

## Tribute to our Veterans - From WW2 to Present





# 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



### Pictures from the Spring BOM & Annual Meeting



## Florida Society Officers

President – James Y. Gaskins  
 SVP – Christopher E. Washler

RVP NE – Charles R. Hayes  
 RVP NW – Donald M. Wilham  
 RVP NC – Stephen G. Hohman  
 RVP EC – Joel A. Etherton  
 RVP WC – A. Parks Honeywell  
 RVP SW – Jonathan D. Hunt  
 RVP SE – Charles A. Adams, II

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 Treasurer – Walter B. Arnold  
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 Mem. At Large – Hampton E. Allen  
 Recording Sec. – W. Douglas Gibbens  
 Sgt at Arms – Philip B. Markoe  
 Chaplain – W. Maynard Pittendreigh  
 Chancellor – Charles E. Klug  
 Genealogist – J. Gray Chandler  
 Historian – Joel A. Etherton  
 Editor – Jeffrey L. Sizemore  
 Webmaster – Garald K. Robinson

Executive Administrator – M. Scott Breckenridge  
 Compliance Officer – open (appointed)  
 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

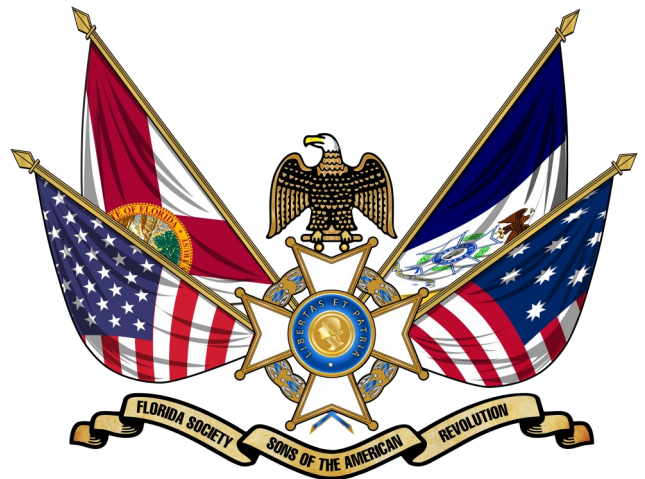
## Submission Deadline Dates

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	1/15/2025
Spring 2025 Issue	3/15/2025
Summer 2025 Issue	6/15/2025

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## Florida Ladies' Auxiliary Officers

President	Debi Allen
Vice President	Becky Washler
Treasurer	Jane Myle-Brunelle
Registrar	Kathy Markoe
Secretary	Joni Laramore
Historian	Jeni Hohman
Chaplain	Linda Jensen

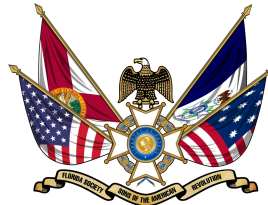
For more information, contact Kathy Markoe at [daydreamr613@aol.com](mailto:daydreamr613@aol.com)

## 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](mailto:swampfoxsar@gmail.com) or via mail at 1535 Skyline Drive, Kissimmee, FL 34744-6687.



## Society President's Message



Compatriots,

The summer has come and gone in the 2024-2025 year and the Florida Society has been busy! Our committees have formed and, thanks to the energy and enthusiasm of our membership AND the "magic" of Zoom, are off to a good start.

In addition to going through my "initiation" into the role of President of the Florida Society I've had the opportunity to visit the Brevard Chapter for their annual SAR/DAR Flag Day celebration and the Withlachoochee Chapter meeting in September to congratulate them on bringing to the Florida Society the NSSAR Meek award for the most newly installed George Washington Endowment Fund Fellows.

The 134<sup>th</sup> Congress was held in Lancaster, PA in July. President General John Dodd was succeeded by our current President General Dr. Darryl S. Addington, MD. Compatriot Addington is a South Carolina native and currently lives with his wife Mary in North Carolina. Compatriot Addington joined the Sons of the American Revolution in 1996 and has served as a state president, National Trustee and Alternate Trustee, National Surgeon General, along with Treasurer and Secretary General. He has also served on the board of the SAR Foundation.

The Florida Society was well represented at Congress and especially by our Color Guard attendees. Your Society was equally honored and recognized with the presentation of many National awards. The actual presentation of the awards occurs once a year and takes but a few moments of time. The sweat equity, time and treasure that goes into earning those individual and group awards is a whole different order of magnitude. Kudos to all who contributed to making this happen.

Among the awards we brought home include: "The Florida Patriot", Florida SAR, Jeffrey L. Sizemore, Editor was awarded the Graham T. Smallwood, Jr. Award for the state society of 500 members or more with the best news publication with more than 10 pages; The Florida Society was awarded the Walter Buchanan Meek Award to the Society which recruited the most new George Washington Fellows 2023-2024; the Walter G. Sterling Award to the State Society which enrolled the largest number of new members transferred from the C.A.R.; a Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of completion of Youth Protection Training by Leadership; the Carl F. Bessent Award to John L. Maier, Jr., Editor of "The Caloosa Patriot, Florida SAR for the most outstanding single sheet Chapter newsletter 2023-2024; and to the Florida Society, NSDAR the DAR/SAR Membership Award to the Florida DAR State Society with the highest percentage of recruiting approved SAR Members when compared to the SAR State Society's membership 2023-2024.

Equally rewarding was the Youth Awards Luncheon which recognized and presented cash awards to deserving individuals. The Florida Society was one of only 5 who had participation in all Youth categories, i.e., King Eagle Scout, Rumbaugh Orations, Knight Essay, Council of Youth Program Poster, Sgt Moses Adams Brochure, JROTC and American History Teacher.

Around the Florida Society: FLSSAR proudly sponsors three National events, The Battle of Pensacola, The Battle of Thomas Creek and the Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution. Energy and attention to details have laid the groundwork for The Battle of Alligator Bridge to continue to grow and hopefully become a fourth National event. On May



## 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

18, 2024, The Florida Society at its annual meeting approved the formation of an Ad-Hoc committee for the purpose of establishing a monument in recognition of the First Amphibious Landing of the American Revolution in which the Continental Marines came ashore on March 3, 1776.

Your Committees lead the way in keeping the Society on task, in focus and in the public eye. Notable examples are with the Education Outreach and working closely with FLDAR at Florida Fall Forum and equally important are the ongoing efforts at the grass roots level that reach into the communities and classrooms.

Now a look at the future...the Florida Society has quite a momentum going and we need to look at our respective committee goals and challenges for the rest of this year and into 2025. This is the time to review your committee charters, reaffirm your goals, set priorities and confirm due dates for report submissions.

The Florida delegation returned from Fall NSSAR Leadership held in Louisville, KY in time to prepare for the coming of Hurricane Milton. The threat a Category 5 Hurricane moving from the Gulf of Mexico to track from Tampa along the I-4 corridor to Orlando, Daytona and beyond caused the FLSSAR Executive Committee to decide to postpone the Fall FLSSAR Board of Management Meeting which was scheduled to be held at the Embassy Suites in Kissimmee. The BOM will be re-scheduled as feasible in conjunction with the availability of the Hotel.

The hopes and prayers of the Brothers and Sisters of the SAR go out to those left in sickness or distress as a result of the storm.

### 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

February 22, 2025 - Annual Celebration of the Battle of Moore's Creek  
February 27, 2025: NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting - Louisville, KY  
March 15, 2025: Commemoration of the Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution - Merritt Island, Florida  
March 22, 2025: 248th Anniversary of the Battle of Thomas Creek - Jacksonville, Florida.  
April 12, 2025: National Frederica Naval Action - St. Simons Island, Georgia  
April 18, 2025: 250th Celebration of the Battle of Lexington & Concord  
June 28, 2025: Commemoration of the Battle of Alligator Creek Bridge - Callahan, Florida.

## NSSAR 2025 Hotel Reservation Information

The registration link for rooms at the Mohegan Sun is listed below. Please make your reservations as soon as possible. Please read the whole message before you make your reservations as it is a different schedule than in the past.

For your planning purposes the following dates and information is provided

Saturday, 12 Jul, Excom/SARF meets  
Sunday, 13 Jul, Tours/Host Reception  
Monday, 14 Jul, Memorial Service, First Lady's Tea, Rumbaugh Orations, Trustees  
Tuesday, 15 Jul, Opening Ceremony, Youth Luncheon  
Wednesday, 16 Jul, District Breakfasts, Voting, PG Banquet, Ladies Luncheon

Thursday, 17 Jul, Last session, tours, Installation Banquet.  
Friday, 18 Jul, Excom/SARF meets

The Congress is slipped one day due to costs for rooms on certain nights as was briefed at Leadership.

The on-line address for registration is as follows: <https://book.passkey.com/go/NSSAR25> If you prefer to call in for a reservation the toll-free number is 1-888-226-7711 and the group code is NSSAR25

Please do not call National Headquarters or the Connecticut Society SAR if you have an issue. They cannot assist you.

Please contact Paul Callanan at [LTCMRSC@aol.com](mailto:LTCMRSC@aol.com) or (704) 756 - 0363 if you have problems. When you do contact him please make sure you explain the issues and if it is in regards to adjusting a reservation please make sure you have the reservation confirmation number available.

## Deadlines for Specific Events

(Committee Chairmen, if you notice any items that need to be updated, contact the FLSSAR Secretary).

### Report Chapter Officers

Deadline: 2 weeks following the election of chapter officers  
Email the names and positions of the newly elected officers to the FLSSAR Secretary

### Submission of the Chapter Annual Report and Dues

Deadline: December 15  
Detailed information will be sent by the FLSSAR Secretary in mid-September. The report accounts for the current membership listing those who have paid dues and those who have dropped their membership. The check paying for National and State dues will accompany the report and is sent to the FLSSAR Secretary.

### Chapter Challenge / Americanism

Deadline: March 1  
This contest pits Florida chapters of similar size against each other in friendly competition based on their activities for the calendar year. Send your form to the FLSSAR Secretary. In addition, NSSAR sponsors the President General's Activities Competition. To enter this competition, send your form to the National Americanism Committee Chairman. Both competitions use the same National form, available from the National Americanism Committee at <https://www.sar.org/committees/americanism-committee/>

### Stark Award: Service to Veterans

Deadline: February 1  
This contest seeks to encourage and reward chapters to engage in veterans affairs programs. Find the required form at <https://flssar.org/FLSSAR/Docs/Forms/Stark.pdf>  
Send this form to the FLSSAR Veterans Affairs Committee Chairman.

### Earl Marlin Publicity Contest

Deadline: February 1  
This contest seeks to encourage and reward chapters in their efforts to gain publicity for their chapter and the SAR. The contest is run on an annual basis, Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 of the calendar year. Entries are due Feb. 1. Information can be found at

<https://flssar.org/FLSSAR/Docs/Forms/EarlMarlinCriteria.pdf>. Send first via email to Chairman at [swampfoxsar@gmail.com](mailto:swampfoxsar@gmail.com).

### NSSAR Chapter Newsletter Contest- the Carl F. Bessent Award

Deadline: December 15 To be eligible for competition, there should be a minimum of two (2) issues per year submitted to the NSSAR Newsletters and Publications Committee Chairman by December 15. Details can be found at: <https://www.sar.org/committees/newsletters-and-publications-committee/>. Send to [swampfoxsar@gmail.com](mailto:swampfoxsar@gmail.com).

### Americanism Elementary School Poster Contest

Deadline: April 1  
Purpose: To help stimulate interest in American History in support of the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Grade curriculum. Use the following to find the guidelines and entry form: <https://flssar.org/FLSSAR/Docs/Forms/Americanism%20Elementary%20School%20Poster%20Letter.pdf>

### Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest

Deadline: December 15  
Information about this contest can be found at: <https://www.sar.org/committees/rumbaugh-orations-contest-committee/> Included on the website are rules, judging criteria, and much more. In order to enter a contestant from your local chapter contact FLSSAR Rumbaugh Chairman mid-December.

### George S. & Stella M. Knight Essay Scholarship Contest

Deadline: January 30  
Information about this contest can be found at <https://www.sar.org/committees/knight-essay-contest-committee/> Included on the website are rules, judging criteria, and much more. The FLSSAR contest is primarily run at the state level however local chapters are welcome to conduct local contests. If your chapter wishes to participate alter the rules found on the website changing the section on how to submit an entry. The State Chairman needs to have the winning essay, the names of the other participants, and the one page Chapter form for the contest found on the NSSAR website in the Knight Essay Section.

### Arthur M. & Berdena King Eagle Scout Scholarship

Deadline: December 31  
Scouts who are currently active in their unit and have not reached their 19 birthday during the year of application are eligible to enter the scholarship competition. Contest details and the applications form can be found at the National Website at: <https://www.sar.org/arthur-m-berdena-king-eagle-scout-contest/>



## **Proposed Changes to the By-Laws**

The FLSSAR By-Laws Committee plans to present the following proposed changes to the By-Laws that will be voted on at the Spring 2025 BOM/ Annual Meeting.

Proposed By-Laws Amendment  
Article I (The Society), Section 3 (Members)

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

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

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

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

**Justification:**

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

Proposed By-Laws Amendment  
Article I (The Society), Section 3 (Members)

**By-Laws Article I, Section 3.c, presently reads as follows:**

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

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

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

**Justification:**

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

Proposed By-Laws Amendment  
Article II (The Board of Management), Section 2 (Powers)

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

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

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

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

**Justification:**

This is obviously pointing to the incorrect section.

Proposed By-Laws Amendment  
Article III (Officers), Section 1 (Titles)

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

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

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

Proposed By-Laws Amendment  
Article I (The Society), Section 4 (Annual Meeting)  
Article III (Officers), Section 2 (Nomination and Election of Officers)

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

**Justification:**

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

Proposed By-Laws Amendment

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Justification:**

The reference by-law refers to offices that are to be filled by election by the FLSSAR.

The positions referenced in Article III, Sections 4 and 5, are not elected by the FLSSAR.

Proposed By-Laws Amendment

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

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

The Finance Committee shall consist of the Treasurer, who shall be the Chairman, and two other members who shall be

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

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

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

**Justification:**

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

Proposed By-Laws Amendment  
Article VIII (Miscellaneous), Section 3 (Amendments)

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

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

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

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

**Justification:**

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

## 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
Mersinger, Milton	Central Florida
Day, Ramon Leon	Jacksonville
Jenkins, Brian Eugene	Withlacoochee
Palerino, Bryan Christopher	Palm Beach
Vance, Robert Holton	St. Augustine
Rawn, Kyle Phillip	Flagler
Chapin, Gary Earl	Palm Beach
Chapin, David Gary	Palm Beach
Bayless, John Graham	Clearwater
Bayless, Jeremy Graham	Clearwater
Jones, Christopher Patrick	Panama City

Jones, Austin Gabriel	Panama City
Taylor, Thomas Samuel	Palm Beach
Moon, Jarad Christopher	Panama City
Tunno, Bruce Wyckliffe	St. Petersburg
Purvis, Gary Wayne	Panama City
Purvis, Gary Ronald	Panama City
Purvis, Brandon Wayne	Panama City
Purvis, Colton Autry	Panama City
Delmar, Nicholas Jarrod	Panama City
Whitmore, Michael George	The Villages
Hitchcock, Shaun Michael	Withlacoochee
Kearney Jr, Daniel John	Naples



Davies, Rhys Denis	Palm Beach
Davies, Pierce Arden	Palm Beach
Watt, David Brian	St. Augustine
Horrell, Garrison Gene	St. Petersburg
Schroeter, Jonathan David	Caloosa
Nelson, Garrett Daniel	The Villages
Kux, James Albert	Naples
Kux, James Henry	Naples
Kuhns Jr, Stanley Richard	Brevard
Shurte, Braeden Ray	Ft. Lauderdale
Sanders, Dean Eric	Panama City
Tuholski, Cameron Parker	Daytona-Ormond
Tuholski, Nathaniel Aileron	Daytona-Ormond
Amos Jr, Leo Austin	Charlotte
Aiken, Charles Moffatt	Jacksonville
Mingione, Joseph William	Clearwater
Bass, Stephen Harrison	Clearwater
Golden, Caleb Dean	Caloosa
Golden, Levi Wayne	Caloosa
Robertson, William Todd	Jacksonville
Gaines Jr, Michael Floyd	William Dunaway
Beard, Kennard Ralph	Jacksonville
Norris Jr, Lealy Slyvester	William Dunaway
Griffin, Errol Angus	William Dunaway
Richey, Erich S. L.	Charlotte
Bullock, Jonathan Ryan	Saramana
Hansard, William Clive	Daytona-Ormond
Hansard, Gary Brooks	Daytona-Ormond
Downey, Paul	Lakeland
Downey, Robert Earl	Lakeland
Downey, Gary	Lakeland
Downey, Erle	Lakeland
Downey, Matthew W	Lakeland
Roosa, Paul Van Santford	Tampa
Brown, Paul Martinez	St. Augustine
Inman III, Thomas Rudolph	St. Augustine
DeWitt, John Winston	Jacksonville
Crowley, William Michael	Saramana
Harter III, Nile Leland	Daytona-Ormond

## 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.

Name	Chapter
Thompson, Cecil North	Central Florida
Offutt, Stephen Curtis	Lake-Sumter
Benefiel, Farrell Emmett	Saramana
Lockhart, George Austin	Jacksonville
Shepherd, Thomas Charles	Ft Lauderdale
Hoffmann, Carl	St Augustine

## Veterans of the American Revolutionary War

by Col. Benjamin Findley, USAF (Ret)

About 250,000 American men volunteered and served as Continental Army regulars or as militia for the American Revolutionary War cause of independence from 1775 to 1783, according to the American Battlefield Trust research. Those heroes experienced very difficult times and those who survived the war became America's first Veterans... an army of free men. Although records at that time are sketchy, the armies in America throughout the American Revolutionary War were relatively small, limited by lack of supplies and logistics, compared to prevailing European armies at the time. The American militiamen were not only under-supplied, under-equipped, under-trained, and under-funded, they were not well organized, according to [www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov) records. Then they did not have a standing Army and there was no Navy initially, nor Air Force, of course, but they did have an excellent Command-in-Chief General George Washington. Throughout the war, General George Washington never directly commanded more than 17,000 men, according to Wikipedia. And the combined Franco-American army in the decisive American victory at Yorktown was only about 19,000.

Near the start of the War in 1776, Patriot forces consisted of about 20,000 men with two-thirds of them in the Continental Army and the other third in the various state militias. I am proud to have a direct-line descendant who served for the cause in the Revolutionary War. While about 250,000 American men served for the cause over eight years, there were never more than 90,000 men under arms at any time, according to the American Battlefield Trust. Thankfully during the war, Patriot forces had the support of France, Spain, and the Dutch Republic, while the British and Loyalist forces hired Hessian soldiers from Germany.

*The First Veterans: Volunteers with Little Honor* - Of those who served and risked their lives in the armed forces during the American Revolutionary War, between eighty and ninety thousand of them served in the Continental Army, an all volunteer army of citizens who assumed great risks. We Americans today owe the very existence of our



great country to these heroes. Recognize sadly, however, that in the first years after the Revolutionary War, Americans found it difficult to acknowledge that debt, much less honor their service. Most American soldiers returned from their service in the Revolutionary War with nothing more than the personal satisfaction of duty faithfully performed. Following British practice, Congress provided small pensions for men disabled in service and that was fought for over several years. Most men discharged in good health received nothing. The generals and senior officers who had led them were celebrated as heroes, but ordinary soldiers, junior officers and enlisted men were rarely honored in the first decades after the war.

*Congress Awards First Veterans' Pensions in 1818* -The gratitude of a free people was finally expressed for the brave Americans who secured our freedoms in the American Revolutionary War. However, it took decades, but Americans gradually realized that the common soldiers of our Revolutionary War were heroes. Those Americans were finally recognized as honored veterans of a revolution that had created our first great republic. In 1818 Congress decided to first award pensions to veterans in financial need. Then in 1832 Congress voted to extend pensions to nearly all of the surviving soldiers and sailors of the American Revolution. These were the first pensions paid to veterans without regard to rank, financial distress, or physical disability, according to the American Revolution Institute. They serve as a legacy of the American Revolutionary War and represent a commitment to veterans then and today, 206 years later, to respect, honor, and care for America's first veterans.

*Protests: Extravagant Worthless Promises to Attract and Reward Officers and Soldiers*—At the start of our new nation, Congress had no power to tax and no hard paper money to spend, for officers, soldiers, veterans, pensions, or for anything. This was a very challenging time... for the new republic and its states to even exist. They did acquire raw land from treaties and post-war settlements and later that helped some. To recruit soldiers, the states made extravagant promises of post war land grants and worthless generous pay statements, initially to attract officers, then later for most soldiers.

Congress passed a August 26, 1776 act that promised half pay for life to any officer, soldier, or sailor disabled in the service to the U.S. Since the Congress had no power to tax and get the money for this, they expected the states to fulfill this promise. In 1778, Congress promised veteran officers who served for the duration of the war half pay for seven years after the war's end. In 1780, Congress extended that promise to veterans for half pay for life, according to the American Revolution Institute.

*Irrational Promises and Debt Fulfilled* -Sadly, the promises at the start of the war were made in a spirit of irrational optimism, then later, in desperation. Congress offered future land grants when it had no or very little land to give by official title. It offered officers, soldiers, and sailors pay when it had no money to spend. And the paper money issued by Congress and the states depreciated very rapidly and became worthless. Late in the war, enlisted men, most tired, poorly clothed, and hungry, began to mutiny. Officers resigned, protested, petitioned, and threatened serious action if Congress failed to meet its obligations to them.

At war's end, Congress moved rapidly to dissolve its discontented army. The intent was good. Mass furloughs were issued to get men out of camp and off the payroll. Men went home with discharge papers, but usually with little or no pay. The Continental Army vanished, leaving behind accounting rosters filled with unfulfilled promises. Congress spent much of the next

century processing, adjudicating, and resolving the revolutionary claims of veterans and their heirs.

*Henry Knox: Champion for Disabled Veterans* - In line with the 1776 Congressional act for disabled veterans, Major General Henry Knox sent an appeal letter to Governor John Hancock of Massachusetts on October 20, 1782 for support for Captain John Sluman of Crane's Artillery Regiment, according to The Society of the Cincinnati (the nation's First Veterans' Organization founded by General Knox)-- a fraternal and charitable association of Continental Army and Navy officers.) Sluman was permanently disabled by wounds inflicted at the Battle of Germantown in 1777. For Sluman, Knox sought "the relief of the galant unfortunates, whose sufferings, if too long continued, will tend to tarnish the lustre of the revolution." Sluman was awarded a half-pay disability pension of \$300. per year from Massachusetts in 1790 and paid \$300. annually until his death in 1816. Thanks to General Knox and his patriotic dedication to veterans, Congressional promises were kept and Captain Sluman received what was promised to him. The payment to wounded soldiers during the American Revolutionary War is the nation's oldest form of veterans' benefit.

I am honored to have received the S.A.R. Henry Knox Bronze Achievement Medal for outstanding contributions to the S.A.R. mission and patriotism on June 17, 2024.

*Land Grants and Warrants to Veterans* - Starting with after the American Revolutionary War, the first veterans often received land grants instead of backpay or other remuneration, according to the National Archives and Records Administration in Bounty Land Warrants for Military Service, 1775-1855. Bounty-land warrants were often for about 160 acres for veterans, but varied.

Land grants were based on length of total service, years and times served in battles, officer and enlisted, and rank of the soldier or sailor. As examples, privates and non-commissioned officers received 100 acres, colonels received 500 acres, and major generals received 1,100 acres. The land grants helped settle the Northwest Territory, as well as the Indiana Territory, the Illinois Territory, the Wisconsin Territory, the Ohio Territory, and the Platte Purchase, etc. Land tracts of Native American Indians were ceded by treaty in 1795, after the Battle of Fallen Timbers.

Eligibility for the warrants expanded over the years through new Congressional acts of 1842, 1850, 1852 and 1855 to the point where they could be sold or given to descendants. The various bounty land laws enacted between 1776 and 1855 resulted in the federal government issuing over 500,000 warrants encompassing more than 61 million acres, according to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. There are few records showing how many veterans used the warrants to obtain a parcel of land. Most probably sold them to land speculators at a reduced price to pay for usual household expenses and for mere existence. The warrant program was discontinued before the American Civil War.

Thank you veterans for your volunteer service to our great country, your contributions to our national security, your sacrifices, and your dedication to our independence, freedoms, and liberty. We thank you and appreciate you!



## Carl K Hoffmann

(1929-2024)

It is with deep regret that the FLSSAR announce the passing of Carl Hoffmann who dedicated his volunteer services to SAR on the National, State, and chapter levels. Over the years, he was a member of various SAR chapters.

Herein is the obituary as it appeared in the paper.

St Augustine, Florida - Carl Konrad Hoffmann, a Miami attorney for 32 years, passed away peacefully at his St. Augustine home on Aug. 15, 2024. He was 95.

Born in Plant City, FL on March 10, 1929, Carl was the only child of Carl Konrad Hoffmann and Virginia Randolph Hoffmann.



Carl served in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve (1946-47). He graduated from Northwestern University in 1951 with the assistance of the GI Bill, earning a Navy commission through the NROTC. Carl continued his service to country as a Naval officer during the Korean War (1951-54). After his service, Carl was accepted to Yale Law School and graduated with a Juris Doctor degree in 1957. Carl was a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Sydney, Australia, in 1958 and served as a historian for the Department of the Army in Karlsruhe, Germany in 1959. He returned to the United States to practice law, which led him to Jacksonville, FL.

After only three dates, Carl married the love of his life, Patricia Ray Shepard, on March 18, 1961, in Atlantic Beach, FL. Pat and Carl then moved to Miami ("Myama"), where Carl began practicing Transactional and Bankruptcy Law with Kimbrell & Hamann, PA, one of the oldest Miami law firms. He stayed with the firm for 32 years, retiring as a Senior Managing Partner in 1993. Over the course of his legal career, Carl was admitted to several state bars and federal courts, including the Fourth, Fifth and Eleventh Circuit Courts of Appeal and the U.S. Supreme Court.

A patriot and avid historian, Carl joined the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) in 1950 and held many significant roles over his 74-year tenure with the organization, including Miami Chapter President, Florida Society President, and President General of the National Society - the highest SAR office. He also founded the Ladies Auxiliary, the permanent JROTC Committee, and the organization's Ft. Lauderdale chapter. The SAR awarded Carl its prestigious Patriot and Minuteman medals in recognition of his unsurpassed contributions. Throughout his life and many moves around the state, Carl always remained active in his local chapter and most recently continued to participate in the St. Augustine chapter. His dedication to the SAR was unwavering and his legacy will be remembered with great respect and admiration.

Carl was a faithful member of his church community throughout his life. He served as an elder in Old Cutler Presbyterian Church in Miami and most recently was an active member of Memorial Presbyterian Church in St. Augustine.

Both native Floridians, Pat and Carl were blessed to live in several locales in the state after his retirement. They first moved to Atlantic Beach near Jacksonville for five years during which time Carl taught Constitutional Law as

an adjunct professor at the University of North Florida. From there they moved to Plantation Key near Islamorada in the Florida Keys for four years where they enjoyed kayaking and fishing. Having never lived on the west coast of Florida, they then moved to Anna Maria Island to enjoy the clear waters and pearly white beaches of the Gulf of Mexico. After twelve years of serene living on the west coast, Pat and Carl were homesick for the surf and spray of the Atlantic ocean and returned to Northeast Florida, settling in St. Augustine Beach.



Carl maintained an incredible memory even until the last few months of his life, and he enjoyed regaling his children with stories about his childhood and early adult life. One of his family's favorite stories was when Carl was just ten years old and selling newspapers on the streets of Atlanta, GA, he recalled standing outside the Loew's Grand Theater before the national film premiere of *Gone with the Wind*, where he was able to catch a glimpse of the film's stars as they walked down the red carpet into the theater.

Carl is survived by his wife Patricia, daughters Debra Hoffmann Love and Sandra Hoffmann McNamee (Tim), sons David Fletcher Hoffmann and William Randolph Hoffmann, six grandchildren and one great-grandson.

A Memorial Service will be held at Memorial Presbyterian Church in St. Augustine on November 16 at 1 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations in Carl's memory may be made to the St. Augustine SAR chapter to be distributed to area JROTC programs. (*Published by the Miami Herald from Sep. 14 to Sep. 15, 2024.*)

Herein is a copy of the eulogy that was given at his funeral by Jerry Hanchett.

Welcome, family, friends, and compatriots. We gather here to honor and celebrate the life of Carl Konrad Hoffmann, a man whose dedication, integrity, and patriotism enriched the lives of so many. Today, we remember not just his accomplishments but also the values he lived by and the legacy he left with us.

Carl was a devoted family man. He was a beloved husband to Pat, father to Debby, Sandy, David, and Bill, and proud grandfather to six grandchildren and a great-grandson. His family has carried forward his love for history, with many members involved in the DAR and SAR, proudly embracing the spirit of our nation's heritage.

As a young man, Carl answered the call to serve his country. He began his military journey in the Marine Corps Reserve and later joined the U.S. Navy through the ROTC program at Northwestern University. From 1951 to 1954, he served as a Naval officer during the Korean War, bringing courage and dedication to his role.

Carl's intellectual pursuits led him to Yale Law School, where he graduated in 1957 after a Fulbright Scholarship at the University of Sydney, Australia. As a respected attorney, he served on multiple bars and practiced in federal courts, even arguing before the U.S. Supreme Court, a rare distinction among attorneys. His professional achievements reflected his commitment to justice, knowledge, and public service.

History has been Carl's lifelong passion. In his youth, he was a member of the Children of the American Revolution. In 1950, he joined the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR). Over the years, he rose within the SAR, ultimately becoming its top officer, the President General, in 1997. His dedication to the SAR was recognized with the organization's highest honors, including the Patriot and Minuteman Medals. Also in the trophy case is a special award signifying his years of service. This particular medal identifies his years of service as 70 years, these awards are made to a maximum of 60, I had this special award made to signify his achievement of 70 years.

Carl and Pat relocated to St. Augustine in 2014, the same year I had the privilege of meeting Carl. From the start, I knew Carl was special—his character, intelligence, and dedication stood out. He quickly became a mentor to me. I deeply resonated with his perspective on what the SAR represented. I valued his insights on our mission.

When Carl became President General he established his goals for the SAR. At the heart of Carl's vision was the local Chapter, which he saw as the lifeblood of our patriotic, educational, and historical mission. He worked tirelessly to strengthen communication between chapters, state societies, national officers, and headquarters in Louisville, Kentucky. His leadership helped unify our organization and cemented his legacy as an advocate of the spirit and ideals of the SAR.

As President General, Carl championed several initiatives impacting us today. He established a permanent JROTC committee, which helped foster civic duty in our youth. He created the Ladies Auxiliary to capitalize on their abilities to organize activities and support our youth programs. His influence extended well beyond his tenure, and his pioneering spirit opened new paths for us all which continues to this day.

To honor Carl's legacy, I would like to read a poem by Bill and Debby Wall, prayer partners together at Memorial Presbyterian Church. The words capture the essence of his life and the impact he had on all of us.

## DAV-VA Veterans Van Delivery



FVF Vice Chairman Don Lanman & District 7 Deputy Director Karen Christie formally delivered the Keys to a special Veterans VAN to be used to transport invalid Veterans to and from medical appointments at the West Palm Beach County VA & Orlando VA. The Keys to the Veterans Van were accepted by Gene

Hoover Transportation Coordinator for the Palm Beach/Treasure Coast & Orlando area DAV/VA.

Mr. Hoover and his team of DAV/VA volunteers use the vans to make an average of 300-400 trips per month. The FVF also delivered a similar Van to the Orlando area VA.

## Mental Health, Veterans, Firearms, and Your Help

by Dr. Ben Findley, Colonel, USAF (Ret.)

More than four in five organizations (88%) believe all workers are more stressed than they were just two years ago. Many studies support this conclusion. Here is just one studies' results, according to *Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Benefits: 2021 Survey Results*. Note that some conditions and barriers might overlap and some exist more than once and are treatable.

### Prevalent Mental Health Conditions

Depression (53%),  
Anxiety Disorders (48%),  
Sleep Deprivation (32%),  
Alcohol Addiction (22%),  
Adult Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (20%),  
Prescription Drug Addiction (19%),  
Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (18%), and  
Non-Prescription Drug Addiction (17%).

### Barriers to Treating Mental Health Conditions

Fear about impact on job relations and job security (36%)  
Concern about confidentiality (35%)  
Not ready to address the issue (29%)  
Supervisors fear uncomfortable addressing (28%)  
Breach of individual privacy (25%).

### Veterans and Mental Health

The high stress level, long work hours, challenging and quick response times, and frequent life-and-death situations that military members experience have a significant impact on Mental Health. This carries over for veterans when they leave the service. Since the United States was drawn into a global war on terrorism by the attacks of September 11, 2001, Americans have made commitments to support the military men and women who have served on the front lines of conflicts, assisting veterans and their families. Today, more do support efforts to aid our troops in uniform or those transitioning out of service, because they are grateful for their great sacrifices made. But, we need to do more. Thank you veterans, past, present, and future for your service. We as citizens will forever be indebted to you for shaping our history and preserving our freedom, liberty, rights, and American way of life. However, many do not



truly understand how much our current veterans especially have suffered and are continuing to suffer, with both physical and mental health issues, and meeting basic needs. So, it is important to show your support for those who protect our freedom and rights... not to just recognize the problems, but to take action to help.

### Significant Facts About Veterans' Transitioning

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services reported in 2022 that:

- 1) Every year, approximately 200,000 military members transition out of active duty service and return to civilian life;
- 2) Studies indicate that from 44% to 72% (an average of 64%-higher than civilian stress level average) experience high levels of stress during transition from the military to civilian life; and
- 3) Approximately 5.2 million transitioning veterans experience a behavioral health condition or problem.

### Veterans Are Experiencing Physical and Mental Health Problems

A shocking 45% of veterans from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have physical and mental health problems requiring treatment. This is more than twice the application rate of service members who served in the Gulf War. But, less than 50% of returning veterans in need receive any mental health treatment at all for service-connected disabilities, according to the National Council for Behavioral Health. While there are very serious concerns about veterans' physical problems, serious mental health issues also exist. It is sad to learn that our veterans have almost double the civilian suicide rate and that mental health issues are frequent. No wonder considering that regularly, if not daily or hourly, they were being shot at or laying their life on the line for us and our freedom and rights. America's veterans, particularly those with disabilities related to their service, deserve our respect and help with their expensive and urgent physical and mental health conditions and other basic needs.

### Veterans' Mental Health Conditions

The Veterans Administration classifies and provides support for a variety of mental health conditions. Here are just some of these conditions and concerns:

Anxiety  
 Depression  
 Bipolar Disorder  
 Effects of Traumatic Brain Injury- TBI  
 Post Traumatic Stress Disorder- PTSD  
 Suicide (Prevention)  
 Schizophrenia  
 Substance Use  
 Sexual Trauma  
 Tobacco

### Psychological Effects in Transitioning

Understanding the military reserve personnel system, I know that the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan have involved record levels of Reserve and National Guard forces. These troops are typically somewhat older, maybe left an en-

trenched civilian job for duty, and because of their available circumstances may have more education than the active force. These men and women were usually more fully integrated into civilian life, before leaving for duty. Today's veterans have mostly operated in battle theaters with no front lines and where civilians have been mixed in with combatants. These veterans can more easily identify with civilians, since they were recently civilians. So, this means that they have been more exposed to civilians suffering, death, near-death experiences, and less certainty of their enemies. Anxiety, depression, and mental stressors prevail. This frequent exposure to deadly situations and suffering in combat or combat-related warfare has produced very definite psychological effects and mental health-related concerns for veterans, which dramatically affect transitioning back to civilian life and employment. So, there is an obvious need to target assistance for these veterans who are genuinely struggling with the transition. I'll mention ways you can help veterans below.

### Executive Order 13822 Provides Mental Health Resources for Transitioning Veterans

The first year of transition is critical for veterans and service members moving from the military to civilian life. To help with this, President Trump signed Mental Health Executive Order 13822, "Supporting our Veterans During Their Transition from Uniformed Service to Civilian Life" in 2018. This is designed to help eligible veterans and service members in the short run for about one year after their discharge from military service. The Department of Defense, Department of Homeland Security, Veterans Service Organizations, Congress, and community organizations are partnering to provide support. There is a need for more intermediate and long-term help.

To emphasize what I said above, less than 50% of returning veterans in need receive any mental health treatment. There is a reluctance to seek related treatment due to the possible stigma associated with mental issues, confirmation and acceptance of the specific diagnosis, knowledge of what treatments are specifically available and where they are offered, and uncertainty about treatments and costs. But, there are readily-available mental-health treatments that help and usually at moderate to low/no costs to the qualified veteran.

### There is a Critical Relationship Between Mental Health Conditions and Suicide for Veterans and Everyone

Mental health issues and mental illness are major risks for suicides, according to the American Psychological Association. The World Health Organization estimates that 90% of all suicide victims have some kind of mental health condition. And sadly, a very large percentage of these victims are veterans and military members. Veteran suicides are occurring at a rate higher than non-veterans, at about double the suicides. Research from Policy Research Associates recently reports 31.7 veteran suicides per 100,000 troops, compared to 16.1 civilian suicides per 100,000. This is staggering data and research shows that these conditions and risks are preventable with our commitment and help. Just one related death is not acceptable.

**Caution:** Associating mental illness and mental health conditions with violence reinforces stigma and unwarranted fear of people with mental health issues. These people need support to recover from these mental health conditions.

### Crucial Mental Health Actions Are Urgently Needed to Help

Our help and actions are urgently needed, more so than just a recognition of the mental health problem for veterans, military members, and civilians. The American Psychological Association gives some research-based conclusions:

Treatment of mental illnesses can reduce mental health and suicide risks through therapy and medications;

Easy access to Suicide-Intervention and Mental-Health programs is essential;

Communities should work toward reducing the stigma and increasing public awareness; and there are existing local, community, and state organizations for doing this.

### **National Studies About Veterans, Civilians, Mental Health Issues, and Firearms**

Veterans understand, own, and use firearms more than the typical civilian, due to their military firearms training, armament and warfare background, exposures to battlefield situations and dangers, defensive equipment understanding, and firearms use. Ponder the type and extent of the relationship between the typical veteran profile and mental health conditions and problems.

We often hear that "mental illness" and those with serious mental conditions are dangerous and cause violence, but an American Association of Medical Colleges report by Rozel and Swanson in 2023 disagrees. They conclude that most violence is not "causally" linked to mental health issues. Those using a gun in most violent situations is not caused by mental health problems. A F.B.I. study concludes that even mass shooters, who might seem most likely to be driven by mental illness, do not necessarily suffer from major mental health disorders... and that only 25% of such assailants had a diagnosed mental illness.

The Rand Corporation and Ramchand and Ayer report that a major limitation to researching mental health and gun violence is that only approximately half of those with a mental illness have a recognized diagnosis or are undiagnosed. So, they say it is difficult to ascertain mental health prior to violent events with a firearm. Further the Rand Corporation research concludes that the prevalence of mental illness may be lower among those who use a firearm to end their lives. Skeem and Mulvey in their recent research conclude that only approximately 20% of mass violence with a gun is committed by a person with a mental health disorder. But, it is usually news worthy.

A recognized National Firearm Survey by E. Cleveland of a nationally-representative and statistically-valid sample of U.S. veterans reports the prevalence of firearm ownership and the veterans' reasons for firearm ownership. Results indicate that about half of all veterans own one or more firearms, with male veterans more commonly owning firearms than do female veterans. About 70% of veterans say they own a handgun, with over 66.6% of veterans saying they own more than one gun, including 29% who own five or more guns. Most veteran firearm owners own both handguns and long guns.

According to U.S. Census Bureau and U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs data, there are about 19 million veterans age 18 and older now in the United States, with about 13 million age 50 and older. So, if a veteran has two firearms, then that is 38 million guns on average in existence in the U.S. for veterans. Three firearms owned by veterans means about 57 million guns in the U.S., just for veterans and not counting civilian gun ownership. I know several instructors that own more than 20 firearms each. There are a lot of firearms owned by veterans.

More than half of veterans living in the Southern states own a firearm, about 59%. Prevalence of firearm ownership does not differ substantially by service branch, service era, or use of VA health care services. Study results also show that about 65% of veterans firearm owners report that protection against people is the primary reason for firearm ownership.

### **Facts that Support Mental Health Actions for Veterans:**

- 1) An average of 64% of veterans experience high levels of stress during transition from the military to civilian life.
- 2) Approximately 5.2 million transitioning veterans experience a behavioral health condition or problem.
- 3) Frequent exposure to deadly situations and suffering in combat or combat-related warfare has produced very definite psychological effects and mental health-related concerns among veterans.
- 4) Veteran suicides are occurring at a higher rate than civilians, at about double the suicides.
- 5) About 70% of veterans say they own a handgun, with over 66.6% of veterans saying they own more than one gun. The answer is not to take away the veterans' and civilians' guns, but to get them the therapy and medications needed for their mental health issue.
- 6) Studies conclude that most violence is not "causally" linked to mental health issues. Those using a gun in most violent situations is not caused by mental health problems.
- 7) Less than 50% of returning veterans in need receive any mental health treatment at all for service-connected disabilities, according to the National Council for Behavioral Health.
- 8) Treatment of mental illnesses can reduce mental health problems and suicide risks for veterans through therapy and medications.

### **Win-Win-Win Opportunities for Supporting Veterans and Civilians**

There are very many worthwhile and effective organizations that support our veterans and civilian mental and health concerns; too many to even list here. There is a large number of veterans and they have unique needs. So, you may want to volunteer your time or donate to some of the many 501(c)(3) charitable organizations. Believe me there is a Win-Win-Win-Win result for all: the veteran, their family, the charity, and you for your participation and support.

### **Conclusion**

There are many unique relationships and factors that affect civilians and veterans, related mental health problems, and destructive firearms use that heighten the need to support and help veterans and civilians in many areas of need. Those using a gun in most violent situations is not caused by mental health problems, according to studies. Treatment of mental illnesses can reduce mental health problems and suicide risks for veterans and civilians through therapy and medications. The answer is not to immediately take away the veterans' and others' guns, but to specifically understand the specific, unique situation and the many variables and concerns. And get them the treatments and medications needed for their specific mental health issue. Veterans have unique needs and there are many worthwhile organizations that support our veterans, especially their mental and health care and related problems. Hope you consider volunteering time or donating to 501(c)(3) charitable organizations that help with mental health conditions and veterans. Thank you!

# Chapter News

## Brevard Chapter

In September, the chapter held their joint meeting with the various DAR chapters in the area to celebrate Constitution Week. The October meeting was canceled due to the hurricane. Then in November, the chapter had a presentation by the National Veterans Homeless Support organization.

It is with deep regret that the Brevard Chapter announce the passing of George Bowles who died on July 31, 2024.

## Caloosa Chapter



Our 2024 “summer break” may have put a hold on the regular monthly meetings for our Chapter, but it gave our Compatriot Members the ability to “fan out” and carry all sorts of individual “missions” connected to the goals of the Sons of the American Revolution.

A couple of the most far-flung forays involved travel to the SAR National Congress, held in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Fairfax Resolves, which was one of the events included as a part of the official America’s 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration.

SAR National Congress – Lancaster PA -The 134<sup>th</sup> SAR National Congress took place in Lancaster, PA from July 11<sup>th</sup> through 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Over twenty members of the Florida SAR participated. This contingent included Rev. Dr. Randy Moody and Jeff Brunelle, from our SAR Caloosa Chapter.

There were important business meetings, and the election of National officers also took place. But of all the activities near and dear to the hearts of our Caloosa SAR Compatriots was the Memorial Ceremony, held in the First Lutheran Church. This historic church dates to 1750.

The National Colors and State Flags were paraded from the hotel, down a main street to the church. According to Jeff Brunelle, “It was quite a spectacle.”

And once the Memorial Ceremony began, all in attendance listened intently to a number of very touching sermons commemorating our departed brothers. One of these was presented by our own Chaplain, the Rev. Dr.

Randy Moody, who gave a moving tribute to Dwight Elam, who had served nationally as SAR Chaplain General. Dwight was also mentioned in a couple of the other sermons. For those of us who knew Dwight personally, this was a very moving, and deserving, send-off for our friend and Compatriot.

Celebrating the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The Fairfax Resolves - On July, 18, 2024 as part of the America’s 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration, the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Fairfax Resolves was commemorated by the SAR. Representing the Florida SAR and his own Caloosa SAR Chapter was Florida State Color Guard Vice-Commander Jeff Brunelle. Jeff’s wife Jan was also in attendance. Jan is a direct decedent of Thomas Lewis, one of the signers of Fairfax Resolves. Chris Washler, Florida SAR Sr. Vice-President was also present, presenting greeting from the Florida SAR.

Organized by the Fairfax Resolves Chapter of the SAR, events highlighted the locations significant to the signers of the Fairfax Resolves document, including at the site of founder George Mason’s mansion, Gunston Hall.

The ceremonies were designed to foster a deeper understanding of this document and its significance in shaping the United States as we know it today. Compatriot Brunelle, his wife, Jan, and the other attendees, had the once in a lifetime opportunity to engage in a variety of activities designed to evoke the essence of the Revolutionary era, and included speeches outlining the historical context and impact of the Fairfax Resolves, as well as historical reenactments, plaque dedication ceremonies, and a gubernatorial proclamation which pays tribute to the Fairfax Resolves and the brave patriots who signed this document and contributed to the cause of American independence.



In addition, a commemorative plaque was also unveiled at the Historic Pohick Episcopal Church, home church of Washington and Mason.

On July 5, 1774, George Washington, George Mason, and others, met in Alexandria, Virginia, to appoint a committee to draft a statement that would, as Washington described it, “define our Con-



stitutional Rights.” They planned that this statement would also formally serve as instructions to Fairfax County’s delegates to the Virginia Convention. The committee worked quickly and produced a draft that was primarily the work of George Mason.

On July 17, 1774, Mason and Patrick Henry visited Washington at Mount Vernon to discuss the emerging American plight, and revised the draft, which consisted of a set of resolutions which came to be known as the “Fairfax Resolves.” The following day, July 18, 1774, the Fairfax Resolves were endorsed in a meeting of freeholders of Fairfax County, Virginia, chaired by Washington. The relatively short document consisted of a set of 24 resolutions which expressed the feelings of many colonists at the time and outlined American claims to: equal rights under the British constitution, representation in Parliament, control over taxation, control over military forces within their borders, control over judicial powers, and control over commercial actions.

The Resolves marked a step forward in inter-colonial cooperation as more Americans began to realize that a threat against one colony was a threat against all. And, in addition, it helped to soften political rivalries in Virginia, in that statesmen like Washington and Mason were given the opportunity to work productively with those more radical figures, like Patrick Henry, Richard Henry Lee, and others.

Other Caloosa Compatriots participated together with their friends and family in a variety of other activities during the summer, which no doubt will be fondly remembered on into the future.

Now, we are looking forward to the resumption of Fall activities such as the ceremonies in remembrance of September 11, 2001, Honor Flights that will serve our area veterans in their travels to Washington, DC, Constitution Week (September 17 – 24, 2024), and the monthly Chapter Meetings which are open to all SAR Members.



## Clearwater Chapter

On July 4, 2024, a combined color guard unit with Compatriots from the Clearwater, Saint Petersburg and Tampa Chapters participated in the Safety Harbor Independence Day parade. On July 28, 2024, First Vice President Harry Fuller presented the Good Citizenship Award to Petty Officer Second Class Gianna Yordi of the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Suncoast Squadron. On August 24, 2024, First Vice President Harry Fuller spoke at the Pioneer Florida Museum and Village Genealogy Workshop located at 15602 Pioneer Museum Road, Dade City, FL 33523. His topic was how to join the Sons of the American Revolution, finding your patriot ancestor, and what constitutes patriotic service.



## Flagler Chapter

On Memorial Day, Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the Grand Haven Community located in Palm Coast, FL held a special ceremony in tribute to those who served in the defense of our great nation. An enthusiastic crowd of 200+ attended the Dawn Memorial Day observance. The featured speaker was Flagler Chapter Compatriot, Sheriff Rick Staly. Sheriff Staly spoke of remembering and honoring those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom as well as those serving in the military today and in the past. In the photo, Compatriots Sheriff Staly, David Kelsey and Palm Coast Historical Society President Kathy Reichard-Ellavsky.





At the November meeting, the Flagler Chapter recognized all the veterans that were in attendance and below receiving veterans certificates.



### Jacksonville Chapter

Herein are pictures of the chapter members participated in the Veterans Day Parade and in a Veterans Celebration at First Baptist Church in Downtown Jacksonville.



Also pictured are the members inducted in the Dairymple Veterans Battalion and the members that participated in the Veteran's Day Parade in Flagler County.





## Okeechobee Chapter

The Okeechobee Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution made a donation to the Okeechobee Chamber of Commerce Leadership Class project to raise the Huey helicopter in Veterans Park. Making the presentation is Past Pres. Don Hanna (center) to Bryan Holden (right) and Tobi Cnudde (left) with the Leadership Class.



Chapter continues its 2024 meetings with a focus on Veterans Services, Youth Programs, Law Enforcement/First Responder recognition awarding 6 medals to Police and First Responders. The Chapter also presented 8 JROTC medals, 1 Knight Essay Contest medal and 2 Eagle Scout medals.

Compatriot Lanman with local DAR Daughter Karen Christie presented Greetings and a Chapter Honor Wreath at the 243<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the Southern Battle of Eutaw Springs in Santee, SC honoring the Patriots who fought at the major battle. Compatriot Lanman's Patriot Ancestor, James Lanman, fought and was wounded at that battle.



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

## Palm Beach Chapter

The Chapter continues its focus on Membership Development/Mentoring/Retention, Youth/Scholarship/JROTC programs, Veterans' services, Police/First Responder recognition and the NSSAR Project 250 Anniversary programs.

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.

Chapters 2025 nominated officers include; President, Peter Johnston, Vice President, TK Krumenacker, Secretary, Bob Boggs, Treasurer, Peter Johnston, Registrar, Steven McGillicuddy, Chaplain Ben Tidwell, Historian Donald Lanman, Sgt. @ Arms, Greg Parkinson, Officers @ Large.





## Panama City Chapter



On Sunday Morning, August 18, 2024 at the Bethel Presbyterian Church Cemetery, 4620 Bethel Rd., Lexington, Kentucky, Benny Raffield, Vice President of FLSSAR Panama City Chapter participated in the Grave Marking of Five Kentucky (Frontiersman) American Revolutionary War Patriots: Capt. Joseph Patterson, Patriot Thomas McClure, Pvt. William Long Sr., Rev. Robert Marshall and Sgt. James Duncan.

The Florida State Flag Bearer, Benny Raffield marched with the Kentucky Society SAR Color Guard and posted the color. During the Memorial Ceremony, Benny Raffield presented and saluted the FLSSAR Panama City Chapter Wreath. The previous day, Benny Raffield had participated at another Grave Marking of Five Kentucky Revolutionary Patriots at the Memorial Monument in Blue Licks Battlefield State Resort Park, 10299 Maysville Rd., Carlisle, Kentucky. Nat'l Society SAR Commander K. Scott Collins was the Color Guard Commander for both events.

In addition, FLSSAR Harry Rinker participated in both events as a 250th Anniversary SAR Flag Bearer and presented and saluted a memorial wreath. FLSSAR Patriot Tom Thompson was also a participant at the ceremonies.



On Saturday, September 14, 2024, in Blountstown, Calhoun County, Florida, the Purvis Family SAR Induction Ceremony into the Panama City Chapter of the Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution preceded in the family living room.



Wednesday, September 18th, 2024, at the St. Andrew Bay Chapter NSDAR Celebration of the Constitution, 'Proclamations for Constitution Day' at the Panama Country Club with Panama City, Bay County, Florida VIPs: With Superintendent of Bay District Schools, Mark McQueen, Honorable Christopher N. Patterson, Judge for the 14th Judicial Circuit, Former St. Andrews Bay Chapter NSDAR Regent, Shelli Hampton, the Chair of the Constitution Week Committee.

In addition, Coach Winston Chester, a School Board Member of District 4 at Bay District Schools, who is also the host of TV Show Panhandle Outdoors and Present St. Andrews Bay Chapter, NSDAR Regent, Caroline Rivoire Windham, Callaway Mayor, Pamm Henderson. and FLSSAR Panama City Chapter President, DeCody Brad Marble. Other Suburb Mayors and Bay County Commissioners present. (Photo by Benny Raffield, Vice President of the Panama City-SAR Chapter)

## Pensacola Chapter

On October 20, 2024, the Pensacola Chapter held their End of Summer Picnic at the Blur Angel Navy Recreation Area in lieu of a monthly chapter meeting. At the November meeting, the chapter took nominations for new chapter officers in which they are to be elected at the December meeting.

The chapter will also participate in the Wreaths Across America at the Barrancus National Cemetery. They are also looking for volunteers to judge at the Escambia County History Fair.



## Southshore Chapter



At the November 2024 South Shore Chapter meeting, seventeen members were awarded the 250th Anniversary Bronze Medal based on qualifications determined by its awards committee. Recognition was determined by the individual's participation in planning, presentation or attendance in events dedicated to the period surrounding the American Revolution. Awards Committee Coordinator, Sheldon Ickes, stated that the chapter's goal is qualifying each member for the medal.

## St. Augustine Chapter



On November 11, 2024, Sean Tonnelier, St Augustine FL chapter and associate with the Gainesville chapter, attended the Veterans day event at the Alachua county veterans memorial park in Gainesville FL. Right after, he attended the unveiling of America's 141rst gold star family memorial at the same location. The Gainesville chapter made numerous donations to funding the memorial.

## Tampa Chapter

At the November meeting, the Tampa Chapter had a presentation on the Mafia in the Tampa Bay Area. Below is a picture that was taken of the members that service in the U.S. Military over the years.



## Withlacoochee Chapter



At the May 2024 BOM meeting at Kissimmee, Florida our immediate Past President David Hitchcock of the Florida Withlacoochee Chapter received the Silver Roger Sherman medal from Steven Ray Fields for his excellent and dedicated work as president of our chapter for over four years. He has also been an active participant in state work chairing one of the Youth Committee Contests. We applaud David Hitchcock's dedication to the SAR both local and state.



President Hohman also pinned our 26th George Washington Fellow-Robert Stepbach our first non-SAR fellow. Our Withlacoochee Chapter now has 26 GWE Fellows, a national record that may never be equaled or exceeded. There were many mentions of our Chapter's dedication to this Endowment Fund at the National Congress.

At the April meeting Bill Teater and William Stone were awarded the Henry Knox Achievement Medal for their outstanding contributions and achievements to our Chapter. Treasurer Richard Bailey was awarded the Bronze Roger Sherman Medal for his outstanding services as Treasurer for over four years.

## It was a Privilege & An Honor

By Charlie Hayes



On 30 August 2024, I had the privilege and the honor to make a visit to the US Navy Underwater Archeology Branch, US Naval History and Heritage Command, located in the US Navy Yard Washington DC. I was invited by Ivor R. Mollema and Kate Morrand who are both Navy Underwater Archaeologists working on the restoration of the Continental Navy Ship The ROYAL SAVAGE. The Royal Savage will be the center piece of the Revolutionary War section in the new US Navy Museum which is under construction. The anticipated opening of this display with the ship will be June 2027 (est). My wife, Sally S Hayes DAR 994083 accompanied me on this journey.

I have communicated with the Navy in the past, explaining that The Royal Savage was the ship that my 5<sup>th</sup>

Grandfather Lt. John Fairweather/Faryeweather had served during the Battle of Valcour Island on October 11-13, 1776. It was the only schooner (two masted ship) that General Arnold had on the lake and presented four 6lb cannons, eight 4lb guns, and ten swivel guns. General Arnold picked this to be his flagship and lost many personal items in the battle. The fleet also had sloops, gondolas, and galleys as large gun platforms. The ship was 50 feet long and grossed 70 tons. There were a total of 12 gun doors and a crew of 45-50 personnel, with Lt. John Fairweather being the Executive Officer. The ship's captain was David Hawley who was also a cousin in my family. They both hailed from Stratford, Connecticut. The Royal Savage flew the Grand Union Flag our first national flag, and was the first navy ship to take this flag into battle.

The battle was for control of Lake Champlain in NY as the British were trying to come out of Canada in an effort to split the Colonies in two. General Sir Guy Carleton with a larger British Naval Fleet and British Regulars sailed down from Canada in early October to challenge General Arnold and his small sixteen-ship fleet to battle. With all the shipbuilders he could find, General Arnold had successfully built and equipped his fleet at Whitehall NY. The purpose of the battle was to stop the British and defend Fort Ticonderoga which the Continentals held.

General Arnold trapped the British by being on the west side behind Valcour Island. The British sailed past as he had hoped. The Royal Savage led the attack on the British rear as they sailed past. The British had to come about into the wind, which is a difficult maneuver in combat. By leading the charge out of the sheltered harbor, the Royal Savage also now had the same problem trying to get back to the rest of the fleet. Due to "Bad Management" the Royal Savage received the brunt of the British retaliation. The Royal Savage then ran aground. Capt. Hawley tried to pull her off with a small boat with rowers, but they did not succeed. The British now had come about and were bringing heavy fire on the Royal Savage. There is a report in a letter from a crew member that Lt. Fairweather died on the deck, having his head taken off by a British twelve-pound cannonball. He is listed as killed during the battle in the various books on the subject.

This all occurred on the opening day of the battle, October 11, 1776. General Arnold and the rest of the fleet sneaked away during the night and held a running battle down Lake Champlain for another two days before reaching the conclusion that they were defeated and scuttled their boats at Crown Point NY.

The end result of this valiant little navy (Arnolds Navy) was that General Guy Tarelton decided it was too late in the year to press forward with the planned invasion. The British had met stiff resistance from General Arnold and his navy, received serious damage, and they now decided to go back to Canada to repair and refit. This action is considered by historians to be General Arnolds greatest work, and even though it was not a true tactical victory, by turning the British back, it was a solid strategic victory that allowed the war to be carried forward.

I was invited to see over 2200 relics and various salvaged parts of the boat, along with tools and items the crew would have used while serving on the Royal Savage. The Navy archaeologists say they have 45% of the actual hull and planking of the Royal Savage raised up from Lake Champlain NY. The ship was raised in 1934 (158 years underwater) and was mistreated for years before the Navy took possession and started the restoration. I was very impressed with what the Navy



has and how they are preserving it.

I have anticipation of seeing the completion of this project in the new US Navy museum. I had a strong sense that I was witnessing the personal history of my family. I thought that LT. Fairweather might have held that axe, used that block for the rigging, pulled some of the rope they had, or even walked on that plank. One artifact that stood out to me was the sole of a shoe; it may have been his, or even General Arnold's from his lost personal effects in the cabin.

I look forward to visiting the new US Navy Museum when it opens and viewing the entire reconstructed Royal Savage display. I plan on staying in touch with the Navy Underwater Archologist Branch to follow their progress. I am pleased that I have read and found enough information to believe that my Patriot Lt. John Fairweather was physically present, fought in this battle on this ship, and died in service to our country. This gives me a great sense of pride in my family. This is also why I am proud to be a member of The Sons of The American Revolution Society.

## CAR Conference

The State Conference of the Children of the American Revolution will take place in Melbourne Florida at the Hilton Hotel on the 14th through the 16th of February. The main Banquet is Saturday the 15th. They would love to have the FLSSAR present Colors on Saturday the 15th.

## DAR Fall Forum



On September 6 and 7, 2024, members of the Florida Society SAR gathered together in support of the Florida State Society DAR 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Forum held at the Omni Orlando Resort in Championsgate, Florida. FLSSAR members manned a SAR table for the two main days of the event, providing information to attendees and gathering names of perspective members.

Phil Markoe, Immediate Past President of the Central Florida Chapter SAR, presented Cynthia "Cindy" Addison, Florida State DAR Regent, with two certificates from the National Society SAR to the DAR State Society. One award was for third place for the number of submitted and approved DAR/SAR members. The other award was a first place for the number of submitted and approved SAR mem-



bers for 2023 – 2024.

Saturday evening culminated with a banquet, which began with presentation of the National Colors by a fourteen-man color guard, led by Florida State Color Guard Vice Commander, Jeff Brunelle. Members from around the state traveled as long as six hours in order to participate in the color guard and make it the largest color guard to participate in the Florida DAR Fall Forum.



## 2025 George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest

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 opportunity 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 [flssar.org](http://flssar.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 1<sup>st</sup> - \$6,000; 2<sup>nd</sup> - \$3,000; 3<sup>rd</sup> - \$2,000; 4<sup>th</sup> - \$500; and 5<sup>th</sup> - \$500. See [SAR.ORG](http://SAR.ORG) for complete details.

Hampton E. Allen, Jr  
[heallen45@yahoo.com](mailto:heallen45@yahoo.com)





## Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution Anniversary Celebration



**BREVARD COUNTY'S SONS, DAUGHTERS AND CHILDREN OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION INVITE YOUR GROUP TO MARCH WITH US AT OUR ANNUAL ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE LAST NAVAL BATTLE OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION THAT WAS FOUGHT OFF THE COAST OF CAPE CANAVERAL**

**March 15, 2025 at 10:00 AM at the Veteran's Memorial Center  
400 South Sykes Creek Parkway, Merritt Island**

Event will be held inside if it rains

We once again expect a Color Guard of 200+ marchers along a very short parade route - ALL Color Guard units will receive a **FREE 18" LAST NAVAL BATTLE FLAG STREAMER**. There will a "**Wreath laying Ceremony**" for any group that wishes to honor our American Heroes. Water and chairs will be provided, but you are welcome to bring your own. **Speeches will be kept short! Reservations for Color Guard/group participation and Wreath presentations must be received by February 18, 2025. Parade position is based on completion and receipt of this form.**

Instructions: To make your group's reservation, **Save** this PDF form to your computer, **open** from your computer, **fill out** the fields, then **Save** and **attach** the file to an e-mail message.

### **Reservation for Color Guard unit or group marching in the procession:**

Group/Unit name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Number in group attending: \_\_\_\_ How does the group want to be announced as? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Wreath presentation:**

If you will be laying a wreath to honor our AMERICAN HEROES please list your Group/Individual name presenting the wreath \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send your completed form to: email - [brevardsar@yahoo.com](mailto:brevardsar@yahoo.com)**

Or Mail to:

Brevard SAR

1535 Skyline Dr., Kissimmee, FL 34744-6687



**The Annual Commemoration of the SAR National Color Guard Battle of Thomas Creek : Saturday 10:00 AM, March 29, 2025 in Jacksonville, Florida\***

Please join the Florida Society SAR, DAR and C.A.R. as we commemorate the 248th anniversary of the Battle of Thomas Creek (the Southernmost Battle of the American Revolutionary War). The ceremony will be held at Seaton Creek Historic Preserve Park at 10:00 AM. If placing a wreath and/or participating in the color guard, please arrive no later than 9:30AM to register your wreath. The park is located off I-95 at Exit 366 then head west 2.5 miles on Pecan Park Rd. to 2145 Gold Star Family Parkway /Arnold Rd..that accesses the Jacksonville National Cemetery and Lem Turner Road US#1).



We will have a social and orientation meeting Friday evening at 5:30PM on March 28th at the Long Horn Steak House, 1366 Airport Rd, Jacksonville, FL 32218 Both the Hampton Inn and the Marriott, SpringHill Suites are in this same complex, as well as a number of other hotels in the area. Organizations and participants will be announced during the ceremony. We are again honored to have our intriguing Compatriotic speaker Dr. Roger Smith of Colonial Research Associates, Inc. and our Patriotic Choral Group “Let Freedom Sing” plus various Patriotic and Civic Organizations. We are especially honored this year to have our friend and our South Atlantic District, NSSAR Vice President General from GA Scott Collins, who will be bringing greetings from our National Society SAR. We are also honored to have our FLSSAR President James Gaskins bringing greeting and Florida DAR State Regent Elect Kim Zeman, for State Regent Cindy Addison. To assure your organization’s recognition and to receive a flag streamer, please complete the following by February 15, 2025 and forward to:

David H. Ramseur (FLSSAR President 2011-12)  
 3733 River Hall Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32217  
 (904)-502-4819; [DavidRamseur12@gmail.com](mailto:DavidRamseur12@gmail.com)

Society Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter or Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Will present Wreath: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Wreath Dedicated to: \_\_\_\_\_

Presenter (s) Name (s): and Title \_\_\_\_\_

Will bring SAR flag for the Color Guard? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Number of members from your group: \_\_\_\_\_ In Uniform /Militia/ Colonial Dress \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell phone#** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Bad weather site: Motel Mtg. Room, 1351 Airport Rd., Jacksonville, FL**

## Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution Fees & Dues

Effective: 9/1/2024

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

\* 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.



**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: <b>LAFSSAR</b>	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**

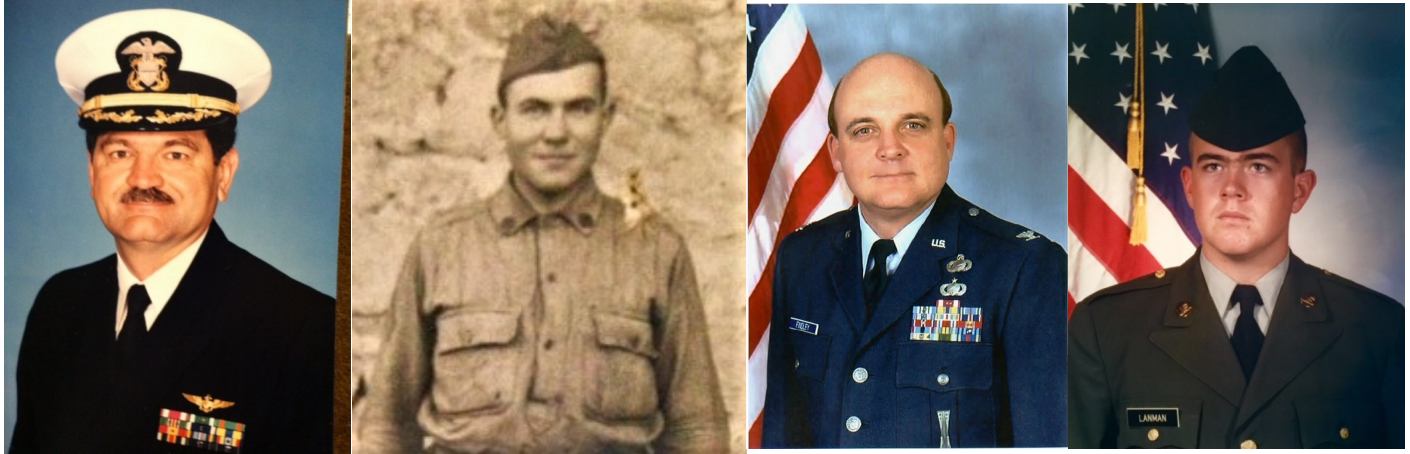


# Tribute to our Veterans - From WW2 to Present





# Tribute to our Veterans - From WW2 to Present





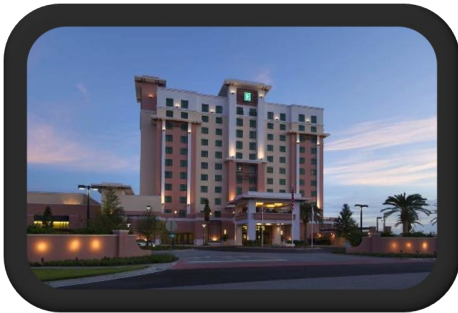


## The Florida Patriot

1535 Skyline Drive

Kissimmee, FL 34744-6687

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Kissimmee, FL  
Permit No.



### The Florida SAR Board of Management Meeting

Embassy Suites - Orlando Lake Buena Vista South

*May 16 & 17, 2025*

*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.