Bradbury became David Bradbury, Mile Laliberte became John Searle, and Phil Markoe became Abram Markoe. The concept and presentations were well received. Members are lining up to present in future years.

The May meeting was devoted to the annual presentation of awards. The Central Florida chapter issues its first Henry Knox awards. [Photo] Robin Preston won the prestigious Distinguished Service medal. Kathy Markoe, Phil Markoe's wife, was awarded the Medal of Appreciation and the Lydia Darragh medal [Photo]

The Central Florida Chapter's 250th Anniversary Committee is tracking member points and awarding 250th Anniversary chapter bronze medals and submitting 250th Anniversary silver (state), and gold (national) medals at a brisk pace. Harry Rinker was the first member of the chapter to be awarded the 250th anniversary gold medal. He was followed by Phil Markoe and Scott Cook. The goal is to have all active members in receipt of a bronze 250th Anniversary medal by the end of 2024 and a silver medal by the end of 2025.

The SAR 250th Anniversary flag is posted at every chapter meeting. In addition, the Central Florida Camp #10 [Daniel Morgan] does a formal flag posting November, February, and April meetings. Beginning in September 2024, every meeting will feature a 250th Anniversary minute dealing detailing what happened 250 years earlier.

The Central Florida Camp #10 [Daniel Morgan] has been very active in and out of the state of Florida. Members of the chapter color guard were well represented at the BOM. Phil Markoe, Robin Preston, and Harry Rinker attended the Anniversary celebration of the Frederica Naval Battle in Saint Simeon, GA. [Photo] Four members participated in the color guard at the June 7 dedication of the Charters of Freedom monument in Daytona Beach. Harry Rinker also joined the GASSAR in ceremonies to mark five graves in Midway, GA. [Photo] While in Michigan, Rinker participated in a Memorial Day, a 4th of July Parade, and four graveyard Plaque and grave marking dedications.

Finally, the Central Florida Chapter is proud to have three of its members holding FLSSAR officer positions: Phil Markoe (Sergeant at Arms, Maynard Pitendreigh (Chaplain), and Harry L. Rinker (Genealogist and East Central Regional Vice President). Several members also serve as committee chairmen.



The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (NSSAR) sponsored a booth at the May 23-25 meeting of the Florida Parent-Educators Association (FPEA) held at the Gaylord Palm Resort and Convention Center in Kissimmee, Florida, for the purposes of distribution information about the NSSAR’s wide range of youth programs. When the NSSAR found that the national staff designated to support the booth were unable to attend, it reached out to the Educational Outreach Committee (EOC) of the Florida State Society of the Sons of the Revolution (FLSSAR) to assume the responsibility. The EOC accepted the challenge coordinating Phil Markoe, EOC member (Central Florida) and David Francis Hitchcock, Americanism Youth Awards Committee Chair (Withlacoochee), who attended the event.

Hitchcock and Markoe took the responsibility for assembling and decorating the booth, acquiring additional copies of the youth contest flyers prepared by the EOC and introduced at

the FLSSAR Spring BOM, and contacting members of the Central Florida Chapter to provide additional support during the convention.

Hitchcock and Markoe worked from 7:00 to 11:00 PM on Wednesday, May 22, to get the booth ready. The FPEA convention began at 4:00 PM on Thursday, May 24. Markoe and his

wife Kathy hosted the booth for the full three days. Hitchcock joined them on Friday and

Saturday. Two additional members from the Central Florida Chapter worked a two-hour shift -- one on Thursday and one on Friday.

In addition to handing out material about the NSSAR Americanism Youth Awards, Hitchcock and Markoe also provided attendees with information about the CAR, DAR, and SAR. Three and one-half pages of leads for these three organizations, primarily the DAR, were gathered and are being distributed to the appropriate chapter registrars and genealogists. Markoe noted: “While most individuals were familiar with the DAR, most were not knowledgeable about the CAR and SAR. I am most proud of the increase brand recognition we created for the CAR and SAR.”

The demand for information was so heavy, the available handouts were exhausted by Saturday morning. Enough information was retained so that individuals could take pictures with their phones. In addition, Kathy Markoe, Philip's wife, visited all the booths at convention not only promoting the SAR booth but also talking with and collecting information from other exhibitors who can incorporate the NSSAR American Youth Awards into their programs.

Dave Hitchcock, Phil Markoe, and Kathy Markoe broke down the book and packed-out late Saturday night. The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (NSSAR) sponsored a booth at the May 23-25 meeting of the Florida Parent-Educators Association (FPEA) held at the Gaylord Palm Resort and Convention Center in Kissimmee, Florida, for the purposes of distribution information about the NSSAR's wide range of youth programs. When the NSSAR found that the national staff designated to support the booth were unable to attend, it reached out to the Educational Outreach Committee (EOC) of the Florida State Society of the Sons of the Revolution (FLSSAR) to assume the responsibility. The EOC accepted the challenge coordinating Phil Markoe, EOC member (Central Florida) and David Francis Hitchcock, Americanism Youth Awards Committee Chair (Withlacoochee), who attended the event.

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Clearwater Chapter



At the March 20, 2024 meeting, our guest speaker was Lori Coffey, who spoke about roles of women in the American Revolution. We inducted David Burgess and Peter Golding into our Chapter. Margaret Harris was presented a Medal of Appreciation for her service to our Chapter. President Timothy Shaner and Second Vice President Dwight McEntire were presented the Bronze Roger Sherman Certificate and Medal.

At the April 17, 2024 meeting, our guest speaker was Compatriot Warren Wilson, who spoke about the Continental Navy, its sailors, and the uniforms they wore.

On April 20, 2024, the Clearwater Chapter held our Annual Picnic at John Chestnut Park. Members from other local SAR and DAR Chapters were invited. Twenty-seven people attended.

At the May 15, 2024 meeting, our guest speaker was Compatriot and Tampa SAR President Robbie Robinson, who spoke about George Washington. Past President Walter Arnold was presented the Bronze Henry Knox Achievement Certificate and Medal.

In April and May, at various High School awards ceremonies, we awarded seven Good Citizenship Certificates and Medals, and eight JROTC Certificates and Medals to local, exceptional students located in Pinellas and Pasco Counties. We also awarded a Good Citizenship Certificate and Medal to a local Cadet of the Suncoast Squadron of the Sea Cadets.

Daytona - Ormond Beach Chapter



When the City of Daytona Beach, the Esplanade Foundation, area Shriners and residents Gary Bergenske (Past Imperial Potentate - Shriner International) and Harry Jennings working with Foundation Forward, Inc, completed their efforts to install the Charters of Freedom on North Beach Street in the Riverfront Esplanade, they requested a Colonial Color Guard for the June 7 dedication. The group reached out to the FLSSAR Sons of Liberty Brigade and the Seminole Chapter Sojourners. The Brigade asked Philip Markoe, Commander of Central Florida Chapter's Camp #10 [Daniel Morgan], to head the effort and work with local color



guard camps to recruit participants

The Charters of Freedom consists of four installations focusing on the Declaration of Independence, U.S Constitution, Bill of Rights, and Civil Rights Amendments. Although 57 Charters of Freedom displays currently are in permanent installations across America, the Volusia County installation is the first in Florida. These installations make it possible for people to view the founding documents in a proper setting without having to incur the cost of traveling to Washington, D.C.

Philip Markoe commanded ten individuals consisting of SAR color guard members from the Central Florida, Daytona Ormond, and Jacksonville chapters in addition to some additional individuals in colonial costume from other organizations. Michael Myers (Central Florida chapter) carried and posted the American flag. The SAR 250th Anniversary flag also was carried and posted.

The threat of rain did not materialize during the posting of the colors but did appear as the dedication ceremony proceeded.



Fort Lauderdale Chapter



During April's meeting, Jim Tuholski presented a briefing on his patriot ancestor and William Ashmore gave a detailed hour by hour presentation on the Battles of Lexington and Concord.

May was a busy month for the chapter where we presented awards to JROTC and ROTC students in several high schools and at the Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. We participated in the Battle of Thomas Creek Commemoration, the State BOM, and a Memorial Day Ceremony at the Spruce Creek Fly-In Cemetery. During May's meeting Rick Gallup gave a wonderful presentation on his ancestor's and other family members' participation during the Battle of Bunker and Breed's Hill. Several awards were presented including certificates of appreciation and the Roger Sherman Medal to Jim Haff.

Regional VP Charlie Hayes swore in the new officers for the 2024-25 chapter year. The new officers include President William Ashmore, VP Rick Gallup, Treasurer Jim Haff, Secretary William Elder, Registrar Kelly Crumley, Chaplain Lance Langlotz, Flag Custodian and Historian Ken Nunnolley, and at Large Board Members Charles Brinkerhoff, Bob Crawford, Newton White, and Bill Elder.

In June the chapter received recognition in the Volusia County Hometown News for its support of the color guard for the Charters of Freedom dedication ceremony in Daytona Beach.



The Fort Lauderdale Chapter continues to grow and develop. Our active membership was 50 on January 1, 2022. Two and one-half years later, we now exceed 80. Except for August, we have 10 monthly lunch meetings as well as participate in Wreaths Across America in December. We recognize America 250 at each chapter meeting with a presentation on a period event or person given by Chapter Historian, Kevin Shurte.

January 2024 marked the second year of our commitment to the building of the SAR Museum and Education Center when we presented a check for \$1,776 to SAR Foundation President, Wm. Lee Popham, Sr.

Formed in May 2023, our color guard, Samuel Nicholas Camp #23, performs the posting of colors at the opening of our monthly meetings and is becoming active in the community where we have participated at the 2023 Wreaths Across America Ceremony in Pompano Beach; 2024 Pearce Homestead Patriots Day Festival at Fort Basinger; and 2024 Pompano Beach Memorial Day Parade. This year our color guard has attended or will attend all Fort Lauderdale-based Honor Flight "Homecoming" events. Color Guardsman (and best dressed for every occasion) Kevin Shurte is quite active in joining the Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade at many statewide events, and Kevin was just named on June 1 as Adjutant by Commander, Scott Breckenridge.

Our chapter's commitment and dedication to carrying out SAR programs in our community was recognized at the May 2024 Spring BOM where we were awarded first place for a Florida medium-sized chapter in the 2023 Americanism and Chapter Challenge Contest.



In April 2024, we selected winners for the Sgt Moses Adams Memorial Brochure Contest. This was the first year that the Chapter has participated in this contest since the early 2000's. Our chapter winner was then recognized as the state winner at the 2024 Spring BOM, and that entry is now among those to be judged in mid-July at the 134th Congress.

From late April to early June 2024, our chapter was busy carrying out this year's recognition program of top JROTC and Sea Cadet candidates and recently awarded local Eagle Scouts. Twenty-eight Bronze ROTC Medals, seven Bronze Good Citizenship Medals, two Sea Cadet Bronze Good Citizenship Medals, and sixty-three Eagle Scout Certificates of Recognition were awarded. Over the last two years our chapter's leadership has attended the State BOM and the 133rd Congress. Four of these compatriots are now active with the FLSSAR as follows: Chapter President, Chuck Adams, elected S.E. Regional Vice President; Chapter Vice President, Steve DePaul, appointed Chairman, First Amphibious Assault Memorial Committee; Chapter Historian, Kevin Shurte, serving a second appointed term as Chairman of the Education Outreach Committee, and as Chairman of the American History Teacher Award Committee; and Chapter Secretary, Mark Snider, appointed to the Veteran Affairs Committee.

Jacksonville Chapter



MDN/IC & Compatriot Tyler Gaskins along with Florida Society President Jim Gaskins at the American Legion Post 316 at the Beaches Veterans Park celebrating Memorial Day.



The Jacksonville Chapter awarded Mrs. Baumgartan the Martha Washington Medal for continuing her husbands work educating our youth about the 29th Infantry Division in WWII last year.



Mrs. Rita Baumgarten (widow of Dr. Hal Baumgarten, a D-Day survivor), at the Normandy American Cemetery where she wore her Martha Washington SAR Medal.

Okeechobee Chapter

The Okeechobee Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution presented the SAR JROTC Award to Cadet Brandon Pace of the Okeechobee High School Brahman Battalion. Presenting the award to Cadet Pace was Okeechobee SAR Chapter President Don Hanna.



Pensacola Chapter



Colonel Benjamin Findley, U.S. Air Force (Ret.) is Awarded the D.A.R. MEDAL OF DISTINCTION, by D.A.R. Regent Dyan Carpenter on May 18, 2024 The awards ceremony was held at the Pensacola Atlas Oyster House. The award is based on Hannah White Arnett's patriotic words and actions during the American Revolutionary War in 1776. She motivated discouraged men to remain loyal to the cause of American independence and was a true patriot. The first meeting of the Daughters of the American Revolution Society was held August 9, 1890 by the first D.A.R. Chapter, the Hannah White Arnett Chapter, the Daughters of the American Revolution. The Fort Payne, Alabama Chapter was named after Arnett.

Efforts are underway to reactivate Pensacola's Color Guard unit, the Nathan Hale Camp (this is the name that our unit is known by as part of the Florida Society's Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade. Just a few examples of where our Color Guard are planning to make public appearances include historical events such as the Galvez Day event, and even ceremonies for the reinterment of POW/MIAs who have been identified by the Army Casualty Office.



The Okeechobee SAR Chapter presented the colors at the Highlands County Heritage Festival at the historic Peace Estate on the Kissimmee River at Fort Basinger. The Okeechobee Color Guard was joined by members of the Sebring and Ft Lauderdale SAR Chapters. The combined Color Guard is pictured in front of the Liberty Tree at the Pearce Estate.

Palm Beach Chapter

The Chapter has a proactive membership recruiting and retention effort; retaining 88% of its members at renewal and inducting 5 new Compatriots bringing its total membership to 178 with an additional 10 prospects in the application process. Membership projected to grow to 185+ in 2024. Chapter continues its 2024 meetings with a focus on the 250 Project Veterans Services, Youth Programs, Law Enforcement/First Responder recognition awarding 6 medals to *Police & First Responders/EMT*.



The Chapter presented 8 JROTC medals, 1 Knight Essay Contest medal and 2 Eagle Scout medals.



Chapter Compatriots with local *DAR Daughters* expanded its dedication to patriotic and civic service by attending 7 Patriotic events including the *Missing in America Project* where we inurned, with full military honors, the unclaimed remains of 36 Veterans of WW 2, Korea and Vietnam.



As *Florida Veterans Foundation Ambassadors*, the Chapter delivered a \$1,900 Grant to the Faith, Hope, Love Charity “Veterans Stand Down” program to feed homeless female Veterans and children.

Chapter Compatriots were represented at Patriotic events including *Flags 4 Fallen Vets* placing American Flags at Veteran Tombstones, *Forgotten Soldiers Outreach Memorial Day Wreath Laying Ceremony* and *DAR Regents American Flag Retirement Ceremony*.



Inspector General & FMR State/Chapter President Ray Wess inducted a new Compatriots Robert Allen and his son Christopher Allen into the chapter.



St. Augustine Chapter



Former Chapter President & Historian Don Lanman received a FLSSAR Roger Sherman Oak Leaf for his Bronze Medal & FLSSAR Certificate of Distinguished Service.



Gainesville Chapter

On May 27, 2024, Dave Thomas, Senior President of the Jacobs Roberts Brown chapter CAR, and his granddaughter, Sophia Miller, and Sean Tonnelier, St Augustine chapter and associate with the Gainesville chapter attended the Memorial day ceremony at Evergreen cemetery in Gainesville Florida.



On July 4 2024, several DAR and SAR joined together to march in the Micanopy Florida parade. Pictured are Terri Burrely, Bonnie Martin, Apryl Laraway, Becky Tift from the Gainesville DAR chapter. Next, Sean Tonnelier, St Augustine chapter SAR, and Gene Paige, Gainesville chapter SAR.



Mathew Joshua Sanford was formally inducted into the SAR by St. Augustine Chapter President Dr. Robert Amason on 11 June 2024. Compatriot Jordan Sanford (son) and Compatriot Ed Sanford (father) assisted with the induction ceremony. Additionally, Compatriot Jason Sanford was recently inducted into the SAR on 13 April 2024. Currently four members and three generations of the Sanford family are active members of the St. Augustine Chapter SAR. Congratulations to newly inducted Mathew Joshua Sanford and the entire Sanford family.

St. Petersburg Chapter



Vice President Harry Fuller presented a Good Citizenship Certificate and Medal to Ashley Percifield at the Osceola Fundamental High School awards ceremony on May 6, 2024.



Vice President Harry Fuller presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Captain Tristan Rizzi (Retired) for being our guest speaker at the March 16, 2024 meeting.

At our March 16, 2024 meeting, Vice President Harry Fuller presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Captain Tristan Rizzi (Retired) former Navy SEAL and Commander of Special Boat Team 22, for being our guest speaker.

At our April 20, 2024 meeting, our guest speaker was Compatriot Doug Redd, who spoke about the men who guarded George Washington during the Revolutionary War.

At our May 18, 2024 meeting, our guest speaker was Zi Azizi, a native of Afghanistan, who spoke about his childhood and his journey to, and his appreciation for the freedoms and opportunities in, the United States. We also inducted Ted Miller as a new member.

In the months of April and May, at our local High School graduations, we awarded five JROTC Certificates and Medals and four Good Citizenship Certificates and Medals to local, exceptional students in the southern Pinellas County area.

Update on the Florida Society Children of the American Revolution

On the weekend of April 18-21, members of the Florida State Society of the Children of the American Revolution attended the N.S.C.A.R. National Conference in Arlington Virginia. Attendees included: Incoming State President Caleb Golden of the Billy Bowlegs Society of Fort Myers, State President Sydney Wagnstrom of the Vaughan-Latham Society, Amelia Island, Honorary State Presidents James Hamilton and Sydney Rigaud of the Treasure Coast Society of Sebastian who also serve as national chairmen, State Chaplain Levi Golden of the Billy Bowlegs Society, and National Merit Award Chairman Aislin Alexander of the Vaughan-Latham Society, attended the National Conference of the Children of the American Revolution, (N.S.C.A.R.), in Arlington, Virginia. Senior officers in attendance were Incoming Senior State President JoAnn Welker, Outgoing Senior State President Dr. Holly Hamilton, Honorary Senior State President Ginny Poffenberger, and Senior State Historian Teri Peterson.

The Florida Society, N.S.C.A.R. received the National Society Sons of the American Revolution "SAR *Traveling Banner*" for transferring the most members to the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution during the past year. Presenting for President General John L. Dodd was Treasurer General, NSSAR and N.S.C.A.R. Senior National Treasurer Michael Elston.

Treasure Coast, Ocali, and Vaughan-Latham Societies participated in the National Merit Award Contest. Vaughan-Latham received the Gold Certificate of Achievement; one of 12 in the Nation. They also received the 2nd Place Conservation Award for their "Save the Right Whale" funding project and their "Adopt a Highway" clean up project. ChiCh- Okobee received 3rd in American Heritage. Ocali received Honorable Mention and Treasure Coast the Participant Certificate in the National Merit Award Contest.





Left to Right: Ezekiel Martin, Eli Maddox, Landon Alexander, National Membership Chairman David Jimenez, National Southeastern Regional Vice President Will Tims, Honorary State President and National Chairman Tomb of the Unknown Revolutionary Soldier James Hamilton, State SAR President Steven Fields, State President Sydney Wagnstrom, Senior State President Dr. Holly Hamilton, FSSDAR State Regent Cindy Addison, Honorary State President Emma Glazener, Honorary State President and Past National Southeastern Regional Vice President Sydney Rigaud, Kayley Kelly, Sarah VanNederynen, Lauren Glazener, National Merit Award Chairman Aislin Alexander.

On April 21st, at Mount Vernon, JoAnn Burns Welker was installed as the Senior President for the Florida Society of the Children of the American Revolution, (F.S.C.A.R). JoAnn is Senior Vice President of the Vaughan-Latham Society, F.S.C.A.R. on Amelia Island and Past Adjutant General of the Descendants of Washington's Army at Valley Forge. The 2024-2025 C.A.R. State President Caleb Golden was also sworn in at Mount Vernon, as well as the N.S.C.A.R. Senior National Southeastern Regional Vice President Dr. Holly Hamilton. Dr. Hamilton is also serving as FSSDAR State 2nd Vice Regent for the Daughters of the American Revolution, and F.S.C.A.R. Senior State Corresponding Secretary. She is an Honorary Senior State President of C.A.R.

National Merit Award Chairman, and dual C.A.R./DAR Member, Aislin Alexander, and Senior National Merit Award Chairman, and Amelia Island Chapter DAR member, JoAnn Welker presented Florida State C.A.R. President Sydney Wagnstrom with the highest level Gold National Merit Award (one of 12 in the Nation) for Vaughan-Latham Society of Amelia Island; National Second Place Award for Conservation and Sydney's State President Project on Saving the Right Whale, and Sydney received the Gold State President Award, the highest award given to a State President. Vaughan-Latham Society Senior President is Anne Wagnstrom. Anne is also a member of the Amelia Island Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.



From the Eagle Scout Committee



Lawrence Martin Capuder (Tampa Chapter) and Harry L. Rinker (Central Florida Chapter), are chairman and member, respectively, of the FLSSAR Eagle Scout Program Committee. They represented the FLSSAR and Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity - founded on the ideals of Scouting - at the Sunday, May 5, 2024 Eagle Scout Alumni Reception that was part of the 2024 BSA National Annual Meeting held at the Orlando World Center Marriott.

Capuder and Rinker shared information about the SAR Eagle Scout Scholarship program and the its commitment to honoring Eagle Scouts during their court of honor ceremony with former Eagle Scout BSA leaders at the troop, district, and national level. Capuder and Rinker, APO alumni, also explained the APO service program at colleges and universities, promoted the APO Alumni organization, and shared information about the APO Eagle Scout Scholarship, similar the SAR's program. Rinker is heading efforts to organize a Central Florida APO Alumni Association and Capuder heading those for a Tampa Bay Area APO Alumni Association.

Announcement of the Sgt. Mose Adams Memorial Middle School Brochure Contest Winner 2024

The Fort Lauderdale Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution is proud to announce that Giana Manns, winner of their chapter brochure contest, has also won first place at the state-level competition in Orlando. Judges at the 2024 Spring BOM selected Miss Manns' entry on the Bill of Rights based on its overall content, creativity, and conventions.

Ramblewood Middle School of Coral Springs partnered with the Fort Lauderdale Chapter, participating in its annual Sergeant Moses Adams Memorial Middle School Brochure Contest. Students created 359 trifold brochures on topics relating to America's founding documents and Revolutionary War era events including the Boston Tea Party and the First Continental Congress.

Eliza Hamilton: The Strong Woman Behind

By: Ada Douglas (FLSSAR 2024 Knight Essay Winner)

"Behind every strong man, there is an even stronger woman." When examining history, it is important to keep this saying in mind, as the prominent role women often play in the lives and destinies of the men they support is frequently overlooked. However, when we delve into the stories of these powerful women who were once underrated, we can see how influential their stories really are. Eliza Schuyler Hamilton is one of these women; she played a crucial and influential role in the American Revolution. While the historical narrative often focuses on the work her husband, Alexander Hamilton, did for the United States financial system, Eliza's impact was deep and profound, extending far beyond that of the battle and into the very substance of the young United States. Her life, achievements, and how she conducted her day-to-day life embodies a character and patriotism that can be used as a timeless example of a true American woman.

Throughout her life, Eliza was known for her inherent good nature and her strong Christian faith. She and Alexander met in February 1780, and they were married on December 14 of that same year. She had eight children of her own and adopted the orphaned daughter of a friend for ten years ("Elizabeth..."). Reports on Eliza's family life show that she was highly dedicated to the upbringing of her children. She ensured they all had a religious upbringing, and an associate of Alexander's even said that she "has as much merit as your treasurer as you have as treasurer of the wealth of the United States." Eliza often helped her husband in his work, too, "counsel [ing] him in his affairs and [keeping] his papers in order for him" (Turner).

However, this strong love for her family did not prevent hardships from finding their way into Eliza's life. She suffered tremendous losses over the span of three years, from losing first her younger sister Peggy to illness in 1801, her son Philip and her husband in duels, and finally, her father in 1804. After these deaths, the burden of Alexander's debts fell to her. She initially lost the Grange--their home in Upper Manhattan--to creditors. Still, she was able to pull together enough money to repurchase it, which demonstrated the very resourcefulness that got her family through such hard times. Her son James remarked that she was "a skillful house-wife, expert at making sweetmeats and pastry; she made the undergarments for her children, was a great economist and most excellent manager" (Long). Although she accumulated some inheritance money after her father's passing, she lived in "relative poverty" during her time as a widow (Turner).

Even though Eliza "had to use both strength and ingenuity to keep her remaining family afloat" after her losses, she didn't wallow in her sorrow. Instead, she threw herself publicly into charity work ("Elizabeth..."). Much of her charity work was inspired by her strong Christian faith, which was always a vital part of her life. She, along with two other women, founded the first private orphanage in New York. Eliza served as the second directress until 1821 and then as the first directress until 1848. She raised funds, collected and donated goods, and supervised the education and care of at least 765 children (Long). Regarding her charity work, she remarked, "My Maker has pointed out this duty to me, and has given me the skill and inclination to perform it" (Long). Anyone else might have been broken by the repetitive tragedy Eliza faced, but her ability to step out and pour herself so freely into her altruistic work shows true



Ms. Mann's state-winning brochure will now advance to the SAR National competition whose winners will be announced at the 134th Congress in Lancaster, Pennsylvania in July.



selflessness and an ability to put others' needs above her own.

Eliza also went on a very lengthy campaign to ensure Alexander got the recognition she was sure he deserved. She spent nearly fifty years after his death defending his name and making sense of all his papers (Presnell). She wanted to highlight his Federalist legacy further and spent numerous hours collecting his writings for publication. Eliza also sent questionnaires to many of Alexander's former colleagues to validate details in his letters (Long). Without all of Eliza's work, Alexander's impressive legacy --and the extremely popular musical about it-- would be impossible to even fathom.

Several other significant historical figures noticed her impact. In 1842, President Polk remarked "at a dinner for about 40 guests... that "Mrs. General Hamilton, upon whom I waited at table, is a very remarkable person. She retains her intellect and memory perfectly, and my conversation with her was highly interesting" (Long). Because of Alexander's relationship with George Washington, Eliza and Martha Washington were also very close, and because of this, she became a very well-known faith in both New York and Philadelphia (Turner).

Despite her many hardships and dealing with devastating losses, Eliza Hamilton lived a life reminiscent of the very values our great country was founded on. Her dedication to her family and country, selflessness, faith, and perseverance embody the very definition of what it means to be an American and show that while Alexander was a very strong man, Eliza was the even stronger woman behind him.

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From the George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest Committee

Compatriots with the 2024-2025 school year starting to get underway, it would be a great time to engage with your local school systems to get involved with the many Youth Award Programs that we offer through the SAR. While I understand from some of our experiences some of the local school systems have been reluctant to get involved with our different programs. I would suggest that there are a couple of other avenues that we could explore to get the word out about our Youth Awards Programs and give the students an oppor-

tunity to participate. If your chapters are involved with your local DAR Chapters, Scouting Programs or other civic organizations, they offer us a great opportunity to introduce our Youth Awards Programs to both parents and students. I would also recommend looking into the local Home School Programs that are being offered within many of our communities. Most of the entries in all of our Youth Awards Programs this past year came from students that were being home schooled. In fact most of our State winners this year were home schooled students.

The 2025 Knight Essay Contest is currently underway with a deadline date of 31 December 2024 for the Chapter winners to be submitted to the FLSSAR State Chairman. Chapters need to establish their own particular deadline in order to complete the Chapter portion of this contest and then submit their winning essay to the State Committee Chairman prior to the 31 December deadline. All essays need to be submitted through the closet FLSSAR Chapter to their location (Chapter locations and points of contact can be found on the FLSSAR website at fls-sar.org)

To participate students must submit an original 800 to 1,200 word essay based on an event, person, philosophy or idea associated with the American Revolution, Declaration of Independence, or the framing of the United States Constitution. The essays will be judged based upon its historical accuracy, clarity, organization, grammar, spelling and documentation.

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

Hampton E. Allen, Jr
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The Battle and Siege of Pensacola in the American Revolutionary War

by Ben Findley

Pensacola is nicknamed "The City of Five Flags" because multiple nations have at one time governed it, including Spain, France, Great Britain, the U.S.A., and the Confederate States of America. It is known as being the home of the excellent Navy's Blue Angels Flight Demonstration Team and certainly for more than hurricanes and the 1978 location where infamous serial killer Ted Bundy was arrested. Pensacola has a valuable and rich history, including a significant contribution to America's independence in the Revolutionary War.

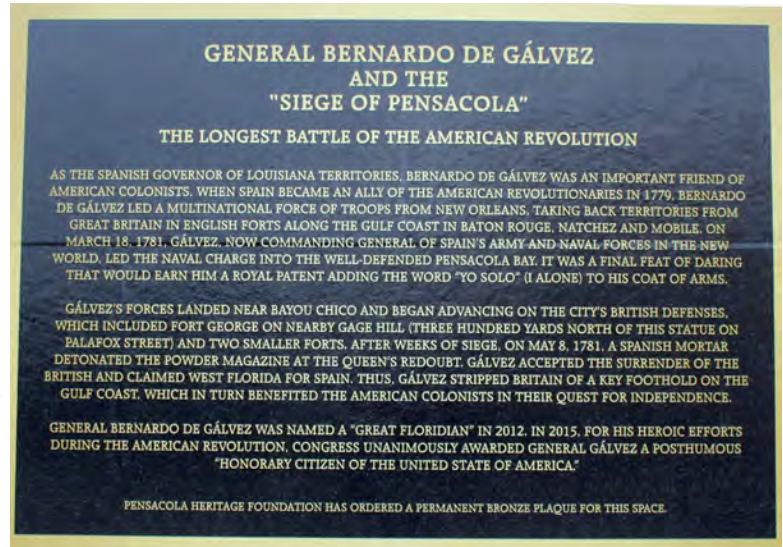
The above oil painting by Augusto Ferrer-Dalmau depicts General Bernardo de Galvez at the Battle of Pensacola. This 1781 Battle was a major part of Spain's aggressive military campaign to seize Pensacola and the nearby Gulf Coast area from Great Britain, during the American Revolutionary War. The battle secured the southern route for supplies and closed off the possibility of any British offensive through the western frontier of the United States via the Mississippi River. General Galvez and a Spanish naval force of more than 40 ships and initially 3,500 men landed at Santa Rosa Island (near Pensacola in present day Florida) and began a two-month siege of British occupying forces.

The Longest Siege of the American Revolution - Some historians call the Battle of Pensacola the "Longest Battle" and others call it the "Longest Siege" of the American Revolution. Wesley Odom's book title calls it "The Longest Siege of the American Revolution: Pensacola." Also, author Joshua Provan calls it the "longest siege of the American War for Independence." The Battle of Pensacola was fought between the British and Spanish forces in 1781 and was indeed a significant "siege" and "battle" for America's independence.

A siege is a military tactical operation in which forces surround a town, building, or group of troops, cutting off essential supplies, with the aim of forcing a surrender.



General Campbell's British troops at Fort George in Pensacola could not be re-supplied, were surrounded, and surrendered.



A battle is a prolonged military combat engagement that is well defined in force commitment, weapons, area, and duration.

Over 7,000 Spanish troops and a fleet of 40 ships attacked British forces in Pensacola and the surrounding Bay, prepared trenches and batteries, and engaged them over a 61-day period.

It was the final "Battle" for the British in their conflict against Spanish forces for control of the provincial colony of West Florida. The Pensacola Siege lasted 9 weeks from March 9 to May 10, 1781 or 63 days, including official surrender and control by the Spanish. Other American Revolution "Sieges" include the Fort Ticonderoga Siege of 5 days, the Fort Henry Siege of 6 days, the Yorktown Siege of 3 weeks, and the Charleston Siege of 45 days.

In 1779 after Spain (and France) entered the Revolution on the side of the American Colonists, British General John Campbell raised the white flag of surrender on May 8th, 1781, since he was no longer capable of defending Fort George from Spanish artillery. A grenade from a Spanish howitzer exploded the powder magazine at the Queen's Redoubt, completely destroying the structure. Pensacola officially came under control of the Spanish on May 10th, 1781.

NOTE: A Redoubt is a small, usually temporary, enclosed defensive stronghold or weapons storage area and is usually found outside a larger Fort or military base.

British West Florida - The British divided the Gulf Coast Northwest area into two new colonies in 1763 separated by the Apalachicola River. British West Florida was a region on the northern coast of the Gulf of Mexico that included the part of formerly Spanish Florida, which lay west of the Apalachicola River near Tallahassee, as well as parts of formerly French Louisiana. Its government was based in Pensacola. The British West Florida colony included about two thirds of what is now the Florida Panhandle, as well as parts of the modern-day U.S. states of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama.

British East Florida - The second colony was British East Florida, starting eastward from Tallahassee, and it was given to Spain in the final peace treaty with Britain in exchange for the Bahamas, leaving Spain in control of all of the Floridas. Both West and East Florida remained loyal to the British crown during the American Revolution, and served as havens for Tories fleeing



from the Thirteen Colonies.

Spain and America Shared A Common Enemy - Though Spain never signed an official agreement to fight alongside the United States, the two had a common enemy... Britain, long a Spanish rival... and a common friend, France, with whom both would form their own alliance.

Spain declared war on Britain in 1779, but not solely out of altruism to the American cause. Spain's goals were related to self-interest and strategic in nature. Spanish King Carlos III wanted to recover key positions in the Mediterranean lost to Britain earlier in the century, including Gibraltar, on the Spanish coast, and the island of Minorca. Preserving Spanish access to the Gulf of Mexico and Central America was also vital for Spain. Pensacola was a strategic location and chokepoint.

American Volunteers Joined with Spanish Troops to Fight the British - Don Bernardo de Galvez gathered a force of Spanish Army regulars, local militia, free Black soldiers, and a few American volunteers to first hit the British Fort at Baton Rouge (Louisiana) in September 1779. Galvez then led multinational troops from New Orleans taking back Forts from Great Britain along the Gulf Coast, including Natchez and Mobile. With help from the Spanish Navy from Cuba, Galvez engaged the British in Mobile (Alabama) in 1780. Then on March 18, 1781 as Commanding General of Spain's Army and Naval Forces at the young age of 35, Galvez led the Naval charge into Pensacola Bay to begin the Siege of Pensacola with the Spanish regulars and militia and 25 American volunteers. As a result, the Territory of British West Florida was ceded to Spain in 1783.

Galvez Received Many Accolades at a Young Age - At age 29 in 1776, Galvez was promoted to Colonel in the Spanish Army. King Carlos III of Spain appointed him Colonial Governor of Spanish Louisiana and gave him the title of Count of Galvez on January 1, 1777 at the age of 30. At age 33 in 1779, he was selected for Brigadier General and Field Marshall for Spanish Troops. Then he was promoted to Lieutenant General for all Spanish Army and Navy Forces and Governor of Cuba in 1783 at age 37. Galvez died in 1786 at the age of 40 from Typhus in Mexico City. There is a Galvez Street in New Orleans named for him, a large inscribed Statute of him on horseback in Pensacola, FL with several S.A.R., D.A.R., and Heritage Foundation plaques, and a Mobile, Alabama statute of him in Spanish Plaza.

Pensacola is regarded as his greatest victory by defeating the British. And it earned him a Royal Patent adding the words "Yo Solo" (I Alone) to his Coat of Arms. General Galvez was named a "Great Floridian" in 2012 and in 2015, Congress posthu-

mously awarded him "Honorary Citizen of the U.S.A."

Spain Gives East and West Florida to the United States - After lengthy negotiations, the Treaty of Adams-Onis was signed on February 22, 1819, whereby Spain gave East and West Florida to the United States. Luis de Onis was the Spanish Minister to the U.S. and John Quincy Adams was U.S. Secretary of State. Spain received no compensation and the U.S. agreed to assume liability for \$5 million in damages done by American citizens who rebelled against Spain. The Adams-Onis Treaty of 1819 was also called the Transcontinental Treaty and it was ratified in 1821.

NOTE: While under British control as colonies of the Kingdom of Great Britain until the Peace Treaty of 1783, East Florida and West Florida remained loyal to the British Crown during the American Revolution, so they did not join the revolutionaries in their fight for independence.

About the Author: Col. Ben is retired with 30 years service in the U.S. Air Force, with joint services weapons training, Special Ops duty at various bases, and served as Reserve Provost for Air University. He received The Legion of Merit award for outstanding service and achievements.

Ben is an active advocate and supporter for Veterans, being a Vietnam Era Veteran, Persian Gulf War Era Veteran- Operation Desert Shield - Operation Desert Storm, Operation Restore Hope in Somalia Era Veteran, and Bosnia War Era Veteran.

NSSAR Youth Video Contest

On 7 May 2024, the Executive Committee considered and approved a formal proposal to create the NSSAR Youth Video Contest as a full National level program. In addition, the Youth Video Contest Committee was established to administer the program. Upon achieving their goal, the Task Force was dissolved and this Chairman would like to thank each of the members (as well as non-members) for their hard work and support in making this new youth contest a reality.

At this time, the Youth Video Contest Committee encourages each of the State Societies to establish and administer a Youth Video Contest. A tool kit is being prepared with documents and materials necessary to build a program. Help is available.

During a recent Zoom meeting, the contest rules were reviewed, amended, and updated. Some essential changes include:

Contestants have been expanded to include all Middle School and High School students (6th – 12th grade)

Entries may be submitted by a single contestant or by a group.

Video length: 3 – 5 minutes

Language regarding original content, copyright infringement, plagiarism, and Artificial Intelligence has been expanded.

Prizes for the 2024-2025 school year:

First Place: \$1500

Second Place: \$500

The First Place winner will receive a stipend of up to

\$1500 to reimburse travel to the NSSAR National Congress

Cash awards greater than \$600 may be received as a scholarship with the completion of appropriate tax documents. The deadline for submission at the National level is 15 February.



Lapel pins are available at the bronze level for \$100 and the silver level for \$250. Donations should be sent directly to Headquarters and designated to benefit the Youth Video Contest.

Please contact the Chairman with your questions and offers of support.

Respectfully submitted,
Keith A Weissinger, MD
Chairman, Youth Video Contest Committee
kweiss47@comcast.net

Host BOM Assignments

At each Florida Society BOM meeting, volunteers are needed to host the membership table; as well as, the hospitality room. At the table where members come to get their packages at each Board of Management meeting, several people are needed Friday morning and Saturday morning.

Depending on the meeting, additional members may be needed.

For the hospitality room, volunteers are needed to man when it is open. Refreshments such as K-cup coffees, soft drinks, individual size chip packages, cracker packages, cookie packages, and candy are to be acquired before each meeting. The specific guidelines for host registration and hospitality are found in the FLSSAR Standing Rules located under the Governing Documents tab of the flssar.org website.

The projected schedule of the regions to assist at the upcoming BOM meetings that volunteers are needed are as follows: (a) Spring 2025 – East Central, Fall 2025 – South West, (d) Spring 2026 – South East, and (e) Fall 2026 North East. Please consider volunteering at future meetings as needed.

Endowment Trust Fund

Distribution Committee

Hopefully all our chapters have had a busy spring and made lots of awards that the ETF will gladly reimburse. The ETF program year doesn't end until November 1st. but there is no use waiting until the last minute. Be sure to use the current form on the state web site so you see all the increases we made last fall as well as a form that is better overall. Remember these awards are for non-SAR members, medals are reimbursed at 100% and other activities at 75%. This is a great way to reach out to your community. And it helps generate membership.

The Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution

MARCH 15, 2025

9:30am Assembly - 10:00am Step-off

At the Brevard Veterans Council

400 South Sykes Creek Parkway, Merritt Island, FL 32952

After the event feel free to visit their Military Museum and Memorial Plaza

THE HOST CHAPTER, THE BREVARD SAR CHAPTER, INVITES YOU AND YOUR FAMILY TO JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THIS HISTORIC EVENT. ALL PATRIOTIC COLOR GUARD UNITS ARE INVITED.



FLORIDA SOCIETY
 SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
REGISTRATION FORM

Fall BOM Meeting Oct 11 – 12, 2024
 Embassy Suites Lake Buena Vista South, 4955 Kyngs Heath Road, Kissimmee FL 34746

Name: _____ Chapter: _____ National Number: _____

Date: _____ Email address (for confirmation only): _____

Guest(s) **Names(s) (list all):** _____

This is a Fill-able PDF form. You MUST save it to your PC *BEFORE* filling out the form FROM your PC's saved location. Filling it out online does not work.

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 for Saturday banquet: Business/Formal
 Colonial attire is always acceptable.

Special Dietary Needs: _____

Enter number of meals here

Enter number of meals here

Friday Ladies Tea Luncheon (Ladies only)				Saturday Evening Banquet			
Total number of meals		at \$ 46	= \$ 0	Total number of meals		at \$ 65	= \$ 0
Enter number of Vegetarian meals				Enter number of Vegetarian meals			
Enter number of No-Sugar Desserts				Enter number of No-Sugar Desserts			
Registration Fee (Members only) Enter "20" (or "35" as late fee)							\$ 20
Total Amount Due							\$ 20

You must reserve your hotel room with the Hotel at 407-597-4000 or via the online reservation link before September 26, 2024 deadline.

Due to contractual obligations with the hotel, meal reservations MUST be received ten days before the BOM – Oct 1, 2024. Submit your registration form by email, then USPS mail the check (payable to "FLSSAR") to:

FLSSAR c/o Scott Breckenridge
 1862 Buckridge Rd
 Jacksonville, FL 32225
 Email: sbreck61@gmail.com
 Phone: 904-226-9420



**Ladies Auxiliary
Florida Society
Sons of the American Revolution**

**All New Membership applications
must be mailed to the Registrar:**

Kathy Markoe
294 Blackwater Place
Longwood, FL 32750
407-729-6031
daydreamr613@aol.com

Application for Membership

PLEASE PRINT OUT THIS FORM and mail to Kathy Markoe.

Date _____

Name _____

Husband's Name (if applicable) _____

Address + Zip+4 _____

Telephone + Area Code _____

Relationship to SAR Member (if applicable) _____

SAR Member's Name (if applicable) _____

FLSSAR Chapter (if applicable) _____

New Member's Email address _____

NSDAR Chapter (if applicable) _____

Application Fee	\$10.00	<input type="text"/>
State Membership Pin (optional)	\$10.00	<input type="text"/>
National Membership Pin (optional)	\$12.00	<input type="text"/>
Postage and Handling (if ordering Pins)	\$ 7.00	<input type="text"/>
Payable to: LAFSSAR	Total Due	<input type="text"/>

For Registrar Use Only:

Date Received Membership Application _____ Check # _____

Date pins mailed to Applicant (if ordered) _____

Registrar Updated Membership Roster Date _____

Date Mailed Copy of Membership Form & Check to Treasurer _____

Date Treasurer Received Membership Form & Check _____

May 17, 2024

Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution Fees & Dues

Effective: 9/1/2024

	NSSAR			FLSSAR		
	Fees	Dues	Total	Fees	Dues	Total
Membership Annual Dues						
Regular member of a local chapter	n/a	\$50	\$50	n/a	\$20	\$20
Regular At-Large member	n/a	\$50	\$50	n/a	\$40	\$40
Life Member	n/a	\$0	\$0	n/a	\$20	\$20
Dual (primary membership is not Florida)	n/a	\$0	\$0	n/a	\$20	\$20
Emeritus 1 (exempt from all dues)	n/a	\$0	\$0	n/a	\$0	\$0
Emeritus 2	n/a	\$50	\$50	n/a	\$0	\$0
Emeritus 3	n/a	\$50	\$50	n/a	\$0	\$0
(Life or Dual) and Emeritus 2	n/a	\$0	\$0	n/a	\$0	\$0
(Life or Dual) and Emeritus 3	n/a	\$0	\$0	n/a	\$0	\$0
Junior	n/a	\$5	\$5	n/a	\$0	\$0
Life and Junior	n/a	\$0	\$0	n/a	\$0	\$0
Active Duty Military	n/a	\$50	\$50	n/a	\$0	\$0
(Life or Dual) and Active Duty Military	n/a	\$0	\$0	n/a	\$0	\$0
Applications						
New Regular application (age 18+)	\$150	\$50	\$200	\$25	\$20	\$45
New Regular application (age 18-25) - established lineage	\$75	\$50	\$125	\$25	\$20	\$45
Family Plan – First member	\$150	\$50	\$200	\$25	\$20	\$45
Family Plan – Additional members	\$75	\$50	\$125	\$15	\$20	\$35
Junior (under 18) – established lineage	\$75	\$5	\$80	\$25	\$0	\$25
Junior (under 18) – new lineage	\$150	\$5	\$155	\$25	\$0	\$25
Junior (under 18) – as part of family plan	\$75	\$5	\$80	\$20	\$0	\$20
Supplemental Ancestor	\$150	\$0	\$150	\$15	\$0	\$15
Supplemental (for each additional family member submitted at same time)	\$75	\$0	\$75	\$7.50	\$0	\$7.50
Memorial application	\$150	\$50	\$200	\$40	\$0	\$40
Transfers						
From CAR (age 18-22)	\$0	\$50	\$50	\$0	\$0	\$0
From CAR (under 18)	\$0	\$5	\$5	\$0	\$0	\$0
From Youth to Junior (under 18)	\$0	\$5	\$5	\$0	\$0	\$0
From Youth to Regular (18-29)	\$0	\$50	\$50	\$0	\$0	\$0
To a different FLSSAR chapter	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
To a different state society	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
From another state society	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Reinstatements						
Former FLSSAR member	\$0	\$50	\$50	\$0	\$20	\$20
Former non-FLSSAR member	\$0	\$50	\$50	\$0	\$20	\$20

* The 134rd Congress, on 7/13/2024, voted to increase application fees, effective 9/1/2024.

Application fee increases go into effect September 1st, 2024. For applications to receive the old rate, they must be postmarked no later than August 31st, 2024 on its way to National. Applications postmarked on September 1st, 2024, or later will follow the new fee structure.

Pictures from the Battle of Pensacola Ceremony



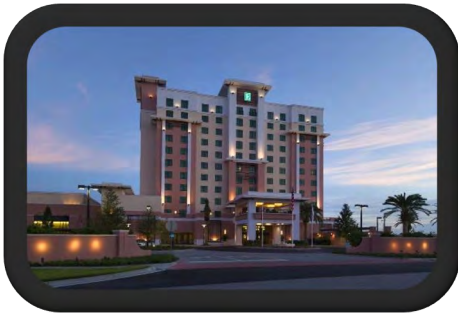


The Florida Patriot

1535 Skyline Drive

Kissimmee, FL 34744-6687

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U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Richmond, VA
Permit No. 2399



The Florida SAR Board of Management Meeting

Embassy Suites - Orlando Lake Buena Vista South

October 11 & 12, 2024

4955 Kyngs Heath Road Kissimmee, FL 34746

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

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

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

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