

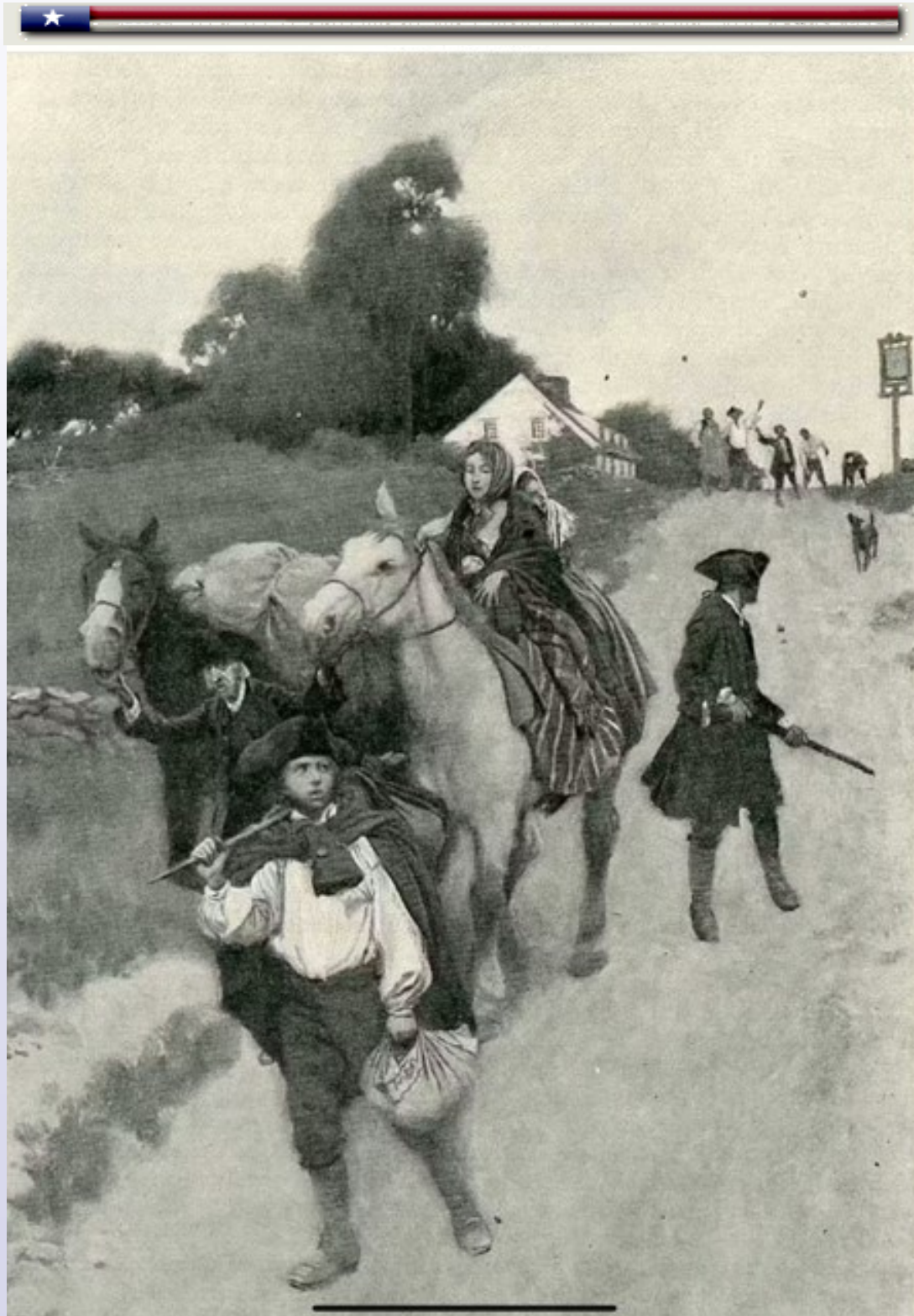


The Florida Patriot

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

Volume 53, No. 4.

Winter/Spring 2025



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.



America 250 Updates

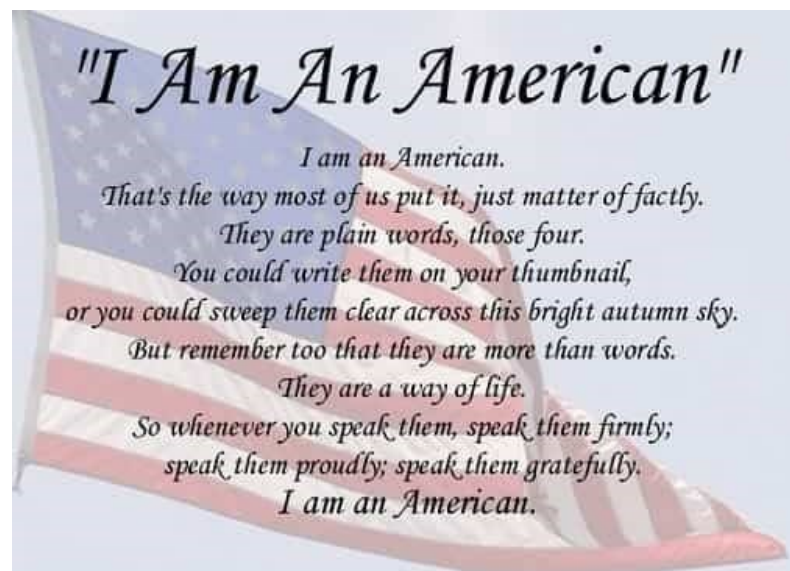
The end of 2024 brought some fantastic news for the State of Florida! For those who may not have heard, on Friday, December 6, Governor Ron DeSantis signed Executive Order Number 24-267 which officially established an America 250 Commission in the State of Florida! Lieutenant Governor Jeanette Nuñez will chair the commission which will consist of her and four additional members appointed by the Governor. The Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution is actively seeking a seat on the commission.



In more news, the National Society Sons of the American Revolution been working on an agreement to become a Supporting Partner of the United States America 250 Commission. This partnership, once established, will give the Sons of the American Revolution even greater visibility in the nation's celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the Signing of the Declaration of Independence!

With these happenings, now is the perfect time for the chapters of the FLSSAR to step up their America 250 activities! Several chapters have already started holding America 250 events for the public, and we encourage all chapters to look at what you can do to raise awareness of the upcoming Semiquincentennial. Just a few ideas of public events are Grave Markings, Liberty Tree Dedications, and even Op-Ed submissions to your local newspapers. For more ideas on America 250 programs, please visit www.america250sar.org and look for the America 250 Toolkit!

Finally, I'd like to continue to encourage every chapter to continue to submit their members for the Silver and Gold America 250 medals! At the Fall BOM, I issued a challenge for Florida to reach 50 Gold Medal recipients by the Annual meeting. We still have a long way to go to reach that goal, so take a look at what activities your chapter has done that qualify as America 250 events and start submitting those medal applications! For questions about the medal scoring, reach out to either Chris Washler or Robin Preston – we'll be happy to help!



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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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

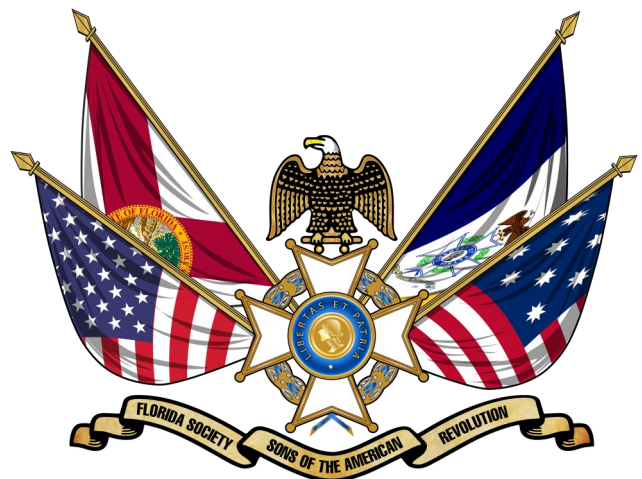
Submission Deadline Dates

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

Spring 2025 Issue	3/15/2025
Summer 2025 Issue	6/15/2025
Fall 2025 Issue	9/30/2025
Winter 2026 issue	1/15/2026

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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

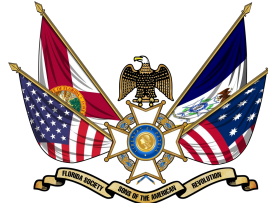
For more information, contact Kathy Markoe at daydreamr613@aol.com

Content Submission

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

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

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



Society President's Message



MISSION STATEMENT

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

Compatriots,

Welcome to 2025...Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years celebrations of 2024 have come and gone. I sincerely hope you found the holidays to be relaxing, joyful and rewarding as possible.

Our Mission Statement says in part, that we honor "our Revolutionary War patriot Ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities and educating and inspiring generations about the founding principles". I submit that it's difficult to live up to our Mission from the sidelines. If you're able make the call, raise your hand, step up to the plate and be part of the team. Whether it be as a committee Chair, committee member, Color Guard participant or elected officer...let's all get to work.

The labors of the **Committees** in the Summer and Fall are setting us up for successful submissions especially in the areas of youth, education and veterans affairs. If you're already active in one of our committees, you know the satisfaction of a job well done. If not, then it's never too late to ask questions and find out where you can join in and do the most good.

Opportunities to participate in activities that directly support our Mission Statement abound in the areas of educational outreach, chapter color guards, genealogy, youth programs, etc. Please, go to the FLSSAR web site, see what committees we have and reach out!

The area of **membership and retention** is vital to the future of the Society. Many factors have had an adverse effect on retention numbers after the annual reconciliation. The retention statistics give pause and in response we've established a working group to determine what "best practices" we can employ to reverse the trend and lower those numbers. We remember the adage in the business world that "it's cheaper and easier to keep a customer (Compatriot) than to find a new one".

Comments and recommendations are welcome.

The Florida Society has taken the initiative to establish a memorial commemorating the **First Marine Amphibious Landing** of the American Revolution. The memorial will honor the Marines and Sailors that risked their lives to attach and capture two forts from the British and local militia in Nassau.

State & National events: (always confirm dates)

February 22, 2025 - Annual Celebration of the Battle of Moore's Creek, Wilmington, NC

February 27, 2025: NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting - Louisville, KY

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

March 15, 2025: Commemoration of the Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution - Merritt Island, FL

March 22, 2025: 248th Anniversary of the Battle of Thomas Creek - Jacksonville, FL

April 12, 2025: National Frederica Naval Action - St. Simons Island, GA

April 18, 2025: 250th Celebration of the Battle of Lexington & Concord, MA

May 9, 2025: Battle of Pensacola Commemoration – Pensacola, FL

June 28, 2025: Commemoration of the Battle of Alligator Creek Bridge - Callahan, FL

July 12-18, 2025: 135th Congress – Uncasville, CT

I continue to be honored and humbled to serve you this year. My sincere hope is that we can live up to our Mission Statement and make this world a better place to live... one day at a time. Harmony is the strength of all societies, especially ours.

Hope to see you throughout the State this Spring.

Jim Gaskins

Florida Society President, 2024-2025

Event Calendar

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 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.

From the Desk of the Secretary

Chapter Officer Elections

Many chapters are holding officer elections this time of the year. As a reminder, when that occurs, I need a complete list of officers for the new term so that I can update the FL and National databases.

Chapter Challenge Contest

The Florida Society Chapter Challenge Contest is designed to recognize chapters for various activities that meet the goals of the SAR. Chapters are judged against each other based on size (small-red, medium-white, large-blue). The top three winners in each category are recognized at the FLSSAR Annual Meeting. The contest period is the calendar year, January 1st to December 31st.

Scoring for the contest is done using the NSSAR Americanism Award / President General's Activity Streamer Combined Score Sheet, available on the NSSAR website (<https://www.sar.org/committees/americanism-committee/>). Chapters are encouraged to fill out the Scoresheet and submit it to the National competition. In addition, it should be sent to the State Secretary for inclusion in the Chapter Challenge Contest. It is important to note that I need your submissions no later than February 1st, so that I can meet my deadline.

Congress Delegates

If you are planning to attend the 135th Congress, in Uncasville CT, and you wish to be a delegate from the Florida Society, you must contact the FLSSAR Secretary no later than May 1st, 2025. I have to turn in the list to National in mid-May, and I am not allowed to add anyone after that deadline. Just send me an email and ask to be a delegate.

BOM / Annual Meeting

The Spring BOM and Annual Meetings will be held on Friday/Saturday, May 16-17, 2025. Details, including registration and hotel reservations link, are posted on the FLSSAR website under the BOM tab. The schedule has not been finalized, and will be updated as meetings are scheduled. As always, it will be subject to change.

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

Annual Meeting.

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

BOM Meeting.

Only members of the Board of Management (BOM) in attendance may vote at the BOM Meeting. In accordance with the FLSSAR by-laws, the members of the BOM include:

Persons who are lifetime members of the BOM by virtue of being a past President of the FLSSAR, a recipient of the Patriot Medal, or an incumbent or past elected officer of the NSSAR.

Persons who are members of the BOM by virtue of being, and while being, an elected officer of the FLSSAR; appointed incumbent FLSSAR Committee Chairman; an incumbent National Trustee from Florida; an incumbent Chapter President; and the most recent Past President of a chapter, i.e., the person who preceded an incumbent Chapter President in office; if a chapter has no recent Past President it shall name another of its members to serve on the BOM;

Persons who have been appointed by chapters having more than forty members on the basis of one additional member of the BOM for each forty chapter members or fraction thereof more than the first forty, the term of office of such additional members of the BOM to be coterminous with that of the Chapter President incumbent at the time of their appointment to the BOM.

I already know everyone who is in categories a. and b, assuming that you have kept me notified of your current chapter officers. For category c., the chapter must provide names to me, in writing, prior to the BOM. In addition, the by-laws provide for:

A member of the BOM who is unable to attend a meeting may name, in writing, another member of the FLSSAR to attend and act in his stead; provided, however, that no person may have more than one vote. Members of the FLSSAR who are not members of the BOM may attend and participate in debate but may not vote. Visiting dignitaries, especially those from other State Societies or from the National Society, may attend and may be invited to address the meeting but may not participate in debate or vote.

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to ask me.

Scott Breckenridge,

Secretary

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	Jr/Mem	Chapter		
Berges, Barry Lee		Lakeland	Heisler, James Gerard Joseph	Naples
Mead, Corey Allan		Daytona-Ormond	Heisler, Peter Eugene	JR Naples
Perry, Paul Christopher		Tampa	Williams, Joseph Coalter	Naples
Rowland, Richard Joseph		Withlacoochee	Williams, Paul Timothy	Naples
Harwood, Bradley Yeaman		Gainesville	Williams, Maximilian Cleary	JR Naples
Kinsey, Robert Howell		Lakeland	Williams, Joseph Coalter	Naples
Dunagan, Lance Scott		Lakeland	Williams III, Joseph Coalter	JR Naples
Dunagan, John Leeds Kerr		Lakeland	Williams, Henry Mariano De Leon	JR Naples
Meece, Jerry Andrew		Lake-Sumter	Williams Jr, David Yoe	Naples
Summers, Samuel James		Tampa	Vicinanzo, Francis Cleary	Naples
Summers, Riley James	JR	Tampa	Vicinanzo, John Paul	Naples
Young, Garrett Richard	JR	Tampa	Vicinanzo, Leo Dominic	JR Naples
Young, Layton James	JR	Tampa	Williams, Christopher Yoe	Naples
Young, Henry Martin	JR	Tampa	Williams, Peter Dominic	Naples
Milgram, Jason Samuel		Ft. Lauderdale	Williams, Dominic Joseph Oliver	Naples
Blanco, Oscar Manuel	JR	Naples	McAuliff, Thomas Christopher	JR Naples
Christian, Richard Lee		Lake-Sumter	Drake, Drew Marshall	Caloosa
Heiden, Richard Thomas		Clearwater	Chapman, Dean Emanuel	St. Augustine
Heiden, Joseph Robert	JR	Clearwater	Chapman, Nur S	St. Augustine
Heiden, Jacob Thomas	JR	Clearwater	Lovestrand, Louis Brownlow	Central Florida
Mills, Michael S		Miami	Sennott, Clayton E	JR Central Florida
Williams, Robert Yoe	MEM	Naples	LeBarron Jr, John F	The Villages
Williams, David Yoe	MEM	Naples	Burns, Blair Thomas	Lake-Sumter
Morlot, Robert Douglas		Naples	Miller, Shane Paul	Jacksonville
Weaver, George Alpheus		Jacksonville	Ingram, Michael James	Ft. Lauderdale
Weaver, Clayton Lee		Jacksonville	Santoro, Mark Vincent	Clearwater
Oldfield, Stephen Keith		Palm Beach	Santoro, Anthony James	Clearwater
Capi Jr, Donald Keith		Palm Beach	Santoro, Dominick Vencent	Clearwater
Hiatt, James L		Caloosa	Marvin, Porter James	JR The Villages
Joustra, Andrew James		Jacksonville	Lurton, Ernest Lee	St. Augustine
Smith, Virgil Clair	MEM	Jacksonville	Stevenson, William Robert	Palm Beach
Breckenridge, Asa Allen	MEM	Jacksonville	Chatlain Jr, Dean Francis	Clearwater
Davis, John Ruhl		Jacksonville	McCrary, William Jay	Saramana
Tracy, J. Wayne		Miami	McCrary, Thomas Fortson	Saramana
Lennon, Robert Lee		Jacksonville	Alsbrook Jr, Everett Harold	Naples
McNeill, Daniel Ray		William Dunaway	Watt, Brian Patrick	St. Augustine
Yearwood III, Charles John	JR	Miami	Watt, Callan Elijah	JR St. Augustine
Williams, Michael Sebastian		Naples	Watt, Levi Patrick	JR St. Augustine
Williams, Theodore Joseph	JR	Naples	Bujan, Landon Joseph	JR Clearwater
Williams, Sebastian Basil	JR	Naples	Hurry, Francis Donelin	Jacksonville
			Putnam, Shaun David	Naples

Luckhaupt, Bradley Joseph		Lakeland
Lane, Richard Edward		South Shore
Perez, Michael William		Naples
Cox, Michael Holmes		Panama City
Cox Jr, Michael Holmes		Panama City
Draper, Malcolm		Central Florida
Draper, Malcolm R		Central Florida
Singer, James Arthur		Charlotte
Robinson, Stephen Donald Moore		St. Lucie River
Schmidt, David Alexander		Emerald Coast
Frazier, Jack Eugene		St. Lucie River
Masters III, Quincy H		St. Augustine
Gregory III, Arthur Emory		Withlacoochee
Griffith, Woodrow John		William Dunaway
Counts, Johnny Coe		St. Augustine
Counts, Jody Coe		St. Augustine
Counts, Jett Tilton		St. Augustine
Dexter, Richard Scott		Brevard
Randle, David William		St. Petersburg
Randle, Timothy James		St. Petersburg
Hart, Jonathan Andrew		Palm Beach
Robinette, Burl Clifford		St. Lucie River
Summa, Andrew Brien		Jacksonville
Lutz, John Franklin		The Villages
Whitmore, Thor Anders		The Villages
Whitmore, Erik Ian	JR	The Villages
Fairchild, Scott Travis		Central Florida
Transue, David Michael		Lakeland
Transue, Joshua David		Lakeland
Transue, Michael Jack		Lakeland
Watt, Hudson Michael	JR	St. Augustine
Lamis, Reid Garrett	JR	Tampa
Kelly, Kevin A		Naples
Streetman, Morgan Wood		Tampa
Snider, Robert David	MEM	Ft. Lauderdale
Wadsworth, Christopher Wyatt		Ft. Lauderdale
Kayali, Jamil		The Villages
Kayali, Lincoln Elijah	JR	The Villages
Haffen, Adam James		The Villages
Haffen, Gregory Jacob		The Villages
Haffen, Julian Caleb	JR	The Villages
Haffen, Andrew Richard		The Villages

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
Gastfield, Randall Wayne	Central Florida
Sullivan, Brien Stephen	Ft Lauderdale
Wratislaw, David Leslie	Palm Beach
Culpepper, Robert Franklin	Palm Beach
Turman, Lloyd Alan	Saramana
Churchill, Charles Alfred	South Shore
Hammer, Wayne Carroll	Withlacoochee
Harres Jr, Burton Henry	Withlacoochee
Annan, John William Keelin	Palm Beach
Kautz, Ryland James	The Villages
Baker Jr, Silas Kenneth	Brevard
Bowles, George Alfred	Brevard
Danison, Matthew Lee	Brevard
Ferguson, Edward Trevor	Naples
Hopkins, Donald McClain	Naples
Lee, John	Brevard
Martin, Benjamin Gaufrman	Naples
Barnhart, Donald Thomas	St Lucie River
Bradford, James Chapin	Palm Beach
Reeves, Gerald King	Lakeland
Sumner II, Richard Lawrence	Withlacoochee
Brown, Carl Wood	Jacksonville
Worden, Miles Mariner	Central Florida
Bali, Charles Leonard	Miami
Chamblin, Richard E	South Shore



Proposed Changes to the Standing Rules and Procedures.

The FLSSAR Executive Committee plans to present the following proposed changes to the Standing Rules and Procedures at the Spring 2025 BOM /Annual meeting.

Section 100 (Members)

Section 100, Regular Members, presently reads as follows:

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

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

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

Justification:

The original text implies that Life, Active Duty, and Dual members cannot vote, and that is not the case.

All members can vote only at the Annual Meeting. BOM meeting voting is restricted to BOM Members.

The Patriot Magazine is no longer provided for free, except in electronic format.

Section 100, Dual Members, presently reads as follows:

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

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

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

Move to Section 100, Regular Members.

Justification:

This does not only apply to Dual members.

Section 100, Dual Members, presently reads as follows:

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

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

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

Justification:

The method of payment need not be specified.

Section 105 (Regional Vice President)**Section 105, A.7, presently reads as follows:**

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

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

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

Justification:

BOM Meetings are no longer held quarterly.

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

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

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

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

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

Justification:

We no longer send letters.

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

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

Proposed Amended Section 107, 7, revised as follows:

Remove this item.

Justification:

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

Section 110 (Registrar)

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

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

Proposed Amended Section 110, 1, revised as follows:

Move this sentence to Section 106 (Secretary).

Justification:

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

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

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

Proposed Amended Section 122, revised as follows:

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

Justification:

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

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

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

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

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

Justification:

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

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

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

Florida: A Magnet for Loyalists During the Revolution

By Mark Barie

Although an amateur historian, my exposure to the phenomenon of Loyalists during the American Revolution, has been limited.

I blame my upstate New York origins, but after 10 years in Florida, (plus a recently published revolutionary war novel,) I no longer have an excuse. Herewith, then, a somewhat irreverent history of Loyalists in the State of Florida.

Historians report a substantial number of Loyalists in East Florida, as it was referred to at that time. The territory, which included large parts of Alabama and Mississippi, was home to more than 16,000 Loyalists. The American colonists in that region were very British and separated from the other colonists by geography and weather. Not surprisingly, they had little or no interest in the patriot cause.

In fact, they actively supported the British monarchy. They formed militias, carried out surveillance, executed a variety of attacks on patriot strongholds, (with modest success), and made their support of Great Britain, well known. Indeed, when East Florida Loyalists first learned of the Declaration of Independence, they burned effigies of Sam Adams and Alexander Hamilton. For good measure, they imprisoned three of the signatories to that historic document.

Loyalist activities triggered serious concern in the northern colonies. Both military and government leaders began to plan for attacks from the south. They quickly discontinued the flow of goods and services originating in the northern colonies for use by East Florida. This further enraged and isolated the Loyalists. They soon expanded their recruitment efforts amongst North American Indians and did so with great success. With few exceptions, the Indians in the South sided with the British.

The Loyalists were, in turn, rewarded by the Brits. On November 1, 1775, the Crown issued a directive, ordering that all "refugees" arriving from the North, be accommodated as much as possible. East Florida's largesse would include a free grant of land. Estimates, at the time, placed the number of Loyalists at more than 7000 people. So many, that in April of 1778, local authorities complained about the increasingly severe "burden" imposed upon them by the refugees.

It all came to a crushing end, however, when in the wake of the "rebel" victory at Yorktown, the Brits sued for peace. The Crown soon notified authorities in East Florida, that a second treaty, in addition to the Treaty of Versailles, would cede East Florida to Spain. After some initial shock and surprise, many of the Loyalists returned to England. Some chose to remain and take their chances with the new American government. A tiny handful took up residence with the North American Indians.

It took years to evacuate the Loyalists. Spain's deadline, then set at March 11, 1785, was extended by an additional four months, for those individuals who were not yet willing to accept Spain as their new motherland. In the end, the legions of Loyalists in Florida became not much more than a footnote in American history books.

That is the price you pay when you are on the wrong side of history and the history books are written by the victors.

Editor's Note: Mark Barie is an award-winning author and a member of the Caloosa Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. Barie regularly speaks to groups across Florida, on America's earliest wars. He can be reached at: author-markbarie@gmail.com.

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Spies and Espionage Tactics In the American Revolutionary War

by Dr. Ben Findley

Despite having little practical experience in managing large, conventional armies, George Washington proved to be a capable and resilient leader of the American military forces during the Revolutionary War. General Washington fought in 17 battles in the Revolutionary War. It is reported that he won 6 of the battles, lost 7 of them, and fought to a draw in 4 battles. While he lost more battles than he won, Washington employed a winning strategy that included major victories at the Battles of Trenton in 1776, in Princeton in 1777, and Yorktown in 1781... and effectively used espionage and spy tactics.

With the assistance of espionage, many spies, and several fine spy tactics, General Washington led the American Army to victory during the Revolutionary War. Washington became America's first Espionage and Spy Master. He quickly recognized that there was a strong need for effective intelligence and surveillance gathering efforts and developed a number of spy rings and secret agents to gather information, especially covertly behind enemy lines. Both the British and American forces employed a wide range of spy networks, many spies, intelligence operations, and counterespionage to gain crucial information about the other side and to protect their own missions. One need recognized by Washington was supplying the British with misinformation that purposely misled his enemies as to his true intention.

In 1778, General Washington decided to create a formal spy ring and appointed Major Benjamin Tallmadge as the first Director of Military Intelligence. His mission was to create a spy ring of agents in New York City, the site of the British Headquarters. This first spy network became known as the Culper Spy Ring and operate successfully for five years, during which time no spy was ever revealed. More details about the Culper Spy Ring is provided below.

General Washington: A Master at Espionage and PSYOP

General Washington seems to have made frequent use of deception, disinformation, spying, and contemporary-like psychological operations (PSYOP) during the war. While some dismiss this as done by talented forgers after his death, others like Amy Zegart, writer for The Atlantic and Fellow at the Hoover Institution, says Washington and others were "cunning manipulators of their information environment." "He ordered fake gunpowder casks be filled with sand where they would be spotted by British spies," "wrote reports inflating the troop strength that were designed to fall into the hands of traitors," "penned fake documents that referred to phantom infantry and cavalry regiments to convince British General Howe that the rebels were too strong to attack," and allowed some fake documents to fall into the hands of enemy agents or be discussed in their presence. He allowed couriers carrying bogus information to be "captured" by the British, and, some say, inserted forged documents in intercepted British communications that were then permitted to continue to their destination. He had Army procurement officers make false purchases of large quantities of supplies in places picked to convince the British that a sizable rebel force was massing, some say. Washington even had fake military facilities built, but the support is sketchy. In all this, he managed to make the British believe that his three-thousand-man army outside Philadelphia was forty thousand strong.

Revolutionary War Espionage & Persuasive Communications Compared to Contemporary PSYOP & Perfidy

Today, the purpose of PSYOP, or Psychological Operations, in brief is to induce or reinforce behavior and actions of the opposing force that are favorable to one side's objectives. While espionage during the Revolutionary War involved gathering secret information primarily through spying, it was a form of contemporary PSYOP. This is true because then more than spying was involved, i.e. communications and actions to influence behaviors, attitudes, emotions, and actions of the British and their allies. But PSYOP focuses more on influencing behaviors, attitudes, emotions, and actions of a specific target audience through formal propaganda and other communication methods to achieve desired results, like surrender, defection, or desertion. PSYOP is aimed at influencing the enemy's state of mind usually through non-combative means, sometimes subliminally and covertly, without the enemy's total knowledge or with limited awareness. It involves distribution of persuasive leaflets, radio and television broadcasts, loudspeakers, newspapers, magazines, and even comic books to help win or prevent war or conflicts. It is designed to win the "hearts and minds" of the opposing force and of your domestic target audience.

TRUTH is the best PSYOP! I presented this concept and made comparisons to civilian marketing strategy and persuasive communications and methods, as the first Adjunct Professor in PSYOP at the U.S. Air Force Special Operations School at Hurlburt Field, FL, for several years.

NOTE: PSYOP Joint Publication 3-13.2 prepared by direction of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in 2010 reinforces the doctrine to govern activities and performance of all U.S. armed forces. This doctrine on information operations includes disinformation as a tool. However, it specifically prohibits all military units from **using PSYOP on domestic audiences and conducting PSYOP missions on any domestic audience.** This includes "not targeting U.S. citizens at any time, in any location globally, or under any circumstances."

NOTE: The Geneva and Hague International Conventions preclude the injury of an enemy through "treachery" or "perfidy" (illegitimate deception; deliberate breach of faith and

trust; is a war crime; treason.) For example, using symbols like the Red Cross or white flag or wearing the enemy's uniform to evade capture or to gain proximity to the enemy for purposes of attack. Perfidy is a form of deception where one side promises to act in good faith, but with the intention of breaking that promise once the unsuspecting enemy is exposed.

When properly employed, PSYOP has the potential to save the lives of friendly or enemy forces by reducing the adversary's will to fight. By lowering the adversary's morale and then its efficiency, PSYOP can also discourage aggressive actions by creating indifference within their ranks, ultimately leading to surrender, defection, or desertion.

In war and conflicts, PSYOP as a **force multiplier** can degrade the enemy's relative combat power, reduce civilian interference, minimize collateral damage, and maximize the local populace's support for operations, per the Joint Pub.

When assigned to Headquarters, U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) and the Directorate of PSYOP at MacDill AFB, FL, I worked with several PSYOP tactical methods and techniques, including "White PSYOP" leaflets. Detailed information is included in my 1996 Department of Defense book Psychological Operations: Principles and Cases. Here below are original leaflets as White PSYOP designed and distributed to the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese Army (NVA) in Vietnam, by our USSOCOM PSYOP and Allied personnel during the Vietnam War.

These "Safe Conduct Passes" are signed by President Nguyen Van Thieu of the Government of Vietnam (GVN) and promise forgiveness and guarantee humane treatment and safety to those who rally and "Come Home." Ralliers were given vocational training, housing, and land to farm in special Chieu Hoi (Come Home) hamlets. It was the most widely disseminated and the most effective leaflet in Vietnam. About 50 billion of these leaflets were dropped over South Vietnam and along the Ho Chi Minh Trail in Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam by Allied Forces. About 122,000 Viet Cong military personnel rallied to the GVN during the war, an additional 29,000 became POWs, and 1,200 NVA defected.

Secret Committees and Agent 711

American intelligence was monitored and sanctioned by the Continental Congress and George Washington to provide military intelligence to the Continental Army for fighting the British. The Second Continental Congress created a Secret Committee on September 18, 1775. They also created a Committee of Secret Correspondence for foreign intelligence on November 29, 1775, and a Committee on Spies for tracking spies within the Patriot movement.

The Secret Committee employed agents overseas, often in cooperation with the Committee of Secret Correspondence. It gathered domestic intelligence about secret ammunition stores and arranged to seize them. The committee also sent missions to seize British supplies in the colonies.

The Committee of Secret Correspondence established Secret Agents in 1775 and George Washington was the first Secret Agent and was called Agent 711.

The Culper Spy Ring and Agent 721

The Culper Spy Ring was a successful espionage network during the Revolutionary War, providing Washington and the patriot colonies with vital intelligence on British troop movements, fortifications, and military plans.

Major Benjamin Tallmadge (Alias John Bolton or Agent 721), as the first Director of Military Intelligence, created a numerical code book of 763 numbers to represent words, names, people, locations, and places for secret messages. He assigned each a number from 1 to 763. This was the Culper Code Book. For example, 38 meant to Attack, 192 stood for a Fort, 219 meant Gun, 727 meant New York, 701 meant Woman, and George Washington was identified as Agent 711. Abraham Woodhull used 722 and the alias Samuel Culper, Senior, while Robert Townsend used code number 72 and the alias Samuel Culper, Junior.

Other Prominent Spies of the American Revolutionary War

The Traitor Benedict Arnold & His British Spy Wife Peggy Shippen: Benedict Arnold and George Washington first met in August of 1775 after Washington had taken command of the newly formed Continental Army outside Boston in Cambridge, MA. Because of Arnold's management both in taking and keeping Fort Ticonderoga in 1775, Washington asked Arnold to lead a column as a general into Canada to take Quebec City. Arnold did so, but suffered a serious wound on the last day of 1775. Benedict Arnold went on to fight successfully in 1776 in keeping the British from invading the colonies through the Lake Champlain region, with his greatest victory at Saratoga in 1777, which led to the French coming into the war as the American's first ally.

Seriously wounded twice and having been turned down for a (some say) well-deserved promotion, Arnold started to have serious doubts about the American cause, even before he married Peggy Shippen, a loyalist and later British spy, in 1779. His new wife Peggy had contacts with British officers, including Major John André, and she introduced Arnold to them, whose anger led him to begin communications with the British.

British Major John André and Arnold regularly communicated. In a July, 1780 letter to André, Arnold communicated secret information about American troop movements and other critical information, according to American Battlefield Trust. Arnold offered to surrender the West Point Fort to the British and said he wanted to lead the rebels back into the British fold (with payment for his services.) British Major Andre was hanged. And Arnold was recognized as a traitor by colony patriots, so on October 4, 1780, the Continental Congress struck Benedict Arnold's name from the record of general officers serving in the Continental Army. Arnold then in 1781 became a British Brigadier general and led attacks on colonial Virginia and New London, Connecticut. His reputation has been greatly smudged and his plaque at the Old Cadet Chapel at West Point Military Academy has his name removed.

Nathan Hale, American Patriot: Nathan Hale (June 6, 1755 – September 22, 1776) was an American Patriot, soldier and spy for the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War. Hale was a Corporal in the 7th Regiment Continental Militia and was elected as a Second Lieutenant, then Captain in the militia. Washington asked for a volunteer to go as a spy behind British lines on a secret mission about the invasion of Manhattan. He volunteered as the only volunteer for an intelligence-gathering mission in New York City, but was captured by the British and executed at the age of 21 in 1776. Hale is considered an American hero and in 1985 was officially designated the state hero of Con-

necticut. He is best remembered for his last words "I only regret that I have but one life to give for my country."

Major John Andre, British Spy- Hanged - Major John André (May 2, 1750 – October 2, 1780) was a British Army officer who served as the head of British Intelligence Operations during the American Revolutionary War. In September 1780, he negotiated and worked with Continental Army officer and turncoat Benedict Arnold, who secretly offered to turn over control of the American fort at West Point, New York to the British. Due to a series of mishaps and unforeseen events, André was forced to return to British lines from a meeting with Arnold through American-controlled territory while wearing civilian clothes. André was captured by three Americans and was quickly identified and imprisoned. He was subsequently convicted of espionage by the Continental Army and executed by hanging on General Washington's orders.

Agent James Jay and his "Invisible Ink" and Turtle Submarine - Patriot Dr. James Jay used the advanced technology of his time in creating the invaluable "sympathetic stain" ink used for secret communications and other technological advancements. It was invisible ink. Washington instructed his Agents in the use of the "sympathetic stain" and recommended that agents conceal their reports by using the invisible ink in all correspondence.

The Turtle Submarine in the Revolutionary War was James' most advanced application for the War was in the "Turtle," a one-man submarine created for affixing timed explosive charges to the bottoms of enemy ships. He worked with its inventor Connecticut Patriot David Bushnell from 1771-1775 for the WORLD'S FIRST COMBAT SUBMARINE. The "Turtle," is credited with being the first use of a submarine in warfare, during the Revolutionary War. It was an oaken chamber about five-and-a-half feet wide and seven feet high. It was propelled by a front-mounted, pedal-powered propeller at a speed of up to three miles per hour, had a barometer to read depth, a pump to raise or lower the submarine through the water, and provision for both lead and water ballast. Incredibly, it had the ability (1) to submerge, (2) to maneuver under water, (3) to maintain an adequate air supply for its operators, and (4) to carry out effective offensive operations against an enemy surface vessel, according to researchers and historians with the SpyCurious Turn-To-A-Historian website.

John Jay- Foiling a Plot to Kill George Washington - In 1776, the Secret Committee was investigating Loyalist plots to undermine the Continental Army in New York City prior to a large-scale British advance. In the course of that investigation, the Committee uncovered an espionage plot against George Washington. Sadly, a number of his elite bodyguards, known as his "Life Guard," had allied themselves with the British and plotted to capture or assassinate their commanding general. Jay's committee unraveled it all and Jay saved Washington's life and brought the traitorous men to justice. John Jay is known by some as the "Father of U.S. Counterespionage" or the "Father of U.S. Counterintelligence."

James Armistead Lafayette, Runaway Slave & Double Agent Spy - James Armistead Lafayette (c.1748-1830- Image: Wikipedia), an enslaved African American, served as a Double Agent for the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War. As a slave, he joined French General Lafayette's unit with his master's permission. He posed

as a runaway slave and crossed into British General Cornwallis' lines to gather intelligence for the Patriots. He was recruited by Cornwallis to return to American lines as a spy. Thus he was a Double Agent. General Lafayette gave James Armistead Lafayette a fabricated order that was destined for a large number of nonexistent replacement troops. Armistead delivered the bogus order in crumpled, dirty condition to Cornwallis, claiming to have found it along the road during his mission. Cornwallis believed him and did not learn he had been tricked until after his surrender. Armistead's information was critical to the American victory at the Battle of Yorktown, which led to the British surrender on October 19, 1781. Armistead was granted his freedom in 1787 by the Virginia General Assembly as a result of this and other wartime services. Then, he adopted General Lafayette's surname in appreciation.

Anna Strong, Agent 355, the Clothesline Spy - Sadly, but understandable given this time in our history, women were not considered threats to military commanders, allowing them to spy uninterrupted. Women who were cooks and maids were recruited to spy on soldiers. A prominent woman who played a major role in the Culper Spy ring was Agent 355, or Anna Strong, best known for providing the intelligence that led to the capture of the treasonous Benedict Arnold. Anna was one of the few female members of the Culper Spy Ring. A tactic Anna Strong used as a Spy was to signal when a patriotic message would be available and the New York location the next day where Agents would meet. She signaled this through laundry she hung out on her clothesline. A black petticoat indicated that a message was ready to be picked up and the number of handkerchiefs on the clothesline identified the cove on Long Island Sound where Agents would meet. Anna lived quietly in New York & died there in 1812.

Nancy Morgan Hart (Image: Wikipedia) played an important role in the American Revolution. Her fearlessness prompted Cherokee neighbors to call her "Wahatche," which meant "war woman." Though Hart was illiterate, she was well-versed in the skills needed for surviving on the frontier. She was an herbalist, hunter, and markswoman. In January 1778, Nancy Morgan Hart, who was tall, muscular, and cross-eyed, disguised herself as a "touched" or emotionally disturbed man, and entered Augusta, Georgia to obtain intelligence on British defenses. Her mission was a major success. Later, when a group of Tories attacked her home to gain revenge, she captured them all and was witness to their execution. When one of Hart's children discovered a British soldier spying on the Hart home, Nancy doused the man with boiling water that she was using to make soap before tying him up and turning him over to Patriot forces. Nancy Hart was said to have acted as a Sniper, killing Tories as they came across the Broad River in Georgia. She was a strong, fearless patriotic American woman.

Thomas Paine's "Common Sense" - Pamphlet - Common Sense is a 47-page pamphlet written by Thomas Paine in 1775–1776 advocating independence from Great Britain to people in the Thirteen Colonies. It was written in clear and persuasive prose and was true according to Paine. Paine collected various moral and political arguments to encourage common people in the Colonies to fight for egalitarian government. It was published anonymously on January 10, 1776, at the beginning of the American Revolution and became an immediate sensation. So, this is a form of Gray communications/PSYOP. It was sold and distributed widely and read aloud at taverns and meeting places. In proportion to the

population of the colonies at that time (about 2.5 million), it had the largest sale and circulation of any book published in American history. Today, it remains one of the all-time best-selling American titles and is still in print today.

British Mask or Cipher Messages - British General Sir Henry Clinton composed messages in 1777 that were meant to be read through an hourglass mask or grille cipher. A technique known as the Cardan System was an hourglass cipher, as shown above. There is intentional misinformation included when the message is read without the mask, but read with the mask expresses an entirely different message within the hourglass. The above image shows a letter with a mask imposed over it. You can see the intended real message inside the hourglass mask.

General Washington's False Teeth Reveal Secrets - George Washington had severe deteriorating teeth problems throughout his entire life. He was frequently in considerable pain and none of his dentists could solve his problems, except to extract them. In 1772, Dr. Baker extracted all of Washington's teeth and made him false teeth dentures out of hippopotamus ivory and cow's teeth, carved by hand and held in his mouth with metal springs. The dentures were NOT made of wood, according to MountVernon.org. These false teeth, originals shown above, were slightly large for Washington's mouth and this caused him to smile a little oddly with a different expression. Probably due to the metal springs on the sides of the dentures. This smile is seen in his many portraits. Washington wrote a letter in 1781 requesting cleaning utensils for his false teeth and expressed his pain. The letter was captured by the British and some believe Washington's false teeth letter led them to Washington and his location and movement for a tactical advantage in battle. However, this has not been completely confirmed.

Conclusions - George Washington recognized the critical need for espionage, spying activities, and psychological operations to influence the enemy's state of mind and for tactical advantages in battle. He was America's first Spymaster, the first Secret Agent, and was known as Agent 711. Similar to today's PSYOP, there were many related tactics, techniques, and propaganda activities. There were secret committees and Secret Agents for both the British and Americans. Major Benjamin Tallmadge and his fine Culper Spy Ring were successful in helping Americans with vital enemy troop movements and military plans. There were many prominent spies in the American Revolutionary War, including Arnold, Hale, Andre, Jay, Strong, Bates, and Hart. And there were many espionage and psychological operations tactics and techniques used, e.g. hourglass masks, quills, Black Chamber operations, and ciphers. I hope this article has helped you learn more about the American Revolutionary War and its early espionage, spying, and psychological operations, and activities.

REMEMBER: AMERICA'S 250TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION now for the commemoration of the American Revolution, our independence, and the establishment of our United States of America. On July 4, 2026, our nation will celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the birth of our country, but there are several national, state, and local activities now to celebrate. The Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) society plays a key role in the celebrations, by actively participating in educational initiatives, events, and patriotic activities to inform the public about the founding principles and events of the U.S.

Chapter News

Brevard Chapter

At the November meeting, the chapter presented a new member certificate to Stanley Kuhns, and a Southwest Asia Veterans Medal to Patrick Langan. Appreciation certificates were presented to Joel Etherton, and Brian Jensen.



At the December meeting, the chapter had their annual ornament exchange and a time of fellowship while viewing the ocean from the second floor of the Tides Restaurant. Then at the January meeting, Chapter Secretary Jeff Sizemore spoke on Francis Marion - Swamp fox of the American Revolution.



Central Florida Chapter

On September 21, members of the CFLSAR Color Guard and Ladies Auxiliary participated in the Orlando Honor Flight. It was our honor to welcome veterans from WWII, Korea, and Vietnam back from their trip to Washington DC.

On Saturday, November 9, members of the CFLSAR Chapter participated in the Orlando Veterans Day Parade. Chapter members participating in the parade were Phil Markoe, Scott Cook, Andrew Showen, Robin Preston, and Michael Meyer.



On Monday, November 11, members of the CFLSAR Chapter Color Guard, along with color guard member from around the state, participated in the 75th Anniversary Commemoration of the Florida Merc Train. Chapter members participating were Phil Markoe, Robin Preston, and Michael Meyer.



On Saturday, December 16, members of the CFLSAR Chapter participated in laying wreaths at three Orlando area cemeteries.



Clearwater Chapter

At our September 18, 2024 meeting, our guest speaker was Compatriot and current Secretary/Treasurer of the Miami SAR Chapter William Lee Popham, who spoke about the new Club Express membership management platform being adopted by the Sons of the American Revolution. Stephen Bass was inducted into our Chapter.

At our October 16, 2024 meeting, our guest speaker was Compatriot Dr. Donald Green, who spoke about John Quincy Adams. Robert Richardson was awarded the Special Ops Veterans Corps Certificate and Medal. Harry Fuller was awarded the Henry Knox Achievement Certificate and Medal. Sharla Taylor was awarded the Martha Washington Certificate and Medal.

At our November 20, 2024 meeting, our guest speaker was Father Robert Swick, Chairman of the Tampa Bay Veterans Alliance. James Koontz was presented the Military Service Veterans Corps Certificate. Parks Honeywell was presented a Certificate of Appreciation. We inducted Mark Santoro and Dean Chatlain as new members.

On December 7, 2024, six Compatriots from the Clearwater and Tampa Chapters participated in the Safety Harbor Holiday parade. On December 8, 2024 ten Compatriots from the Clearwater Chapter participated in Belleair Holiday parade.



During the Florida Society’s Fall BOM our very own compatriot Kelly Crumley had the honor of carrying the national colors during the opening ceremony. Compatriots Bill Elder and Steven Butt also participated. Our chapter was awarded a Partners in Patriotism Award for our support of veterans.

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

In December we finish off the year by participating in the Wreaths Across America at the Port Orange Fly-In Cemetery. We look forward to an exciting year as we continue to grow our chapter and commemorate 250th anniversary events.



Newton White presentation of the Bronze Roger Sherman Medal



Corey Mead is Presented His Membership Certificate

Daytona–Ormond Beach Chapter

In September our chapter ended its summer hiatus. Compatriot William Ashmore gave a presentation on Ticonderoga – A Patriot Story. During October’s meeting we said farewell to our Treasurer, Jim Haff, who moved to California to be nearer to family. We also welcomed Corey Mead to the chapter, and he volunteered to be the new Treasurer.

At our November meeting we recognized the veterans that are part of our chapter. Compatriot Newton White was presented with the Bronze Roger Sherman Medal for his tremendous support of the chapter. During all our regular meetings we commemorated 250th Anniversary events by highlighting events that occurred in each particular month.

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



Palm Beach Chapter

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

The Chapter has a proactive membership recruiting and retention effort; retaining 86% of its 2024 members plus inducting 10 new Compatriots bringing its total membership to 178 with an additional 10 prospects in the application process. PB Chapter mourns the loss of 4 beloved Compatriots; David Wratlslaw, John Annan, Robert Culpepper and Bill James Bradford.

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



Chapter awarded 10 Bronze 250 Medals to SAR & DAR Patriots in recognition of their ongoing Patriotic Services, presented 6 medals to Police & First Responders awarded 8 JROTC medals, 1 Knight Essay Contest medal and 2 Eagle Scout medals in 2024.

PB Chapter Officers presented \$4,000 in student grants to the Palm Beach Atlantic University History Department in honor of Dear Departed Compatriots Alex Dreyfoos, David Wratlslaw & Robert Culpepper specifically for History Majors Students.



Chapter Compatriots participated in the annual placing of Honor Wreaths on Veteran Tomb Stones as part of Wreaths Across America project at the South Florida National Cemetery.



PB Chapter continued its annual donation in support of the local CAR "Swamp Fox" Chapter represented by State Officer Katy Peterson.

Chapter Compatriots were represented at several major Patriotic events in 2024 including Flags 4 Fallen Vets placing American Flags at Veteran Tombstones, Forgotten Soldiers Outreach Memorial Day Wreath Laying, Honor Flight receptions, CAR events and DAR Regents American Flag Retirement Ceremony.

Pensacola Chapter

On December 14, 2025, the chapter participated in the Wreaths Across America where Compatriot Ben Findley was one of the speakers at this event.



St. Petersburg Chapter

At our September 21, 2024 meeting, our guest speaker was Secretary/Treasurer and Past President of the Miami Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, William Lee Popham. He gave a presentation about the new Club Express membership management platform being adopted by the Sons of the American Revolution. We also inducted Garrison Horrell, Joseph Mingione, and Bruce Tunni as new members.

Our scheduled October 19 meeting was canceled due to damage at the Saint Petersburg Yacht Club from Hurricanes Helene and Milton.

At our November 16, 2024 meeting, our guest speaker was Will Michaels from the Tony Jannus Society. He spoke about the creation of the Saint Petersburg - Tampa Airboat Line in 1914 in Saint Petersburg, the first regularly scheduled passenger airline service in the world.



Withlacoochee Chapter

President Hohman reported that our chapter was recognized at the SAR National Congress for our George Washington Endowment Fund enrollments. Florida had 31 Fellows and our chapter accounted for 26 of those 31. No state has done more than 15 new Fellows. The Withlacoochee Chapter/Florida was awarded the Meek Award as well as the newly created Apple Award.

We have had two major events in the fall, the first being the Massing of the Colors at the Seven Rivers Presbyterian Church in Lecanto with 900 church members in attendance. Other Veterans groups were also there.

The second major event is our continued 20 years of service to Baldomero Lopez Veterans Nursing Home in Land -o-Lakes, Florida. This is a 120-bed facility that our chapter adopted 20 years ago. We delivered 60 pumpkins for Halloween and gifts for all the veterans in this home in December.

These are veterans that mostly have no families and therefore are not forgotten at Christmas. Nine Chapter members showed up at the home on December 12 to present these Xmas gifts to our Veterans.



Proposed Changes to the Standing Rules and Procedures

The FLSSAR Executive Committee plans to present the following proposed changes to the Standing Rules and Procedures at the Spring 2025 BOM /Annual meeting.

Section 502 (Registration and Hospitality Room)

Section 502, Overview, presently reads as follows:

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

Proposed Amended Section 502, Overview, revised as follows:

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

Justification:

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

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

A. Regular or Special BOM Weekend

1. The registration desk personnel have the responsibility of providing the BOM Proceedings (Blue Book), meal tickets, table signup sheets, meeting schedule, and any other informational items.
2. The opening hour for the Friday check-in is 10:30AM unless otherwise scheduled.
3. Be it understood that some hotels only permit foodstuffs to be provided by the hotel. Therefore, any reference to FLSSAR chapters bringing food to the BOM events is understood to be meant for those hotels that allow such outside food to be provided. References to a Hospitality Room are applicable if the BOM event contract makes a provision for such a room. Typically, such contract provisions are done at an added expense. It is recommended that Donations will be required of those consuming the food to help offset the expense.
4. If permitted by the hotel, we recommend that the chapter members and member's wives assisting the RVP on Friday of a BOM should only have finger foods that each chapter in the region can donate. Recommended items include

crackers, cheese, chips, pretzels, nuts, and cookies. We do not recommend purchasing packaged luncheon meat and cheese, etc., to set out for making sandwiches, if reimbursement from FLSSAR is expected. FLSSAR will not accept the invoice for such items. Members and chapters for the Hospitality room often donate sandwich platters. The chapters may also donate a mix of soft drinks, juice, and two to three cases of bottled water. If a sufficient amount is not donated the RVP may authorize purchase of same including regular and decaf coffee, etc., and be reimbursed by FLSSAR along with any non-food supplies invoiced. Liquor, beer and wine is not to be provided by FLSSAR but may be brought to the hospitality room by members for themselves or to share. The RVP should make sure the donation box with sign above it stating (food and drinks are not free) is on the food table where it is easily viewed.

5. The Hospitality room should close at 3 PM for the BOM meeting and open only after the evening banquet and close no later than 11 PM unless otherwise scheduled.

6. On Saturday morning, the RVP can decide if a need for regular and decaf coffee and juice should to be served as well as breakfast items such as Danish, donuts or bagels that are left over from Friday. If not, the none food supplies are packed in supplied FLSSAR containers and the RVP responsible for next BOM takes charge of the containers and provides personnel that will store the same in a proper and safe storage area. Food supplies including sodas are not to be stored because of the heat in Florida and time between meetings. Offer these items to the members from the chapters that donated them first.

7. RVP in charge of the current BOM should make sure all FLSSAR items are in containers and ready to be transferred to the next RVP and removed by Saturday morning.

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

A. Regular or Annual BOM Weekend

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

ings during the BOM or Annual meeting. To facilitate this, the host Region should contact the Ladies Auxiliary President and Secretary prior to the BOM weekend to let them know if a member or a member's wife will be available to keep the room open.

7. On Sunday morning, any unused non-food supplies and FLSSAR owned equipment (such as the coffee maker) should be packed in supplied FLSSAR containers and turned over to the FLSSAR Sgt-at-Arms for storage in the FLSSAR storage locker. Any perishable food supplies as well as soft drinks and water should be offered to the chapters that donated them or turned over to the RVP responsible for the next Hospitality Room to properly store until the next BOM. Perishable items (including soft drinks and water) may not be stored in the FLSSAR storage locker.

Justification:

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

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

B.BOM and Annual Meeting weekend

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

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

Strike entire Section

Justification:

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

From the State Nominating Committee

Colonel Graham W. Fountain, (Emerald Coast President) Chairman

2025 State Society Officers Nominating Report



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

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

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

National Trustee (Historical Progression):	James Gaskins
Alternate National Trustee (Historical Progression):	Christopher Washler

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

Respectfully submitted:
Chairman: Col. Graham Westerfield Fountain

Date Published: February 12, 2025



248th Anniversary of the Battle of Thomas Creek

Saturday 10:00 AM, March 29, 2025 in Jacksonville, Florida*

The Florida Society SAR commemorates the 248th anniversary for 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.). This new 3.4 mile road accesses the Jacksonville National Cemetery that connects with to the 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

Society Name: _____

Chapter or Organization Name: _____

Will present Wreath: Yes _____ No _____

Wreath Dedicated to: _____

Presenter (s) Name (s): _____

Title (s) (if applicable) _____

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**



**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 28, 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 - swampeditor@yahoo.com

Or Mail to:

Brevard SAR

1535 Skyline Dr., Kissimmee, FL 34744-6687



The Tampa SAR invites you to join us for the 2nd Annual
George Washington Birthday Gala
February 22, 2025
St. Petersburg Yacht Club 11 Central Ave.
5:30pm Raffle & Social 7pm Dinner



\$70 pp includes 4 course dinner & covered parking

Checks payable to Tampa SAR
*Mail to Will Wagner-Hart
39441 Pattie Rd. Zephyrhills, FL 33540
* Zelle: tampasar.tres@gmail.com

Coat & Tie, Formal, Period Attire
The popular raffle returns with more great items.
Tickets: 5 / \$10 10 / \$15 15 / \$20
Vegetarian/Vegan option
Cash Bar

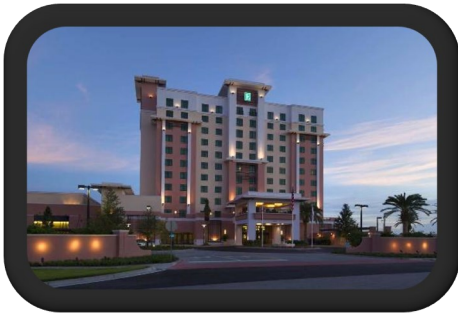
Proceeds benefit charity



The Florida Patriot

1535 Skyline Drive

Kissimmee, FL 34744-6687



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.