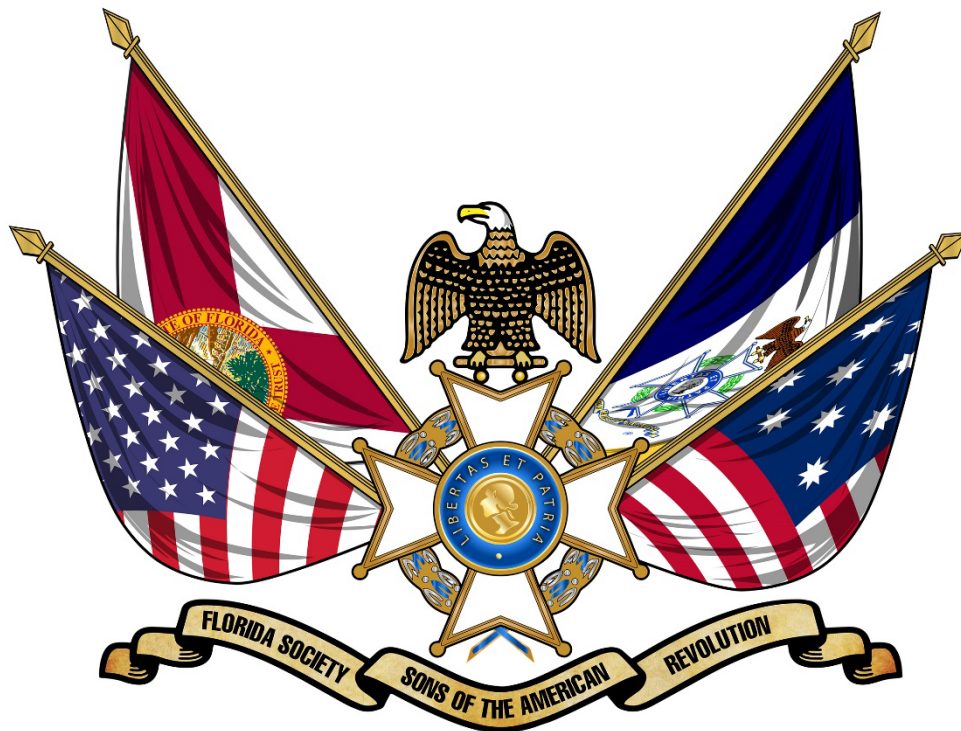


Spring Board of Management & Annual
Meeting

Proceedings

Kissimmee, Florida

Dec 6 to 7, 2024



The Pledge of Allegiance

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

The SAR Pledge

We descendants of the heroes of the American Revolution, who by their sacrifices established the United States of America, reaffirm our faith in the principles of liberty and our Constitutional Republic and solemnly pledge ourselves to defend them against every foe.

Recessional

Until we meet again, let us remember our obligations to our forefathers who gave us our Constitution, the Bill of Rights, an independent Supreme Court and a nation of free men.

Constitutional Republic

A Constitutional Republic is a state where the officials are elected as representatives of the people, and must govern according to an existing constitutional law that limits the government's power over its citizens. In the case of the United States Constitution, the body of the Document defines the three separate and distinct parts of government; executive, legislative and judicial, in addition it defines the duties and the obligations each branch must perform. The Bill of Rights and the Amendments define the rights of the individual and are there to prevent tyranny by both the government and the majority.

Sons of the American Revolution 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.

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Meeting Agenda

Call to order
Invocation
Pledge of allegiance
SAR Pledge
Mission Statement
Introduction of National Officers
Introduction of first time attendees
Certification of a quorum
Approval of the agenda
Approval of the minutes
Endorsements of National Candidates (**Fall BOM**)
Nomination of SAD VPG (**Fall 2024 BOM**)

Reports of National and State Officers

National Trustee
President
Senior Vice President
ExComm Member-at-Large
Northwestern Regional Vice President
North Central Regional Vice President
Northeastern Regional Vice President
East Central Regional Vice President
West Central Regional Vice President
Southeast Regional Vice President
Southwest Regional Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Registrar
Chaplain
Recording Secretary
Chancellor
Genealogist
Sergeant at Arms
Historian
Editor, *The Florida Patriot*
Webmaster

Statutory Committee Reports

Executive
 Appoint ExAdmin (**Spring BOM**)
Finance
 (Budget Approval (**Fall BOM**))
Financial Review
Medals and Awards
Nominating
Patriot Medal

NSSAR Affairs

SAR Education Center & Museum
National Society Library

FLSSAR Affairs

Archives
By-Laws
Congress Surplus Allocation
Education Outreach
Ethics
Genealogy

Meeting Arrangements - BOM

Approval of BOM contracts (**Fall BOM**)
Membership Promotion and Retention
New Chapter Development
Newsletters and Periodicals
Strategic Planning
Technology Advisory
Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade

Liaisons

CAR and SAR Junior Members Aide Liaison
DAR Liaison
FLSSAR Ladies Auxiliary Liaison

Historic Sites

Historic Sites & Celebrations
Battle of Pensacola
Battle of Thomas Creek
First Amphibious Assault Memorial
Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution

Youth Programs

Americanism Youth Contests
Eagle Scout Scholarship
History Fairs
George S. & Stella Knight Essay Contest
Joseph P. Rumbaugh Orations Contest
JROTC/ROTC

Community Outreach

Habitat for Humanity
Patriotic Activities
Public Service and Heroism
Publicity
American History Teacher Award
Veterans Affairs

Trust Funds

Endowment Trust Fund Disbursements
Endowment & Operating Budget Trust Funds
Election of Trustee (**Fall BOM**)

UNFINISHED Business

NEW Business

Recess BOM Meeting (**Spring**)

Adjourn BOM Meeting (**Fall**)

Convene Annual Meeting (**Spring**)

Proposed By-Laws amendments (**Annual Meeting**)

Election of officers (**Annual Meeting**)

Nomination of National Trustee & Alt (**Annual Mtg**)

Adjourn Annual Meeting

President-Elect reconvenes BOM Mtg (**Spring**)

Election of Nominating Committee (**Spring BOM**)

Recessional / Adjournment

Minutes of the Last Meeting

Scott Breckenridge, Secretary FLSSAR
W. Douglas Gibbens, Recording Secretary FLSSAR

Board of Management Meeting

Date: Saturday May 18, 2024

Location: Embassy Suites, Kissimmee, FL

Meeting convened by **President Steve Fields** at 1:04pm.

Quorum requirement met.

The agenda was accepted as presented.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as presented.

MOTION – Treasurer W. Richard “Dick” Young moved that: *The Florida Society shall establish an Ad Hoc Committee called the Congress Surplus Allocation Committee to evaluate proposals for the allocation of the remaining surplus congress funds and make recommendations to the next Board of Management for disbursement. The Charter of this committee shall be as follows: The committee shall be established to receive and evaluate proposals for the use of the surplus funds from the 133rd Congress. The committee may meet by email, Zoom, or in person. For a proposal to be evaluated, it must be submitted in writing or email to the chairman. Proposals shall include at least information on recipient, purpose, and explanation of how a distribution will benefit the Society, and who will be responsible for the application of any allocated funds. The committee will remain in service until all surplus congress funds are allocated. The committee shall report their activities at each Board of Management meeting until its dissolution. The committee will consist of R. Richard “Dick” Young (chairman), W. Lee Popham, Kevin Shurte, Brad DeCody marble and Chris Washler.*

Motion seconded by Stephen G. Hohman.

PASSED

MOTION – The Financial Review Committee moved that the Committee Charter for that committee be updated as follows:

NAME: Financial Review

Status: Statutory

Purpose: To conduct, or cause to be conducted, an annual internal peer review of the financial books and records of the FLSSAR for the preceding fiscal year

Authority: Florida Society By-Laws, Article V, Section 2

Members: The President shall appoint a Financial Review Committee of not less than three nor more than five Members of the FLSSAR

Functions: The Financial Review Committee is responsible for conducting an annual internal review of the books and financial records of our Society. The Treasurer provides the committee with sufficient and appropriate material to review the activities, transactions, and financial assets of the FLSSAR. After reviewing the data, materials, and records provided, the Committee determines if those records and processes accurately reflect the financial position of the FLSSAR.

The report of such review shall be presented to the Board of Management for approval prior to the Annual Meeting of the FLSSAR.

Since the motion came from a committee, no second is required.

James Ward moved to amend the Committee Charter by adding the following sentence to the charter: *The word “audit” is a reserved term and does not pertain to this charter.* The motion was seconded by Harry Rinker.

AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION PASSED

THE MOTION AS AMENDED PASSED

MOTION – Kevin Shurte, Chairman of The Education Outreach Committee moved to update the Charter of this Committee to read as follows:

Name – Educational Outreach committee

Status: Standing

Purpose: To administer the Florida Society portion of the NSSAR Education Outreach Program of the Education Committee.

Authority: Florida society By-Laws, Article V, Section 6.c

Members: A Chairman and additional Members, normally four, as the President, Florida Society may appoint and whose terms shall be concurrent with that of the appointing officer.

Functions: Coordinate with Education Committee of the NSSAR and others as directed to function as the “state-level society Education Outreach Coordinator” requested by the National Education Committee.

Work to establish an Education Outreach team leader at each chapter whose duties include:

- *Implementing Youth Protection training, currently offered on the NSSAR website, for compatriots involved I education Outreach programs.*
- *Preparing Presenter Data Sheets for each presentation as prescribed by national and sending a copy to this committee.*
- *Reporting quarterly to this committee the name and number of presentations made by team members and the status of YPT program compliance.*

Report state participation in education Outreach Programs to the National Education Committee.

Promote and support chapter participation in NSSAR Education Outreach programs.

Monitor and advise any chapter level initiative advocating for educational outreach.

Review and approve lesson plans and applications for the Youth education Medal to the state Medals and Awards committee.

Take other action as authorized by the Board of Management.

The motion was seconded by Phillip Markoe.

PASSED

MOTION – The Historic Sites and Celebrations Committee moved that the Florida Society create an ad hoc committee known as the First Amphibious Assault Memorial Committee for the purpose of establishing a monument in recognition of the first amphibious landing of the American Revolution. This committee will be funded with an initial \$5,000 from the general fund. It shall be called the First Amphibious Assault Memorial Committee.

CHARTER: The committee will establish an action plan and other recommendations not limited to, but including budgets, liaison relationships with partner organizations, design of the monument, site, promotional items, and advertising. The committee will report to each Board of Management (BOM) meeting and the Executive Committee on request. This committee will be established with the following members, and they shall serve until the BOM after the dedication of the monument or until a 2/3 vote of the BOM removes them. Additional members may be added to the committee by the incumbent president and confirmation of a majority of the Executive committee. These members shall serve under the same terms as the original appointees. Initial members shall be as follows: Steven Fields, Jonathan Hunt, W. Richard “Dick” Young, Earl “Matt” Matthews, Christopher Washler, and Steve DePaul, Chair.

Coming from the Historic Sites and Celebrations Committee the motion did not require a second.

PASSED

MOTION – The Education Outreach Committee moved to increase the 2024 budget line for the Education Outreach Committee from \$500 to \$1,500.

Coming from the committee, it did not require a second.

PASSED

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Scott Breckenridge nominated Jonathan Hunt to fill the unexpired term from 2023-2025 for the Endowment Trust Fund and Operating Trust Fund Trustee. Second by W. Lee Popham. No other nominations were offered. Jonathan Hunt was **elected by affirmation**.

Steve Hohman moved to redistribute the Meek Award payout back to the participating chapters by dividing the number of new Fellows into the total award amount, and then assigning that value to each Fellow’s participating chapter. Second by David Hitchcock.

PASSED

The Board of Management went into recess at 2:56 PM

Annual Meeting

Date: May 18, 2024

Location: Kissimmee, Florida

The meeting was called to order by President Steen R. Fields at 3:13 PM
Quorum was present.

Proposed By-Laws Amendments

Harry Rinker moved to forego the reading of the By-Laws amendments. Seconded by Steve Hohman'
PASSED

Proposed By-Law changes:

The By-Laws Committee presented the following proposed by-laws changes, as published in the Spring 2024 Patriot Magazine and the Proceedings Book (Appendix C).

1. Appointment to State Positions of At-Large Members **Article III Officers, Section 3 Additional Offices**

Summary of changes: Correct a typographical error--"of" to "or", and include a statement to clarify that a member who could otherwise be a member of a state chapter but does not elect to do so, shall not be appointed to a state-level office or committee.

MOTION – The By-Laws Committee moved that the proposed change be adopted as presented. **FAILED.**

2. Annual Elections **Article III Officers, Section 2 Nomination and Election of Officers, C. Election**

Summary of change: Clarify that voting for elected offices shall be allowed only by those members physically in attendance at the Annual Meeting.

MOTION – The By-Laws Committee moved that the proposed change be adopted as presented. **PASSED.**

3. Qualifications of Nominees **Article III Officers, Section 2 Nomination and Election of Officers, B. Qualifications of Nominees:**

Summary of changes: Adds numbered paragraphs to the section. Clarifies that nominations for officers in lieu of slated positions shall only be made from the floor, that the nominated person does not have to be present, and that the nominating member has the responsibility to provide a signed document from the nominated person that he agrees to serve if elected. Adds a requirement that the nominating committee shall nominate only a single name for each elected office; no multiple nominations are allowed.

MOTION – The By-Laws Committee moved that the proposed change be adopted as presented.

Randy Moody moved to remove the words "in person" from the suggested wording, B.2. **SECOND.** Will Wagner-Hart.
PASSED.

The motion, as amended, **PASSED.**

4. Schedule of BOM and Annual Meetings **Article III Officers, Section 6 Holding Multiple Offices**

Summary of change: Clarifies that the newly elected President cannot be part of any FLSSAR committee other than the Executive Committee, as prescribed by the By-Laws.

MOTION – The By-Laws Committee moved that the proposed change be adopted as presented. **PASSED.**

5. Number of Members Needed for New Chapter **Article VII Chapters, 3. FORMATION**

Summary of change: Increase the minimum number of members for a new chapter to 15.

MOTION – The By-Laws Committee moved that the proposed change be adopted as presented. **PASSED.**

6. Correct a Typographical Error

Articles VIII Miscellaneous

Current wording: ARTICLES VIII

Recommended change: Delete "s" from Articles, to ARTICLE VIII.

MOTION – The By-Laws Committee moved that the proposed change be adopted as presented. **PASSED.**

7. Notification to BOM for Amendments

ARTICLE VIII Miscellaneous, Section 3 Amendments, (2)

WITHDRAWN

Elections

The following slate of officers were presented by the Nominating Committee: Being from the Nominating Committee, no second was required.

President:	James Yost Gaskins
-Senior Vice President:	Christopher Edwin Washler
-Treasurer:	Walter Boyer Arnold
-Secretary:	M. Scott Breckenridge

-Recording Secretary:	Willard Douglas Gibbens
-Registrar:	Raymond Clyde Lantz
Sergeant at Arms:	Phil Markoe
-Chaplain:	Dr. W. Maynard Pittendreigh
-Chancellor:	Charles Klug
-Genealogist:	Harry Rinker
-Historian:	Joel Etherton
-Web Master:	Robbie Robinson
-Member at Large:	Hamp Allen
-Editor FL Patriot:	Jeff Sizemore
FLSSAR Regional Officer Nominees:	
-NE RVP:	Charles Robert Hayes
-NW RVP:	Don Wilham
-NC RVP:	Stephen Hohman
-EC RVP:	Harry Rinker
-WC RVP:	Alfred Parks Honeywell
-SW RVP:	Jonathan Hunt
-SE RVP:	Charles Austin Adams, II

There being no nominations from the floor, the above slate was elected by affirmation.

MOTION – Treasurer W. Richard “Dick” Young moved that the following resolution be adopted by the BOM. Second by Jonathan Hunt.

“In recognition of the election of Mr. Walter B. Arnold as the Treasurer of the Florida Society, replacing W. Richard Young, Wells Fargo Bank is advised and instructed to immediately recognize Mr. Arnold as the “Key Executive with Control “and remove Mr. Young from that role. Mr. Arnold is to be an authorized signer and is to have on-line access to all accounts of the Society. Mr. Young is to retain his on-line access and his signature authority on the accounts of the Society. Any other members of the Society currently with signature authority on any accounts of the Society should be removed.

Mr. Young currently holds a Wells Fargo Master Card (#5586680981566656) in the name of “W. Richard Young FLSSAR”, with a credit limit of \$9,000. Wells Fargo Bank is requested to issue and activate a Master Card in the name of “Walter B. Arnold FLSSAR” with a credit limit of \$10,000 (the originally approved credit limit). Mr. Young’s Master Card is to be cancelled when Mr. Arnold’s Master Card is activated.

James Y. Gaskins, President
May 18, 2024

M. Scott Breckenridge, Secretary
May 18, 2024

PASSED Unanimously

MOTION – The Nominating Committee presented its nominees for National Trustee and Alternate Trustee for 2024-2025. There were no other nominations from the floor.

The following candidates were approved as our nominees to the 2024 Congress:

National Trustee – Steven R. Fields

Alternate Trustee – James Y. Gaskins

There was no further business to be conducted by the Annual Meeting.

President Steven R. Fields adjourned the Annual Meeting at 4:05 PM

Board of Management Meeting

Date: Saturday, May 18, 2024

Location: Embassy Suites, Kissimmee, FL

Meeting reconvened by President Elect James Y. Gaskins at 4:06 PM

President-Elect James Y. Gaskins presented his nominees for the Nominating Committee for 2024-2025.

The following candidates were elected as the Nominating Committee for 2024-2025:

David Bussone

Philip Markoe

Jerry Hanchett

Robbie Robinson

Graham Fountain

President-Elect James Y. Gaskins adjourned the BOM Meeting at 4:20 PM.

Endorsement of National officers

Voting on contested positions:

Brooks Lyles and Edmon McKinley for Treasurer General resulted in a tie.

MOTION

Chris Washler moved to endorse both candidates. Second by Kevin Shurte.

PASSED

Voting for Chancellor General resulted in endorsing Peter Davenport unanimously.

Voting for Genealogist General resulted in endorsing Gary Green unanimously.

MOTION

Steve Fields moved to endorse all unopposed candidates. Second by George Wysong.

PASSED

Nomination of South Atlantic District Vice-President General

Scott Breckenridge nominated Matt Mathews to be the Florida Society nominee for Vice-President General to the South Atlantic District annual meeting. No other nominations were offered. Matt Mathews was nominated unanimously.

National and State Officer Reports

National Trustee

Steven R. Fields, Trustee

James Y. Gaskins, Alternate Trustee

Submitted by 2023-2024 National Trustee Matt Mathews

- Attended the National Society SAR 134th Congress in Lancaster, PA, representing Florida
- Trustees received the independent auditor's report of the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2023.
- The delegates to the Congress voted to increase the application fees effective September 1, 2024. This applies to new members, memorial members, and supplementals. Applications must be received by National by August 31, 2024, to utilize the existing rates.
- A vote to honor the 250th anniversary of Patriots' that the application fees for new members and junior members using a new line to grant a 50% discount for applications *received* at National during the month of April 2025.
- New officers for the upcoming year are:
 - President General Darryl Addington North Carolina
 - Secretary General Michael Elston Virginia
 - Treasurer General Allen Greenly Georgia
 - Chancellor General Edmon McKinley Alabama
 - Genealogist General Gary Green North Carolina
 - Registrar General Brooks Lyles North Carolina
 - Historian General Jeff Thomas Virginia
 - Librarian General Keith Weissinger Washington
 - Surgeon General John Turley West Virginia
 - Chaplain General Vern Welkner KansasAlso elected the new Vice President Generals and the new Trustees.
- For the upcoming year our State President James Gaskins was sworn in as Alternate Trustee
- The Vice President General for the South Atlantic District will be Scott Collins

Report on collection of Constitution and Bylaws of chapters

- Received all the chapters upon request except in 2 case
- Many of the bylaws were not in an easily acceptable form, some were photographed, included in another document, written on for changes.
- A couple declared an area/counties as their territory
- Several declared dues collection were due in February or be dropped
- Definition of a quorum really needs to be examined; some calculate a 10%, meaning if 10 people attended 1 is sufficient to hold a meeting. If based on the number of 100 members, only 10 are required.

President

James Y. Gaskins

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 Withlatchoochee 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 134th 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 Grahame 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 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 rescheduled 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.

Senior Vice President

Christopher E. Washler

The months since being elected as the Florida Society Senior Vice President have flown by! The Florida Society leadership has been hard at work making sure that our Society is living out the Mission Statement of the Sons of the American Revolution – to honor our Revolutionary War patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities, and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our Country.

While I couldn’t attend Congress in Lancaster this summer due to work obligations, the months since the Spring BoM have been busy with committee meetings as well as representing the State Society at other National events. Our State and National Society committees are more active than ever working to support the chapter-level programs because it is at the chapter level where our mission statement truly comes to life and is carried out.

Additionally, events continue to be held to celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the events of the American Revolution. Right after Congress in July, the NSSAR celebrated the 250th Anniversary of the Fairfax Resolves. I was honored to be able to present a wreath at historic Pohick Church on behalf of the Florida Society, as well as participate in several other events that weekend. While we haven’t reached the 250th milestone for any of them yet, I want to remind compatriots that we have four different American Revolution battles that we commemorate here in Florida – Thomas Creek, The Last Naval Battle, the Battle of Pensacola, and Alligator Bridge. All four of these events are opportunities for the SAR to educate our communities about Florida’s role in the American Revolution!

I want to remind every member that events like those I mentioned above, as well as any event or project that your chapter does that somehow commemorates the 250th anniversary of the events of the decade of the American Revolution all count for points toward the SAR’s America 250 medal. As you’ll see in the report for the Historic Sites and Celebrations Committee, they have set an ambitious

goal for this year for the Florida Society in terms of America250 Gold medals achieved. Reaching that goal depends on our members and chapters. Take the opportunity and get out there in front of your communities!

With most chapters being back from summer breaks, if your chapter is having an event that you would like me to attend, or even just a chapter meeting, please don't hesitate to reach out!

Some of my activities since the Spring 2024 Board of Managers Meeting:

- 23 June – Regional VP Zoom Meeting
- 13 July - Emerald Coast Chapter Visit
- 18 July - Fairfax Resolves Wreath Presentation on behalf of the Florida Society
- 18-20 July – Fairfax Resolves
- 25 August - FLSSAR Historic Sites & Celebrations Committee Meeting
- 3 September - FLSSAR Fall BOM Planning Meeting
- Monthly - NSSAR Education Committee Meeting
- Monthly - NSSAR Communications Committee
- FLSSAR ExComm Meetings

Member-at-Large ExCom

Hampton E. Allen

Nothing to report.

NW Regional Vice President

Donald M. Wilham

Nothing to report.

Emerald Coast Chapter

Graham W. Fountain

The Emerald Coast Chapter meetings as scheduled for every month in Calendar Year 2024.

January 13, 2024	12 in attendance
February 10, 2024	12 in attendance
March 09, 2024	11 in attendance
April 13, 2024	17 in attendance
May 11, 2024	17 in attendance
June 08, 2024	16 in attendance
July 13, 2024	24 in attendance
August 10, 2024	18 in attendance
September 14, 2024	21 in attendance

The Emerald Coast Chapter participated in the following events.

April 29, 2024	JROTC Awards Ceremony Baker School
May 01, 2024	JROTC Awards Ceremony Navarre High School
May 11, 2024	Approved Chapter install of memorial bench (250 th) at Women's Veteran's Park
June 06, 2024	Attended the Women's Veteran's Memorial Service
August 08, 2024	passed resolution honoring Lafayette Farewell Tour to US

Panama City Chapter

DeCody Brad Marble

Chapter Profile (Since 19 May 2024):

Membership: **'HIGHLIGHT' Total 39 (Increase of 11 from 28, within 5-month period)**
(6 Life, 1 Dual AL, 2 Emeritus 2, & 31 Regular) & (1 associate) & Potential Future Members 6.

WORTHY OF NOTICE:

THANK YOU! Registrar/Genealogist Harry L Rinker and Vice President Benny Raffield, both provided many highlights this past summer of 2024.

Chapter Officers:

Vice President, Benny Raffield,
Treasurer/Secretary/Chaplain, James Haynes

Financial:

August 8, 2024; Marble made \$2,500.00 donation to FLSSAR Panama City Chapter, doubling the account total to \$5,005.00.

March 17, 2024; **'HIGHLIGHT' Establish Chapter Facebook Page** – V.P. Benny Raffield

Panama City-SAR @ <https://www.facebook.com/sarpcf1>

Officers Raffield and Marble continue to Post at Facebook in order to generate interest from the local community. In addition, we coordinate/communicate with others whom the chapter officers interact with in the community, state and out of state in order to support SAR activities.

Chronological Order of Chapter Activities/Participating Events:

May 20, 2024, 3rd Monday, 10:30 A.M.; Panama City Chapter Monthly Meeting at the Bay County Public Library with four individuals. Front table display of FLSSAR 2024 Spring BOM awards, Marble's Patriot & Patriot Grave Marking Medal. In addition, Panama City Chapter Red Flight 3rd Place Certificate, of Chapter Challenge 2023 Streamer for Small Chapter Americanism Award. Nat'l/Florida Society SAR Membership Certificates for Stanley Thomas Parker and his son, William Lee Parker, that were presented, during lunch, at 'The Grocery Kitchen and Taproom' in Saint Andrews Bay suburb, Panama City.

June 17, 2024, 3rd Monday; Panama City Chapter Monthly Meeting Cancelled due to schedule conflicts. V.P.

June 28, 2024, Friday, 09:00 A.M.; City of Callaway – 'A Salute To Our Veterans' "The Unveiling of the Callaway Veterans Memorial Wall" at Veterans Park, Callaway, Florida. Marble, representing SAR Panama City Chapter and Bay County Veterans Council participated and admired his veteran memorial brick.

June 29, 2024, Saturday; "Battle of Alligator Creek Bridge" Callahan, FL. - (See Color Guard Section). Participation: Marble and Raffield

July 15, 2024, Monday; Panama City Chapter Meeting, with PowerPoint Presentation Slides:

1. Five members and one Associate attended. Chapter compatriot Tom Parker told that he and compatriot James F. Haynes went to a Grave Marker Dedication Ceremony for Revolutionary War Patriot, Private Stephen Penn, 1st MD Regt. Valley Forge, 1777 – 1778, (Patriot Ancestor of Chapter member Tom Parker), which was held on Sunday, June 2, 2024, at the Friendship Baptist Church Cemetery in Danville, Alabama. They presented the FLSSAR Panama City Chapter Wreath at the ceremony.

2. PwrPt Slideshow of photos taken at Alligator Creek Bridge Event.

3. Slide of Harry L. Rinker's Registrar Status Report of ten new members submitted to NSSAR.

4. Slide with Discussion of verification of membership contact list by Benny Raffield for preparation of Fee and Due Collection in late October 2024.

5. While Educational Outreach Program Flyers passed amongst the members, Benny Raffield volunteered to coordinate with a school in Bay County and Chris Jones volunteered to do the same in Wewahitchka, Gulf County.

August 8, 2024, Thursday; Marble volunteered to work dead man's 3 hour shift, 3 – 6 A.M. for "The Wall That Heals" at the Callaway Recreational Complex from September 13 – 16, (four early mornings).

August 12, Monday, 11:30 A.M., at Long Horn Steak House on Panama City Beach, Dean Eric Sanders received his SAR approved application with certificate. Presenters: Marble & Raffield.

August 16 – 17, Fri – Sat, 2024; "242nd Anniversary of Battle of Blue Licks, Kentucky – Nat'l Event – (See CG Section).

Participation: Marble, Rinker and Raffield

August 18, 2024, Sunday; "Five Patriot Grave Marking", Bethel Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Lexington, KY. – (See CG Section).

Participation: Marble, Rinker and Raffield.

August 19, 2024, 3rd Monday; Panama City Chapter Monthly Meeting was due to Conflict with 'Battle of Blue Licks, KY event.

August 29, 2024, Thursday; V.P. Raffield subscribed and perform successful ZOOM broadcast to utilize for future chapter meetings, in order to improve membership retention.

September 1, 2024, Sunday; Lieutenant Colonel U.S. Army (Ret) Christopher Patrick Jones and his son Austin Gabriel Jones where inducted into the SAR and received the SAR Insignia Badge with Nat'l/FLSSAR member certificate, at the home of Compatriot Marble with assist from V.P. Raffield.

September 5, 2024, Thursday, 5:00 P.M.; Induction of Jarad Christopher Moon into the SAR and receive the SAR Insignia Badge with Nat'l/FLSSAR member certificate, at Applebee's Restaurant, Callaway. Marble & Raffield conducts oath and badge ceremony.

September 6 – 8, 2024; at Champions Gate, Florida, Participation at DAR Conference. – (See CG)

September 14, 2024, Saturday: The Purvis Family SAR Induction Ceremony into the Panama City Chapter of the Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution preceded in the Purvis Family living room, in Blountstown, Calhoun County, Florida. Four family members are Colton Autry Purvis, Gary Wayne Purvis, Brandon Wayne Purvis and 'Nick' Nicholas Jarrod Delmar. Marble & Raffield conducts ceremony.

September 16, 2024, 3rd Monday; Panama City Chapter Monthly Meeting.

HIGHLIGHT: Orchestration of ‘The COMBINATION of a FIRST ZOOM & PHYSICAL MEETING’ by V.P. Benny Raffield. Five compatriot attendees by Zoom, plus eight physical attendees equal total thirteen attendance. During SAR AWARDS CEREMONY, presentation of the Bronze Henry Knox Medal to James P. Pretlow for an outstanding performance, while representing the Panama City Chapter at the Arnold HS JROTC Ceremony, the 2022 Wreaths across American event, and having a 100% attendance to all chapter meetings. Next, an Award & Tribute of Compatriot, LTC. U.S. Army (Ret) Christopher Patrick Jones into the Florida Society SAR Veterans Battalion, NSSAR Combined Corps of Special Ops and Southwest Asia. Chris receive SAR War Service Medal with an oak left cluster and three campaign bars: Afghanistan, Kosovo, and the Global War on Terrorism. September 18, 2024, 3rd Wednesday; at St. Andrews Bay NSDAR ‘Ceremony for 237th Anniversary of the Constitution’ (Constitution Day) at the Panama Country Club, Lynn Haven, FL. Marble and Raffield seated with VIPs. Marble presented the FLSSAR Panama City Chapter Proclamation during the VIP Proclamation Photo. The event covered by WMBB News 13, a local TV station, affiliated with ABC News Network.

Pensacola Chapter

Christopher E. Washler

The Pensacola Chapter continued to meet all summer except for the month of July. At the June meeting, the chapter heard updates on the Battle of Pensacola event held in May as well as updates from the FLSSAR Spring BOM and Annual meeting. Our August meeting featured the kickoff of our annual Wreaths Across American campaign. Last year, the chapter sponsored just over 100 wreaths to be placed at Barrancas National Cemetery onboard NAS Pensacola. This year, the chapter has set a goal of 125 wreath sponsorships. Our September meeting was our annual First Responders Awards. This year, we honored First Responders from the Escambia County Sheriff’s Office, the Pensacola Fire Department, Escambia County Fire Department, and the Escambia County Emergency Medical Service.

On September 19th, the chapter once again participated in N.B. Cook Elementary’s History Night. This year’s theme was the Battle of Pensacola. Chapter members talked with students and their parents about the Battle of Pensacola, the SAR, and we had several pieces from our newly created Patriot Chest on display for the students to look at and handle.

This fall, we are planning to restart our annual chapter picnic that has been on hiatus for several years, and then in November and December, we will be active with Wreaths Across America as well as nominating and electing our new slate of officers who will serve for the 2024-2026 period. After 8 years as Chapter President for Pensacola, I will be stepping down to focus on my duties with the Florida Society, so this will be my final BoM report on behalf of the chapter.

Membership: Our membership numbers were stagnant during the summer, so we continue to hold at 59 members. We currently have 6 prospects in process, but only one or two are likely to be ready for submission to National in the next month or so. With the start of our annual membership renewal period, the chapter is undertaking a more concerted reinstatement effort with past members in the hope of raising our total membership numbers up over 60 by the end of the year.

Color Guard: The Pensacola Chapter has finally been able to reactivate our color guard unit, the Nathan Hale camp. While our numbers are still low, we are undertaking efforts to spur growth in our ranks. In August, the chapter Board of Managers approved a budget line item that will earmark \$1,000 in our budget each year to allow the chapter to help defray uniform costs for those compatriots who are interested in joining the color guard.

Tallahassee Chapter

“Bill” J. Gladwin Jr

The Tallahassee Chapter met for the first time since the summer hiatus on September 19, 2024. Twelve attended the meeting, which included 5 new members who signed their completed applications at the meeting. Membership will increase to 43 when final approval is obtained.

Prior to the summer hiatus, 4 JROTC medals were awarded to area high schools. This brought the total medals awarded to 9 (4 ROTC medals and 5 JROTC medals). Plans are to participate in the JROTC/ROTC program in 2025.

The chapter will be meeting quarterly instead of monthly going forward for the immediate future. Monthly attendance has been very small do to not having speakers. By meeting quarterly, the hope is to give plenty of advance notice of the meeting to improve attendance and obtain a speaker of a historical nature to focus on Colonial, Revolutionary War, or War of 1812. It was agreed to hold the meetings at the American Legion going forward instead of moving them around. If attendance improves along with the ability to schedule speakers, the chapter will return to a monthly meeting format.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday December 6 at 6pm at the American Legion. The chapter will address the programs they want to be involved for 2025.

The George Washington Birthday Celebration will be held on Sunday February 23 at 1pm at the American Legion. All three local DAR chapters along with the Thomasville DAR chapter will be invited. The chapter expects a large turnout and all members are encouraged to bring a potential member as their guest to the next two meetings. Plans will be discussed and finalized at the December meeting.

William Dunaway Chapter

Matt Mathews

- April and May presented 3 JROTC Awards
- June – July summer break
- August– Earl (Matt) Mathews was nominated as the chapter president, he accepted the position
- September - 3 new members were approved and 2 attended the initiation ceremony

NC Regional Vice President

Stephen G. Hohman

No report submitted.

Gainesville Chapter

Randal L. Highsmith

No report submitted.

Lake City Chapter

David W. Chandler

The Lake City Chapter has been active since the Spring Congress. Our small chapter remains very active in youth programs as well as our veteran's communities. JROTC awards were provided to four high school programs:

- Union County
- Columbia County
- Suwannee County and
- Hamilton County

In addition to the recognition and awards provided to the outstanding cadets, a very special award and recognition was presented to Commander of the Suwannee County JROTC program, LT Debra Kleinsmith (US Navy, Retired) for her decades long service to the program. LT Kleinsmith and her husband continue to serve in their capacities in the community with the spirit of the SAR/DAR as well as the United States Navy. It was with tremendous pride that we honored LT Kleinsmith with the Lydia Darragh Medal at the annual JROTC awards banquet.

In addition to our youth programs, the Lake City Chapter is immensely proud to recognize one of our own for his continuing volunteer work in the Lake City VA Hospital. Compatriot Connie Bossard volunteers over 500 hours annually in the hospital along with hundreds more hours outside the hospital.

It is with great pride we salute these individuals and recognize them for their selfless acts of patriotism and military Esprit de corps.

Lake-Sumter Chapter

Tim Donihi

The Lake-Sumter chapter does not have meetings in July-September. So our activities slow down.

The Lake-Sumter Chapter participated in the 4th of July parade in Tavares Florida. We had 6 members attend, with 2 in Revolutionary War attire. We also drove a golf cart adorned with flags and banners including a 250 Anniversary flag.

In addition, Allan Lane and Tim Donihi took a member to lunch to check on his health.

Ocala Chapter

Claude Grubbs

No report submitted.

The Villages Chapter

Jerry P. Byers

MAY 26, 2024 – Five members of Villages Chapter SAR placed Memorial Day flags on graves at Bushnell National Cemetery on Sunday, May 26, and then seven members returned the following Saturday to pick up the flags. The 512-acre cemetery provides burial sites and/or memorial markers for more than 137,000 veterans and their spouses. The section we tend is #402.

JUNE 8, 2024 - Dr. Tom Davis told about the Youth Citizenship Awards that our chapter presented to five boys from The Villages Charter Schools: two to 5th graders (Middleton & Buffalo Ridge campuses), two to 8th graders (Middleton & Buffalo Ridge campuses), and one to a Senior in the Villages High School. We were glad to have our two 8th grade awardees attend our meeting today and be able to recognize them for their achievement. Citizenship Awards consisted of a certificate, a check in varying denominations that increase by grade, and a SAR America 250 challenge coin.

Our program was given by our chapter member, Lt. Colonel Donald Hansen, who spoke about “The Other Washington”. William Washington was a distant cousin of George Washington, and about 20 years younger. William had trained for the ministry, but at the outbreak of the American Revolution, he was elected a Captain of Stafford County Minutemen on September 12, 1775, which was integrated into the Third Virginia Regiment in the early months of 1776. A very good leader and successful on the battlefields, William advanced through the ranks becoming a Major, Lt. Colonel, and ultimately a Brigadier General. At the Battle of Eutaw Springs, on September 8, 1781, Colonel Washington was severely wounded while leading a charge and was subsequently captured, ending his military service in the war. However, life as a prisoner of war wasn’t all bad. William spent the remaining war years in Charleston, South Carolina, where he met and married Jane Reily Elliott. They had two children.

Don Hansen became interested in “the other Washington” when he learned that his fourth great-grandfather fought under William Washington during the Revolutionary War. (As a side note, you could not trace your Revolutionary War ancestry through George Washington, who had no children, but you could through William Washington!)

We had 47 people in attendance.

JULY 13, 2024 - Our guest speaker was Dee Collier who has a vast repertoire of historic characters she portrays in costume. Today she portrayed Deborah Sampson – the only woman to receive a soldier’s pension for her service during the Revolutionary War! When a dear male friend was killed in the War, Deborah was so moved that in 1782, she disguised herself as a man, assumed the name Robert Shurtleff, and joined the Fourth Massachusetts Regiment. For a year and a half, Sampson’s true sex escaped detection despite close calls. She was ultimately discovered in Philadelphia, when she became ill with a fever during an epidemic, was taken to a hospital, and lost consciousness. She received an honorable discharge on October 23, 1783, and returned to Massachusetts. On April 7, 1785 she married Benjamin Gannet from Sharon, Mass. and they had three children, Earl, Mary, and Patience. She received a military pension from the state of Massachusetts. In 1802 she decided to supplement the family income by going on a year-long lecture tour about her experiences, sometimes dressing in full military regalia. Deborah is the official heroine of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and her statue stands outside the Sharon, Massachusetts public library.

Our chapter took in two new members. Alan Greene joined as a new to SAR, and Robert Barlow transferred from North Carolina. Alan Greene spoke about his ancestry, stating that his 4th great grandfather, Ninian Beall, donated his farmland to George Washington as part of our nation’s new capital!

We had 45 people in attendance.

AUGUST 10, 2024 - The Villages Chapter of SAR had an excellent meeting today with one of our own members presenting the program on “Who’s on First? The Presidents before the President.” Our own chapter member, Jere Greene, said the answer to the question of who was the first President depends on answering the questions: What do you mean by “first”? What do you mean by President? President of what? Jere told us that 14 men were President of the Colonies under the Continental Congress, between 1774-1789, before George Washington. Their average age when elected was 47, although one was as young as 32 (John Jay). All were “well off”, and some were wealthy, but some of them lost nearly everything during the process of forming a new nation. Most were initially loyalists to the Crown when elected but later became “radicalized”. The list of all 14 names is on one of the photos attached here. Most were President for one year, although Henry Middleton spent only 4 days as President. Intentional effort was made to spread the Presidents around over the colonies: Connecticut 1, Delaware 1, Maryland 1, Massachusetts 2, New Jersey 1, New York 1, Pennsylvania 2, South Carolina 2, and Virginia 3.

The first President elected by the Continental Congress was Peyton Randolph of Virginia; he was physically a BIG man and very wealthy – part of the reason he was selected. Henry Middleton was second and only served 4 days. John Hancock was third and served the longest term – a little over 2 years. The list goes on, but George Washington was the first person elected by the Congress to be President of the United States under the new US Constitution in 1789, and he served two four-year terms.

We had 54 in attendance and took in one new member, Michael Whitmore. Our Registrar, John Moore, told us that he often works with the John Bartram DAR Registrar, Diane Clemmons, on applications. Diane was attending our meeting and was introduced to the group.

SEPTEMBER 14, 2024 - Stewart Dunaway presented the program about "The Controversy of the Southern Campaign and Pyle's Defeat".

During the American Revolution, Col. John Pyle remained loyal to the British Crown. He received a commission as colonel of a Loyalist militia from the governor of North Carolina. In January and February of 1781, Pyle recruited a Loyalist force of men around his home near the Haw and Deep rivers. En route to join the larger British force under General Cornwallis, Pyle expected to encounter Col. Banastre Tarleton's dragoons, who were to serve as escorts to the main force. Both British and Patriot troops wore green jackets; British jackets had black trim, whereas Patriot jackets did not. When Patriot commander "Light-Horse Harry" Lee appeared in a similar attire as Tarleton, Pyle made the devastating mistake of allowing Lee's men to come within close proximity. A fight erupted between the adversaries. Lee and his men fell upon the Loyalists, killing nearly one hundred and wounding and scattering the rest. The event became known as Pyle's Defeat on February 25, 1781, which occurred near Alamance County, North Carolina.

We had 48 people in attendance.

OCTOBER 12, 2024 – In October we will have Dr. Don Wyman presenting a program on the life of Benjamin Franklin: founding patriot, author, scientist, inventor, statesman, diplomat, printer, publisher and political philosopher.

Withlacoochee Chapter

Stephen G. Hohman

No report submitted.

NE Regional Vice President

Charles R. Hayes

7 May 2024 Visit to National SAR HQ in Louisville KY. Worked on obtaining replacement Flagler Chapter lost Charter. I was able to obtain blank copy of old version of SAR Charter for us to reconstruct. Visited and worked in SAR Library for some research. Took tour of facilities with Todd Bale (Host). Very nice facility, was impressed with Museum Plans and toured construction.

12 May 2024 Installed Officers at Dayton Beach Chapter. They had 18 members present at meeting. Meeting was conducted in proper manner. I met with new Chapter President, they are well established.

15 May 2024. Flagler Chapter Meeting, discussion about 250th Anniversary.

17-18 May 2024 Attended BOM in Orlando. I am on FLSSAR Finance and Veterans Committees. Attended both Committee meetings. Attended Genealogy, Course.

22 May sent out 250th Anniversary Power point package electronically to all region Chapters.

25 May Memorial day attended and placed flags at Espanola Cemetery, Flagler County Fl. Flagler Chapter had 6 members present. American Legions, Boy Scouts, and a DAR representative were all present.

27 May 2024 Memorial Day County Service. I placed a Chapter Memorial Wreath at County Memorial Day Service. I was in Continental Attire. Six SAR members were present at event. Two in Continental Attire.

June/July break.

15 August attended Compatriot Flagler Chapter Member Rick Staly (Co Sheriff) at the Sons of the American Legion 5 Gold Star Award and Medal. 3 members present.

30 August 2024. I visited US Navy Underwater Archeology Branch, Naval History and Heritage Command at the US Naval Yard Washington DC. I was there to see the remains and pay respects to the Continental Navy Ship **Royal Savage** which was flagship of General Arnold's Fleet on Lake Champlain NY. This fleet successfully turned around a British Fleet coming from Canada trying to divide the Colonies in half in 1776. I am working on an article showing all relics I was able to review and the hull planking from the two masted Schooner. My ancestor was the XO of this ship, and died in the Battle of Valcour Island. Once reconstructed the Royal Savage will be the center piece of the Revolutionary War Section at the New Navy Museum which is in process of being constructed.

2 September 2024. Presented EMS Medal to Flagler County EMS Shook at Flagler County Commission Meeting. Represented FLSSAR at award ceremony.

9 September 2024 attended Flagler County Veterans Affairs Committee Meeting, presented 250th Anniversary information to all Veteran Organizations.

18 September Flagler Chapter Meeting. discussion of Chapter 40th Anniversary Event on 5 October.

Jacksonville Chapter

Paul M. Tucker

The Jacksonville Chapter does not hold meetings June through August but resume monthly meetings in September 2024 occurring on the third Thursday of each month September through May 2025. If a serious event scheduling conflict occurs, in rare situations meetings may be re-scheduled. Meetings are a combination of Dinner and Lunch and are published in our monthly Independence Newsletter, Chapter Member Notifications, and other Chapter communications.

September 19, 2024, Meeting: Colors Presentation and Marines participation in The Revolutionary War.

October 17, 2024, ROTC Awards Kick Off Lunch Meeting

November 21, 2024, Public Service Awards

December 19, 204 Christmas Dinner Meeting Member Christmas Music Dinner Meeting

January 16, 2025, Lunch Meeting History of William Penn

February 16, 2025, Annual Sunday Flag Retirement Ceremony with BSA, DAR, and local community in lieu of regular meeting

Mandarin Community Club Brillon Park Mandarin, Florida

March 20, 2025, Lunch Meeting

April 17, 2025, Election of Officers

May 15, 2025, Colors Presentations Installation of Officers and Memorial Service

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP:

The Jacksonville Chapter Membership is now at 200 Members and counting.

EXCOM Meetings:

The executive committee holds monthly meetings on the first Tuesday of each month September through May of each year at the orange Park, Fl. library to review all Chapter Business and plan Chapter Activity in all categories.

The Jacksonville Chapter EXCOM did hold a special meeting on June 4, 2024, for the express purpose of final planning and execution of The Battle of Alligator Bridge Commemorative Event on June 29, 2024, at Callahan, Florida.

The Battle of Alligator Bridge is one of two primary annual events hosted by the SAR Jacksonville Chapter along with the annual March Battle of Thomas Creek Event. Battle of Alligator Bridge was well attended by Compatriots from Multiple Florida Chapters, Georgia Chapters, FLSSAR President Chapter Member James Gaskins and National Color Guard Commander Kenneth Scott Collins. BSA, CAR, and DAR were well represented at the event along with West Nassau County Historical Society, Nassau County officials, Presenter professor Peter Mullins, and The Freedom Singers.

COLOR GUARD:

The Jacksonville George Washington Camp I Color Guard has 21 active members currently. The Color Guard remains very active in our Tri county Area, (Duval, Clay, and Nassau Counties). Activity is expanded frequently to neighbor chapters that do not have a color guard and in neighbor state events. Events are as follows and in conjunction with SAR, DAR, CAR, Educational Presentations, ROTC, BSA, American Legion, Veteran's Honor Flights, Parades, Flag retirements, Funeral events with Family request, Cub Scout Events etc. For the reporting period May 30 to September 30, 2024, the Jacksonville Color Guard participated in 9 major events. This does not include the Naturalization Ceremonies. Color Guard Members primarily present ROTC Awards to the 26 ROTC Units located in our tri county area normally during December through June of each year. This is accomplished generally by attendance at and participation in the ROTC Units Award Ceremonies and or Dinners. Education Outreach activities are primarily accomplished via Color Guard Uniformed Members. No Education Outreach Activity to report for this reporting period.

Educational Outreach:

The Jacksonville Chapter is currently looking forward to working with our recently appointed Chapter Education Outreach Chairman Compatriot Richard Schoenemann to expand our activity in this important area. This will also allow the Chapter to take advantage of the many State Education programs to the benefit of the communities we serve and to be more effective in the fulfillment of our SAR Mission.

Financial Status:

The Jacksonville Chapter financial position is stable with sufficient funding for present and anticipated budgetary requirements.

St Augustine Chapter

Robert F. Amason

Summary: Spring 2024 to Fall 2024	The Chapter has been busy since the Spring BOM executing the mission and goals of the SAR and supporting community patriotic events. In addition to the below, the chapter has initiated a project to dedicate a Liberty Tree and initiated an America250 Committee to coordinate with DAR and other patriotic organizations to facilitate America250 Celebrations.
Chapter Annual Meeting	Scheduled for December 14, 2024. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of officers. • Recognition of outstanding performance and contributions.
Loss of Revered Member	<p>Compatriot Carl K. Hoffmann died August 15, 2024, aged 95 Compatriot Hoffmann was very active in St Augustine Chapter at the time of his passing, and St Augustine Chapter Members are deeply saddened at his passing. We will miss him. President General Compatriot Hoffmann’s many accomplishments include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Society President General • NSSAR Chancellor General • NSSAR Congress Chairman • President of FLSSAR • President of Miami, FL Chapter. • Founder of Ft Lauderdale Chapter • Instrumental in SAR JROTC Programs • Founded SAR Ladies Auxiliary • Awarded Patriot Medal and Minuteman Medal • Successful lawyer, husband, father <p>St Augustine Chapter held chapter memorial on 14 September 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate Eulogy and Prayers • Presented SAR Grave Medallion to Mrs. Patricia Hoffmann <p>Formal Memorial Service for President General Compatriot Carl K. Hoffmann:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 November 2025, 1:00 p.m. • Memorial Presbyterian Church 32 Seville St St Augustine Florida 32084
Ceremonies and Events	<p>Joined with the DAR to hold the following events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bells Across America <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Chapter president spoke at Maria Jefferson Chapter DAR-sponsored Bells Across America, September 17, 2024 • Flag Day – 14 June 2024 – Joined DAR to distribute flags and pins in St Augustine • Tolomato Cemetery Patriot Graves Commemoration, planned December 2024 • Colonial Night Watch ceremonies – 14 December 2024 <p>The Chapter supported the following events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compatriots participated in 2024 Annual Seminole War Commemoration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ In conjunction with Florida Seminole War Foundation ◦ St Augustine National Cemetery – Reenactment of 1842 interment of Seminole War dead ◦ Compatriots are members of planning committee for 2024 Commemoration. ◦ Beginning planning activities for 2025 Commemoration • The chapter supports the Flagler College Presidential Series events • Annual Palatka Veterans Appreciation Day – Scheduled 26 April 2025 • National Day of Prayer – Scheduled 1 May 2025
Battle Commemorations	<p>Chapter compatriots participated in several Revolutionary War battle commemorations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thomas Creek Battle Commemoration, March 2024 • Last Naval Battle Commemoration, March 2024 • Alligator Creek Battle Ceremony, June 2024
Youth Programs	<p>Our commitment to youth programs follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported several MOAA-sponsored HS JROTC Cadet Legacy Teaching visits to Fort Mose’ and the Florida National Guard Headquarters • Presented the NSSAR JROTC Bronze Medal to an outstanding cadet

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in a Court of Honor where five scouts were advanced to the rank of Eagle Scout. • Coordinating George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Working with St Johns and Putnam County School Systems for 2024-2025 school year ○ Additionally working with Home School coordinators • Planning inaugural Liberty Tree Golf Tournament. Portion of proceeds to St Augustine Chapter Youth Programs • Sea Cadets & JROTC to be Ambassadors for St. Aug. & Palatka Liberty Tree events.
Awards Presented	<p>A total of 31 awards were presented to recognize significant achievement as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Distinguished Service Medal • 2 Meritorious Service Medals • 5 Good Citizenship Medal • 1 Past President's Medal • 1 Certificate of Achievement • 2 Certificates of Appreciation. <p>Awards given by Chairman for Public Service & Heroism since Oct 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Putnam County Sheriff's Office - 1 Life Saving Medal - 11-15-2023 • Palatka Police Dept - 2 Law Enforcement Commendations - 12-15-2023 • St Johns County Sheriff's Office - 3 Law Enforcement Commendations - 3-26-2024 • St Johns County Sheriff's Office PAL - 3 Bronze Good Citizenship Medals - 3-26-2024 • Office of State Attorney 7th Circuit -1 Law Enforcement Commendation -4-17-2024 • St Augustine Beach Police Dept – 1 Law Enforcement Commendation – 5-6-2024 • Putnam County Sheriff's Office - 1 Law Enforcement Commendation -5-15-2024 • Homeless Coalition of St Johns – 1 Bronze Good Citizenship Medal – 5-28-2024 • St Augustine Police Dept – 1 Law Enforcement Commendation – 6-3-2024 • Putnam First Cancer Fund – 1 Bronze Good Citizenship Medal – 6-11-2024 • City of Palatka Fire Rescue – 1 Fire Safety Commendation -6-13-2024 • William Bartram Chapter NSDAR – 2 Martha Washington Medals – 9-3-2014 • St Johns County Fire Rescue – 1 Medal for Heroism- 9-14-2024 <p>America250 medals qualified for (as of 15 September): Gold – 1; Silver – 8; Bronze – 10</p>
Support to Veterans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Participated in annual Memorial Day Event at St Augustine National Cemetery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several compatriots installed flags on veterans' graves • Compatriot Jerry Hanchett directed massing of flags ◇ 1st Military Muster Ceremony at FI National Guard Headquarters, Sep 2024 ◇ POW/MIA Remembrance Ceremony at POW/MIA National Memorial, Jacksonville FL 15/16 Sep 2024 ◇ Several compatriots participated in St Augustine Fire department 9-11 remembrance ceremony ◇ Chapter participated in Vietnam War Veterans Day Ceremony in St Augustine ◇ Energized Military Medals Program to present medals to 13 compatriots. ◇ Several compatriots routinely attend St Francis Barracks social gatherings facilitating community engagement and gaining support from senior Florida National Guard leaders
Veterans Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Participated as volunteer for Veterans' Treatment Court ◇ Volunteered 48 hours to Veterans' Village ◇ Compatriots continue working with St Augustine/St Johns County Veterans Council to renovate veterans' temporary housing.
Chapter Growth	<p>Significant growth this year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Jan 2023 chapter membership was 39. • Membership as of 9/1/24 was 66 with 12 pending at NSSAR • If all 12 are approved, membership will be 78, doubling St Augustine Chapter membership in less than two years • Kudos to our tireless Registrar, Compatriot John Robinson
Florida SAR History	<p>Support to Daytona/Deland SAR and Daytona Beach DAR Chapter. A brass plaque honoring Revolutionary War soldiers buried in Florida was recently located in storage in Daytona Beach. Plaque originally donated by DAR has been refurbished and will be rededicated in 2024. St Augustine Chapter worked with Daytona SAR and DAR to unearth historical details of the plaque and will support rededication (pending).</p>
America250	<p>Partnering to sponsor America250 activities with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maria Jefferson Chapter DAR (St Augustine Liberty Tree, other)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • William Bartram Chapter DAR (Palatka Liberty Tree and other) • Colonial Dames of America (St Augustine America250) • St Augustine Historical Society (St Augustine Liberty Tree and other) • Woman’s Exchange (Mementos of America250 in St Augustine) • Historical Sites in St Augustine • Seeking to add partners in America250 events (e.g., Historic Florida Militia) <p>In association with Colonial Dames: St Augustine America250 Events will be included in the following publications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USA Today Magazine (regional) • Flamingo Magazine • Go Latino • National Trust Magazine • Colonial Dames: Four Part Lecture Series at Flagler College covering Florida's Colonial Populations during the American Revolution <p>Planning chapter America250 Historical Trips to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Savannah – October 2024 • Charleston – Spring 2025 • Philadelphia area – September 2026
Liberty Tree	<p>Two Liberty Tree Events are in the works:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Augustine in cooperation with Maria Jefferson Chapter DAR. 8 February 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Extensive planning and preparation ○ Dedication of granite marker at St Augustine’s Oldest House in concert with St Augustine Historical Society as well as Maria Jefferson Chapter DAR • Palatka liberty tree in cooperation with William Bartram Chapter DAR. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Date: 13 September 2025, 4:00 p.m. ○ Location: Large Oak on Palatka Waterfront at St Johns River ○ Pending approval of city council • Developed memorabilia sale to raise funds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ America250 charms and lapel pins ○ Liberty Tree charms and lapel pins ○ Liberty Tree Christmas Ornaments
Liberty Tree/America 250 Golf Tourney	<p>Planning for St Augustine Chapter Liberty Tree Golf Tournament</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 26, 2025 • Palatka Golf Course • Anticipated number of players = 112 • Funds raised will support St Augustine Chapter America 250 activities and Chapter Youth Programs

Flagler Chapter

Randall G. Conway

No report submitted.

Daytona-Ormond Chapter

William C. Ashmore

No report submitted.

EC Regional Vice President

Joel A. Etherton

Appointed to fill vacant position on 9/23/2024.

Brevard Chapter

Christopher A. Ratzel

The Brevard Chapter **Member Meetings** take place either the second or third Saturday of the month, September through June. The member meetings begin at 11:30 AM (Social and Check-in begins at 11 AM) at The Tides Collocated Club, 1001 North Highway A1A, S Atlantic Ave, Patrick Space Force Base, FL 32925.

APRIL – Compatriot Hans Hunt received the Service to Veterans Medal and Compatriot Doug Bisset received his 5th OLC for his efforts towards the veteran community during the April meeting.

The Brevard Chapter SAR is focused on Service to Veterans.

MAY - May saw many great events. Our member meeting was held May 11. The meeting heard committee reports and culminated in the election of a new slate of officers.

We recognized Compatriot Joel Etherton's hard work as he completed his term of office as Chapter President.

One of our greatest privileges during the year is to recognize local youth who share our passion for American Heritage. We were proud to recognize 17 hard working young patriots who earned the Silver/Bronze Citizenship Medal (1 ROTC, 14 JROTC, 2 Sea Cadets)

The Brevard Chapter SAR is focused on educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our Country.

JUNE – Our annual Flag Day luncheon was held with the help of the Rufus Fairbanks and the Philip Perry Daughters of the American Revolution chapters.

Mr. Don Murphy spoke to us, telling the combined group of all the good deeds happening at the Cape Canaveral National Cemetery. We are preparing for an upcoming very special anniversary. The SAR 250th Anniversary flag is proudly posted at every chapter event and meeting with a detailing of what happened 250 years ago this month. The Color Guard, under command of Compatriot Nic Mihora, was active all summer by participation in colonial attire at a Memorial Day recognition, Labor Day Service, Constitution Day activities, and a very special Military Order of the Purple Heart ceremony.

The Brevard Chapter SAR is focused on commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

SEPTEMBER – Constitution Day was recognized during our monthly meeting. In September, we again partnered with the Daughters of the American Revolution. Dr Ralston, a local community leader and scholar spoke eloquently and passionately about the US Constitution.

The Brevard Chapter SAR is focused on promoting patriotism by serving our communities.

OCTOBER – Our member meeting will take place tomorrow, October 12. We will enjoy fellowship and hear the great history of Francis Marion, the Swamp Fox himself! At our chapter BOM, we will plan the events for how we will lead up to July 2026!

The Brevard Chapter SAR is focused on the future of the SAR.

Central Florida Chapter

Scott A. Cook

No report submitted.

Okeechobee Chapter

Preston N. Croslyn

No report submitted.

St Lucie River Chapter

H. Hall Riediger

Nothing to report.

WC Regional Vice President

A. Parks Honeywell

No report submitted.

Clearwater Chapter

Timothy R. Shaner

- The chapter distributed JROTC and Good Citizen awards to several High School students.
- Color guard attended Honor Flight for returning veterans at St. Petersburg airport June 4th and September 10th.
- Color guard participated at the Fourth of July Parade in Safety Harbor, Florida.
- Clearwater BOG participated in several Club Express Go/To meetings.
- Wm Lee Popham was guest speaker at the Clearwater Chapter meeting in September to discuss Club Express.

Lakeland Chapter

Michael A. Girard

The Lakeland Chapter did not meet during the months of June, July, and August

The Chapter met on Saturday September 23, 2024 at the 1916 Irish Pub in Lakeland. There were 24 in attendance, with 20 compatriots and 4 guests. Officers in attendance were President Mike Girard, 1 st Vice President Bill Thompson, Secretary/Treasurer John Snapp, Sargeant at Arms, Jarrell Burchett, Historian Tom Williamson, and At Large Executive Board members Bill Thornhill and Melvin Sellers.

Compatriot Robert Paul Curtis received his National SAR Vietnam War Service certificate and Past President Jarrell Burchett was presented with his certificate and pin.

Secretary/Treasurer John Snapp presented a This Day in History segment – Benedict Arnold – Patriot Traitor. Compatriot Snapp also lead an organizational discussion for the coming year reviewing roles and responsibilities of the officers, standing committees, additional committees, scheduled programs for the year, and the importance of new member recruitment, member retention, and member involvement.

The next Chapter meeting will be October 19, 2024 and the guest speaker will be LTC Harry Dingle, Professor of Military Science at Florida Southern College.

South Shore Chapter

Ronzell I. Windsor, II

Nothing to report.

St Petersburg Chapter

Douglas R. Maddox, Jr

No report submitted.

Tampa Chapter

Garald K. Robinson

2024 Officers:

President: Garald K. (Robbie) Robinson

Vice President: Roger Roscoe

Recording Secretary: Robert Yarnell

Treasurer: Will Wagner-Hart

Registrar: Richard W Young

Chaplain: Matthew Balencie

Sgt At Arms: Darren Acosta

Immediate Past President: Charles Klug, Jr

Membership:

Regular: 90

Dual: 8

Junior: 11

Life: 1
Mil/AD: 3
Total: 113

Monthly Summaries of events/mtgs/speakers:

At the April 2024 meeting, we decided to move our normal meeting date to the second Saturday of the month, and will leave the start time the same--11:30am. After admin time, we break about noon for lunch, and continue our meetings at 12:30pm for our speakers' presentations.

21 May 2024: Tampa Chapter President Robinson attended the Genesis Preparatory School and awarded certificates to the students who participated in the SAR Youth Poster Contest, and awarded a check for \$100 to the student who was the nominee to the FLSSAR
27 May 2024: Tampa Chapter Color Guard participated in the Memorial Day event at the American Legion Post #5 location which includes a cemetery

4 June 2024: Tampa Chapter Color Guard supported the Honor Flight event at the St Petersburg Airport

14 June 2024: Tampa Chapter Color Guard presented the colors at the DeSoto DAR luncheon for their Flag Day event

4 July 2024: Tampa Chapter Color Guard participated in the Safety Harbor Independence Day parade

17 August 2024: Tampa Chapter President Robinson and Chapter Chaplain Matt Balencie attended the Battle of Blue Licks 250th Anniversary in Kentucky, participated in the Color Guard, and provided a wreath on behalf of the Tampa Chapter SAR

10 September 2024: Tampa Chapter Color Guard supported the Honor Flight event at the St Petersburg Airport

14 September 2024: Held our first meeting of the fall season at the University Mall. Chapter President Robinson gave a presentation on the Suffolk Resolves; this was also a 250 Anniversary event since the Resolves were published on 9 September 1774

List of any chapter medal / certificate recipients:

- 250 Anniversary Gold: Matthew Balencie, Bill Swain, Will Wagner-Hart
- 250 Anniversary Silver: Terry Doan, Dwight Hamborsky
- 250 Anniversary Bronze: Joe Dato, Paula Perry (DAR member)
- Henry Knox Bronze - Terry Doan

List of new members:

- James Dorman
- Mark Dorman
- Daniel Paul Holder IV
- Matthew Rosales
- Richard Gray

SE Regional Vice President

Charles A. Adams, II

No report submitted.

Ft Lauderdale Chapter

Charles A. Adams, II

The Fort Lauderdale Chapter typically meets the third Saturday of every month, except August and December, starting at 11:30 a.m. at the Outback Steakhouse, 2725 South University Drive, Davie, FL. Meeting dates are occasionally adjusted to avoid conflicts with other events. The meeting for November 2024 has been rescheduled for the fourth Saturday.

The Chapter's media relations are carried out through the maintenance and updating of the Chapter website which can be found at www.fortlauderdale.sar.org. The Chapter's meeting schedule and contact information is published quarterly in the SAR magazine.

At the May 2024 BOM, the Fort Lauderdale Chapter was honored to receive the 2023 White Flight First Place Award (mid-sized chapter) for the 2023 Florida Chapter Challenge. Here are some other 2024 highlights that have occurred since the May 2024 Spring BOM:

- Throughout 2024, the Chapter continues its senior advisory support to the Swamp Fox Society C.A.R. As the Society ended its 2023-2024 program, on May 25, 2024, the Chapter made the first of its bi-annual contribution to help fund the Society's annual giving to numerous charities and other organizations qualifying under their Kids Helping Kids Program. The Chapter will make its second annual contribution in October 2024 to provide similar funding assistance for the Society's 2024-2025 program.
- Memorial Day Parade: The Fort Lauderdale Chapter SAR Color Guard marched with the Fontenada Chapter DAR, and the Swamp Fox Society C.A.R. in the City of Pompano Beach Memorial Day Parade held on May 27, 2024.

- The Fort Lauderdale Chapter actively supports the 250 Anniversary Recognition Program. In each monthly Chapter Newsletter, an originally composed article on a revolutionary event occurring that month between the years 1764 and 1783 is published, and the author summarizes the article at that month's chapter meeting. Since the May 2024 Spring BOM, we have added to the opening of each monthly meeting the reading by a Chapter member of the 250 Minute which summarizes a 250 historical event in 3 to 5 sentences.

- 250 Anniversary Bronze Medal Certificates were presented to: Jim Clark & Barry Moss (May 25, 2024); Tom Carpenter Jr, (June 15, 2024); Martin Hollick, James Lohmeyer & prospective member Jason Milgram (July 27, 2024); and John Sauerwald & Lincoln Pero (Sept 21, 2024).

- For 2024, the Fort Lauderdale Chapter's year to date assistance to veterans and organizations that support veterans translates to 7916 points toward the 2024 US Stark Awards Program. For the current reporting period, on June 19, 2024, Chapter representatives delivered a 40" smart TV and rolling cart to the Alexander Nininger State Veterans Nursing Home located in Pembroke Pines, FL. The TV and cart donated by the Chapter will be used by the residents for their karaoke events. The Chapter also supports Honor Flight South Florida through a \$250 quarterly flight donation and, during this reporting period, Chapter Guardsmen and members were present at the June 1 and Sept 7, 2024, homecoming events.

- 2024 JROTC / ROTC Medal Awards Program. The Chapter's 2024 Program ended on June 2, 2024, when Compatriot Steve DePaul presented two sea cadets the SAR Bronze Good Citizenship Medal. Previously, the Chapter awarded 28 JROTC medals, and 6 Good Citizenship medals to 34 JROTC cadets at 28 schools, and it awarded 1 Good Citizenship medal to a Civil Air Patrol Cadet operating from the Pines - Miramar Unit.

- July Fourth Celebration: The Fort Lauderdale Chapter SAR Color Guard participated with the Miami Chapter SAR Color Guard in presenting the colors at the opening ceremonies hosted by the City of Coral Gables at the Biltmore Hotel.

- 134th National Congress. The Chapter had two members (Steve DePaul & Kevin Shurte) representing us at the July 10 – 16, 2024 National Congress held in Lancaster, PA.

- Samuel Nicholas Camp #23 Color Guard New Member Certificates were presented to: Jim Clark (June 15, 2024); and Paul Moore & Braeden Shurte (Sept 21, 2024). The Fort Lauderdale Color Guard started on May 19, 2023, with six members and, with these most recent additions, is now at nine members. Since the May 2024 Spring BOM, the Chapter's Color Guard has been represented by either one or multiple members at various State or National events – see our separate report in the October 2024 BOM Proceedings Book.

- On Sept 21, 2024, the Chapter will recognize six members achieving milestone SAR service anniversaries during the last half of 2024:

- 5 Years – Mark Randall Snider, Compatriot since 07 Jul 2019.
- 5 Years – Charles Austin Adams II, Compatriot since 02 Aug 2019.
- 5 Years – Christopher Nicholas Williams, Compatriot since 19 Aug 2019.
- 20 Years – James Warner Lohmeyer, Compatriot since 09 Sep 2004.
- 30 Years – Joseph Mark Motes, Compatriot since 06 Sep 1994.
- 30 Years – Martin Edward Hollick, Compatriot since 31 Oct 1994.

Earlier in 2024, the Chapter participated for the first time in many years in the Sgt. Moses Adams Memorial Middle School Brochure Contest. The Chapter's first place winner, Giana Mann, also received the FLSSAR first place award at the May 2024 BOM but did not place at the 134th July 2024 National Congress. As the Chapter plans for the 2025 Youth Education Awards Program, it will again offer the Middle School Brochure Contest. It will also expand our commitment to youth education by sponsoring the Arthur M. & Berdena King Eagle Scout Contest, and the ROTC / JROTC Enhanced Essay Contest for applicants residing in Broward County.

The Fort Lauderdale Chapter membership continues to grow. We began 2024 with 75 members. As of September 11, 2024, we are now at 82 which includes two dual members and three junior members. In the NSSAR pipeline are three applications in process for approval. By or before October 2024, one additional application will be submitted for approval, and one new reinstatement is expected to be approved.

Miami Chapter

George K. Wysong

No report submitted.

Palm Beach Chapter

Peter D. Johnston

Palm Beach SAR Chapter 2024 Vision:

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 prospective officers candidates 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.*

The Chapter completed its annual financial audit and started the process of updating of its By-Laws.

Chapter Activities & Events:

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 presented **8 JROTC** medals, **1 Knight Essay Contest** medal and **2 Eagle Scout medals**. The Chapter expanded its commitment to youth higher education with its annual **Compatriot Alex Dreyfoos History Scholarship** donating \$2,000 to the *Palm Beach Atlantic University "History Major"* program. The 2023/24 scholarship represents over 20 years and \$20,000 in scholarships from the Palm Beach Chapter.

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

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

FLSSAR Veterans Battalion Committee Director Lanman inducted Chapter *Vietnam Veteran David Harden* and active service member Army LTC *Christopher Allen* into the Veterans Battalion raising the total number of chapter VB members to 24%.

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

Former Chapter President & Historian Don Lanman presented Greetings and an Honor Wreath at the 243 Anniversary of the Battle of Eutaw Springs in Santee, SC. Don also received a *FLSSAR Roger Sherman Oak Leaf* for his Silver Medal & a *FLSSAR Certificate of Distinguished Service*.

Chapter Fundraising:

Chapter continues to raise chapter funds from Compatriots generous donations to the Chapter's Presidents Brigade, Patriotic item auctions, donations and Chapter Challenge Coin sales.

SW Regional Vice President

Jonathan D. Hunt

While most of the chapters in the Southwest region take a break during the summer, I reached out to all the chapters Presidents in the region by telephone several times.

The Highlands Chapter President Dean outlined the upcoming celebration for the Liberty Tree's, 250th Anniversary to be held in April 2025. More information will be coming as it finalizes. Highland is very engaged with the local community historical events.

The Naples Chapter under President Gibbens is the most proactive chapter in the region. Current membership is: 119 (all classifications- Regular, Life, E-1,E-2 and Junior) with another 28 pending National. The chapter also published its first Newsletter in 8 years.

The Caloosa Chapter (President Edward “Mike” Buff) is a very active chapter. Current membership is 97 (all classifications- Regular, Life, E-1, E-2 and Junior). Meeting location: The Landings Yacht, Golf & Tennis Club 4425 S Landings Dr Fort Myers, FL 33919. Meetings are held on the second Saturday, but dates can vary. I suggest reaching out to the Chapter President for the exact date.

The Charlotte Chapter (President Noel Reese) reported it has 21 Compatriots, 3 applications pending at National. Charlotte Chapter has also changed its meeting date from the second Friday of the month to the first Friday, effective October 2024. The location will remain the same: Grill at 1951 1951 Tamiami Trail Port Charlotte, FL 33948 meeting starts promptly at 11:30am.

The Saramana Chapter meets on the second Saturday of the Month. Location: Der Dutchman Restaurant Located at: 3713 Bahia Vista St. Sarasota, FL 34232

Between the Spring BOM May 2024 and the Fall BOM Oct 2024, I attended the following venues:

June 20, 2024 - Charlotte County School Summer History Camp, held at the Military Heritage Museum in Punta Gorda, FL. This year’s theme was “The Fight for Freedom-Past, Present and Future.” The Director (Mrs. Donna Dunakey) of the History Camp suggested that I cover what lead up to the American Revolution through Breed’s Hill. While dress in Militia Attire with a period correct musket I presented a 75 minute program. The 17 kids in attendance were surprising knowledgeable on US History. Hamp and Debbie Allan were also in attendance.

September 21, 2024 – I brought greetings from President Gaskins at the Great SW FL Regents Council Constitution Week Luncheon held at: 12201 River Village Way Fort Myers, FL hosted by USS Hannah, Daughters of the American Revolution. FSSDAR State Regent Cindy Addison was in attendance.

Caloosa Chapter

E. Michael Buff

No report submitted.

Charlotte Chapter

Noel R. Reese

The chapter held its May 2024 meeting at the Grill at 1951. Seven members, one prospective member and a DAR guest attended. Ken Eitenmiller, the Secretary/Treasurer was absent but sent the previous month’s meeting minutes.

The highlight of the meeting was Anne McGuire representing the Daughters of the American Revolution Lawrence Kearny Chapter presented a DAR Vietnam War 50th Commemorative Certificate to DR. Martin J. Calkins, Ph.D. for his military U.S. Navy service during the Vietnam War era, November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975.

The upcoming meetings for the fall/winter of 2024 and 2025 will be now held on the first Friday of the month at the Grill at 1951 in Port Charlotte. The first meeting will be held on October 4th.

Over the summer, the hard work of Registrar Bob McGuire rewarded us with 3 new members, one transfer in, and three applications in process. The three new members will be sworn in at the October meeting.

Highlands Chapter

James T. Dean

No report submitted.

Naples Chapter

W. Douglas Gibbens

9 May 2024 -Luncheon Meeting

- 33 Members and Guests present
- Program: Museum of the American Revolution, Dr. R. Scott Stephenson, President

Month of May 2024 – Other Activities

- Attended Florida Board of Management Meeting
- Presented 10 American History Book and Scholarship Awards in High Schools
- Presented 4 Junior ROTC Awards at High School Awards Day

- Presented Eagle Scout Award at Eagle Scout Area Meeting
- Attended Naples Memorial Day Ceremonies

20 June 2024

- Board of Directors Meeting

Month of July 2024

- Participated with Entry in Naples Independence Day Parade
- Attended 134th National Congress

Month of August 2024

- Lafayette 200 Luncheon with Big Cypress Chapter DAR
- Board of Directors meeting via Zoom
- Planning session with Big Cypress DAR chapter re: Tablet dedication on 11/8/2024

Month of September 2024

- Board of Directors Meeting 9/4/2024
- Board of Directors Meeting 9/26/2024
- Contact made with 8 JROTC programs in our area of operations
- Attended FSSDAR Fall Forum

Saramana Chapter

S. Preston Adams, III

No report submitted.

Secretary

M. Scott Breckenridge

- **FLSSAR membership** total (as of 9/27/2024) is 2,453, including Dual members. The Annual Report rosters and instructions have been sent to the chapters. The Annual Reports are due to me by December 15, 2024.
- **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, 2024.
If you choose to enter your chapter in the Chapter Challenge contest, please submit your scoresheet (using the standard NSSAR Americanism Contest scoresheet) to me, no later than Feb 15th, 2025, for inclusion in the Florida Society contest. Chapters are also encouraged to submit their entries to the National contest. Instructions are included in the scoresheet.
- A word about **BOM members:**
Not everyone that attends a Board of Management Meeting is entitled to vote. I've reprinted the relevant section from the FLSSAR By-Laws here.

Section 1 Membership

The membership of the BOM shall include only persons who are members in good standing of the FLSSAR, and who are listed in at least one of the following categories:

- 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 most 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.

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.

Treasurer

Walter B. Arnold

See Finance Committee report.

Receipts, Disbursements, and Budget information is in Appendix C.

Registrar

Ray C. Lantz

FLSSAR Application Stats 19 Apr 2024 – 10 Aug 2024

	Application Type				Totals
	Regular	Supplemental	CAR Transfer	Junior	
Submitted To NSSAR	79	53	2	21	155
Approved* By NSSAR	50	5	2	5	62
Pended* By NSSAR	2	2	0	0	4
Pended By FSSAR	12	5	0	0	17
DAR Finder Approved Total Year to date		2023 = 62 and 2024 = 27			

* Approved and Pended by NSSAR stats are generally not related to the Submitted to NSSAR stats, as the majority of the stats apply to applications reported as submitted on the previous report period.

NSSAR & FLSSAR Pended Reasons:

- Unofficial transcript(s) of will(s) submitted instead of required legible copies of court recorded or original will.
- Proof documents are too poor quality to be fully legible.
- Proof documents are not a copy of the entire page. Page snippets cannot be used alone, there must also be a legible full-page copy of the page the snippet was taken from.
- No proof submitted for one or more generations to connect lineage from one generation to the next.
- Incorrect check amount required for NSSAR and or FLSSAR fees and dues.

Recommended Application Submission Improvement Areas:

- Ensure all required signatures and dates are present as required for type of applications being submitted.
- Do not submit NSDAR web site printouts from the “Descendants Database Search” or NSDAR “Patriot Index” information. This information is not acceptable for either lineage or service and NSSAR does not want this unacceptable information included with any application.
- **Ensure ALL applicable information contained on all submitted proof documents is recorded in the applicable sections of the application. Do not list references that are not being submitted and list all documents that have been submitted.**
- **Ensure all known spouse information is included when known for each generation even when the spouse is not in direct lineal descent. This will prevent applications from being pended when two people of the same name are living in a given area and this information would assist in identification of the correct person used on the application.**
- Only one set of proof documents are required to be submitted with each application. This also applies when submitting more than one application under the family plan criteria. One set of proofs only for the common documents used by all the applications in the group. This does not apply to multiple supplemental applications submitted at the same time. Supplemental applications are always considered separately and require complete sets of documentation.

Notes of Interest:

- NSSAR acceptance policies very recently significantly changed DNA Evidence please be certain you have fully read the new guidelines and have complied with the same to the fullest extent prior to submitting DNA proof evidence!
- **New NSSAR Application/Genealogy Policy and Prep Manuals**

New versions of these manuals are available for download from the NSSAR website. There have been many changes to policies and procedures and it strongly recommended that all chapter registrars review these document changes.

Chaplain

W. Maynard Pittendreigh

No report submitted.

Recording Secretary

W. Douglas Gibbens

Minutes of the previous BOM meeting are found beginning on page 6.

Chancellor

Charles E. Klug

No report submitted.

Genealogist

J. Gray Chandler

Appointed to fill vacant position on 9/23/2024.

Sergeant at Arms

Philip B. Markoe

All items are reported safe and secure at the storage unit.

Thursday, October 10th Items will be taken from the storage unit and transferred to the BOM hospitality room.

Historian

Joel A. Etherton

No report submitted.

Editor, The Florida Patriot

Jeff L. Sizemore

The current subscription cost has not increased since it was put in place over a decade ago. The current cost of \$12.00 per year barely covers a portion of the cost of printing and mailing. The FLSSAR uses non-profit mailing via the USPS that allows each issue to be mailed at 85 cent per issue which requires 200 pieces of mail to be sent out at one time. When a member demands that they didn't get a copy and that the FLSSAR must be mailed a copy to him at first class such mailing could be around \$3.00 to \$4.00. This is not an option!!

Based on the current cost of printing and the multiple USPS cost increases over the past several years, it is hereby recommended that the printed subscription cost for 2025 be set at \$20.00 per year. Note that this will need to be voted on at this meeting. As for extra copies, the FLSSAR makes them available for chapters to use as recruiting material. Copies can also be obtained for members that are advance in years that find it hard to read on the computer and for FLSSAR events throughout the state.

The deadline for submitting articles, reports, and announcements for consideration into the upcoming issues of the magazine are as follows:

Winter 2025 Magazine Submittal Cutoff	= 12/05/2024
Spring 2025 Magazine Submittal Cutoff	= 3/05/2024
Summer 2025 Magazine Submittal Cutoff	= 6/15/2025
Fall 2025 Magazine Submittal Cutoff	= 9/15/2025

Remember that when submittals are sent in late, it delays the publication of this magazine and makes it hard to deliver a good issue to our membership. If you want to submit your chapter newsletter as a submittal, please submit it in either MS Word or MS Publisher format.

General and historical articles also are appreciated so that our members get a variety of materials in each issue. All articles need to also be sent in MS Word format. The email addresses that can be used to submit your material for the magazine are as follows: swampfoxsar@gmail.com.

Webmaster

Gerald K. Robinson

- Worked with FLSSAR Secretary to update the roster for each chapter's access to the website
- Working to collect a comprehensive list of requirements that will be used to determine the features for an updated website
- Reviewing the features of the Club Express system to evaluate this system's capabilities to meet our FLSSAR website criteria

Statutory Committee Reports

Executive Committee

James Y. Gaskins, Chairman

The Executive Committee has met the following times since the last BOM.

- 6/2/2024
 - Amend the 2024 Budget to allow for the carryover of \$274 unused President's Expenses from 2023 to be used by the outgoing President to pay his expenses incurred in 2024 that exceed the 2024 budget.
- 6/22/2024
 - Review and recommend changes to the Standing Rules and Procedures.
- 7/17/2024
 - Reviewed and approved Emeritus-2 requests from the chapters.
- 8/21/2024
 - Reviewed proposed 2025 budget.
- 9/9/2024
 - Reviewed and approved Emeritus-3 request.
- 9/23/2024
 - Confirmed appointment of Joel Etherton to fill the vacant position of EC RVP.
 - Confirmed appointment of Gray Chandler to fill the vacant position of Genealogist.
- 9/25/2024
 - Reviewed various pre-BOM items.

The Executive Committee proposes changes to the Standing Rules and Procedures, as published in the Summer 2024 edition of the Patriot Magazine and Appendix A of these Proceedings.

Section 100, Regular Members.

PASSED as published in the Proceedings Book.

Section 100, Dual Members, paragraph 2 and 3.

PASSED as published in the Proceedings Book.

Section 100, Dual Members, application.

PASSED as published in the Proceedings Book.

Section 105, Regional Vice President, A.7.

PASSED as published in the Proceedings Book.

Section 105, Regional Vice President, B.7.

PASSED as published in the Proceedings Book.

Section 107, Treasurer, 7.
PASSED as published in the Proceedings Book.

Section 110, Registrar, 1.
PASSED as published in the Proceedings Book.

Section 122, Vice President General South Atlantic District.
PASSED as published in the Proceedings Book.

Section 128, Endowment Trust Fund.
PISTPONED.

Section 500, Rules of Protocol, Requests for Visits By the President General.
PASSED as published in the Proceedings Book.

Section 500, Wearing Medals.
Scott Breckenridge moved to amend the proposed change by removing it entirely. Second by Steve Fields. **PASSED.**
Original proposal **PASSED** as amended.

Section 502, Registration and Hospitality Room, A.1.
PASSED as published in the Proceedings Book.

Finance Committee

Walter B. Arnold, Chairman

Included at the end of the BOM Proceeding Book are schedules that show the August YTD Cash Receipts and Expenses, plus the Year End Projection 2024 and the 2025 Budget.

Your Finance Committee has met a few times via Zoom to discuss and approve the 2025 Budget and the transition of the Society’s accounting transactions to Quick Books.

The Quick Books transition has already started with the formation of a set of new charts of accounts for the “Statement of Activities” (aka as a Profit Loss Statement) and a “Statement of Financial Position” (aka Balance Sheet).

Annual Cost for Quick Books (QB) 2025 \$400.00, there will be a small cost to Quick Books in 2024 of about \$85.00 for printing of new checks and two months online fees. These online fees are based on the “Simple Start” version of Quick Books, which is their “basic” entry level QB.

If Quick Books is then approved by the Fall BOM the next step into Quick Books will start in early November, with a full go live as of January 01, 2025.

In the Fall Proceeding Book you will also find a detail schedule of the Society’s “Statement of Activities” (aka Profit/Loss Statement) for August YTD, a projection for Year End 2024, with the 2025 Budget. A summary recap of all key items are shown below:

	<u>August YTD</u>	<u>Year End</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Dues Collected	\$38,028.00	\$38,028.00	\$38,160.00
Total Receipts	\$65,001.10	\$81,146.00	\$81,960.00
Total Cash Expenses	\$57,022.72	\$75,072.50	\$83,750.00*
Net Cash Surplus/(Short Fall)	\$7,978.38	\$6,073.50	\$(1,790.00)

- There isn’t one item that shows a major increase in costs from 2024 to 2025, but there are many items that show small but needed cost increases.

MOTION

Steve Hohman moved to add \$1,000 to the budget for the new Youth Video Contest. Second by Steve Fields

PASSED

MOTION

The Finance Committee moved to approve the budget as presented.

PASSED

Financial Review Committee

David Bussone, Chairman

No report until the Spring BOM.

Medals and Awards Committee

Hampton E. Allen, Chairman

The presentation of medals and awards is a great way to recognize our SAR Compatriots for their service to our Society. In recent years NSSAR has approved several new medals which can be awarded to both SAR members and non-members. These include the Henry Knox Achievement Medal, the Outstanding Young Member Medal, the Youth Education Medal and the Youth Color Guard Medal. There are also several medals that can be awarded to the ladies that support our SAR Society and functions as well. These include the SAR/DAR Medal of Appreciation, the Martha Washington Medal and the Daughters of Liberty Medal. Additionally there are medals available for presentation to our First Responders and Youth Programs as well. Please refer to the NSSAR Official Handbook Vol 5: Individual Medals, Awards and Certificates for the proper criteria for the award of these medals.

As a reminder, Chapter Presidents or Secretaries are required to provide the FLSSAR Secretary a list of all medals and awarded presented to SAR members so that the State member database can be updated for each compatriot. The Medals and Awards Committee refers to this database when considering compatriots for the award of medals at the State level during our Annual Metals and Awards Banquet at the Spring BOM. Recommendation for all State level medals and awards should be sent to the Chairman, Medals and Awards Committee as early as possible so we can ensure approval and availability of the requested medals prior to the Spring BOM/Annual meeting in May 2025.

I would also like to remind our Chapter Presidents and Secretaries that all SAR medals that are presented to non-SAR members are fully reimbursed through our ETF Grant Program. Also there monetary awards (such as the Scholarship Awards) that we present as part of our Youth Program Awards are also reimbursed at 75% within the limits prescribed by the ETF Grant Program. Chapters are allowed to file 4 requests per year for these reimbursements. Please refer to the ETF Application Form on the FLSSAR website for complete details on filing the request.

Nominating Committee

Graham Fountain, Chairman

No report until the Spring BOM.

Patriot Medal Committee

Pat Niemann, Chairman

No report submitted.

NSSAR Affairs

Education Center & Museum

(SAR Education Center and Museum Committee)

Dick Young, Chairman

No report submitted.

National Society Library Committee

Steven R. Fields, Chairman

No report submitted.

FLSSAR Affairs

Archives Committee

Matt Mathews, Chairman

Nothing to report.

By-Laws Committee

Robbie Robinson, Chairman

No report submitted.

Congress Surplus Allocation

(Congress Surplus Allocation Committee)

Dick Young, Chairman

According to the May 2024 Treasurer's Report there is \$30,646 remaining in the 2023 Congress Fund. This Committee requested ideas from the members of the Florida Society on how to use these funds. All proposals were given equal and fair consideration. This Committee proposes, in the form of a motion, to the FLSSAR Board of Management that these funds be used in the following manner:

- \$10,000 to be donated to the National Society SAR for the benefit of the Educational Center and Museum, to be presented when President Gaskins and/or the Executive Committee deem it appropriate.
- Up to \$5,000 to be used to fund the Florida Society commitment to the First Amphibious Assault Memorial, to be funded as requested by the FLSSAR First Amphibious Assault Memorial Committee and approved by the FLSSAR Executive Committee
- Up to \$2,000 to be used to purchase the following materials to be used primarily by the FLSSAR Education Outreach Committee in their presentations to schools and other education related organizations.
 - 10'x10' SAR-Branded Pop-Up Canopy \$1500
 - 8' Spandex SAR-Branded Table Cover \$ 350
 - 33"x81" SAR-Branded Retractable Banner \$ 150
- The balance of the 2023 Congress Fund, plus any unused cash from the above designated purposes, to be transferred to the FLSSAR Operating Budget Trust Fund for the future benefit of the Florida Society.

MOTION

The Congress Surplus Allocation Committee moved to approve the allocations as presented.

PASSED

MOTION

Scott Breckenridge moved to disband the Congress Surplus Allocation Committee. Second by Will Wagner-Hart.

PASSED

Education Outreach Committee

Kevin Shurte, Chairman

The FLSSAR Education Outreach Committee has been actively promoting youth programs, meeting 6 times over the past 6 months. Members have conducted surveys, attended and registered for conferences, and reached out to Florida SAR Chapter Presidents, coordinating their efforts to assist chapters in expanding youth education outreach across the state.

At the May 2024 BOM, members of the EOC presented the findings of their Spring 2024 Chapter Outreach Survey. The survey identified the chapters currently participating in education outreach and the contests in which they participated; Eagle Scout Contest participation was not included in this survey.

The survey results were as follows:

High School Essay	25%
Middle School Brochure	13%
Elementary School Poster	9%
Enhanced JROTC	9%
American History Teacher	9%
Oration	3%

Hoping to improve on this lackluster performance in the coming school year, EOC members made a motion at the Spring BOM requesting that members approve a budgetary increase from \$500 to \$1500 to cover the cost of print materials, conference registration fees, and promotional equipment. Thankfully, the membership unanimously approved this temporary spending measure.

On May 23-25, members of the EOC set up and manned a booth at the 36th Annual Florida Parent Educators Association (FPEA) Homeschool Convention at the Gaylord Palms Convention Center in Kissimmee, Florida. With the support of SAR members from various chapters, the committee distributed EOC contest literature, identified attendees interested in participating in our youth programs, and collected several names of youths and adults who requested information about joining C.A.R. and SAR. Following the close of this event, the EOC disseminated the contact information to 21 chapter presidents throughout the state, as well as forwarding C.A.R. and SAR membership leads to JoAnn Welker and Ray Lantz respectively.

After attending the 134th Congress in Lancaster, PA, the EOC completed a study of the South Atlantic District, focusing on the prize amounts each state within the district awards its various contest winners. Specific findings were shared with FLSSAR contest committee chairs, Treasurer Walter Arnold, Senior Vice President Chris Washler, and President Jim Gaskins. Overall, the surveyed showed that Florida is competitive in the poster and brochure contests and leads the district in prizes awarded to essay, oration, JROTC Enhanced, Eagle Scout, and American History Teacher contestants. Of special note was North Carolina’s practice of recognizing teachers of winning students in the poster and brochure contests with cash awards.

Over summer break, the committee busily promoted and prepared for the upcoming 2024-2025 youth competitions. Committee members compiled and sent Youth Outreach Packets to all 32 chapters via email and U.S. Mail. The packets contained an At-a-Glance matrix of state contest submission dates and prizes as well as copies of the promotional contest fliers that were first unveiled this past May at the BOM. These writeable PDF fliers are now available on the FLSSAR homepage in the dropdown menu under the Education/Youth tab.

The EOC also registered for the 67th Annual Florida Council for the Social Studies (FCSS) Conference to be held at the Florida Hotel and Conference Center in Orlando on October 11-12. Whereas the FPEA Conference in May introduced SAR to Florida homeschoolers, the FCSS Conference will help to launch SAR youth programs in Florida’s public schools. This event presents a valuable promotional opportunity for FLSSAR Education Outreach.

To bolster SAR’s professional appearance at this and future events, the EOC purchased an 8’x3’ horizontal banner and a 6’ spandex table cover. The committee designed both display items to include generic FLSSAR verbiage thus lending their usefulness to any state event. Additionally, committee members purchased other exhibition materials out-of-pocket including acrylic sign stands, a self-inking SAR rubber stamp, and an 81” vertical retractable banner that depicts Washington crossing the Delaware and reads “Educating Future Generations.”

Finally, the Education Outreach Committee submitted its 2024-2025 budget proposal to State Treasurer Walter Arnold. In its proposal, the committee requests that membership approve a budget increase of \$1500 dollars. This increase would allow the EOC to establish exhibition booths at the 2025 FPEA and FCSS conferences; this year the national society paid the \$685.00 registration fee for the FPEA event. The enhanced budget would also afford the committee the opportunity to set up a booth at the Florida Council of Independent Schools (FCIS) Convention, which the committee was unable to attend this year due to lack of funding. FCIS is “one of the largest accrediting organizations of independent schools in the United States” and affiliation with them would open access to private schools across the state (<https://www.fcis.org/about/welcome-fcis>).

The SAR Mission Statement asserts that one-third of our mission as a patriotic society is to educate and inspire future generations about our nation’s founding principles. Thanks to the generous funding previously approved by our state membership, the EOC has been able to begin promoting our youth programs, planting promising seeds for future growth. Future investments will enable the EOC to nourish growth as we strive to fulfill our common mission of promoting Education Outreach Programs throughout the state.

Ethics Committee

Jonathan D. Hunt, Chairman

The Ethics Committee has been working diligently for the last few months. I'd like to thank Compatriot Kevin Kuhens , Rene Jewett, Randy Conway and Charles Nuckolls for never missing a Zoom meeting and always completing the task at hand. The Ethics Committee only report their findings directly to the FLSSAR ExCom.

Genealogy Committee

open, Chairman

No report submitted.

Meeting Arrangements-BOM

Steven R. Fields - Chairman

For the Fall 2025 and Spring 2026 BOM/Annual meetings, the committee recommends staying with the current venue: Embassy Suites Lake Buena Vista South, 4955 Kyngs Heath Road, Kissimmee, FL 34746

The proposed meeting dates are:

Fall 2025 = Oct 17-18, 2025

Spring 2026 = May 15-16, 2026 (Mothers Day is May 10)

MOTION

The Meeting Arrangements Committee moved to approve the 292502926 BOM dates as presented.

PASSED

Membership Promotion & Retention

Matt Mathews, Chairman

- There are now 6 members to this committee, 3 participating at national level
- Committee is examining National policies for the 3 R's, Recruitment, Retention, Recover and implementing them at the chapter local level
- 2 Presentations of Officer Duties are planned for the upcoming BOM in Oct. The chapter is core of the SAR. Poor leadership has poor consequences.

New Chapter Development

Jeff Sizemore, Chairman

There have been no inquiries recently about setting up a new chapter.

Newsletters and Periodicals

Jeff Sizemore, Chairman

The stated deadline each year for the National Newsletter and FLSSAR State Society Contest is December 15' 2024. To enter, please send a pdf version of year newsletter to the committee.

Strategic Planning Committee

Lee Popham, Chairman

Re: 2025 Dues Renewal Process

Greetings Compatriots,

SAR - CLUB EXPRESS HAS ARRIVED !!!!

We wanted to get out a quick update about the CLUB EXPRESS National Dues Billing Task Force project rollout. For those who don't know, CLUB EXPRESS is the Society and Chapter membership dues management and communication system that will allow Societies and Chapters to receive online dues payments for the 2025 dues cycle.

Several Florida SAR Chapters have already elected to join the Club Express system for the collection of dues, and for use as a Chapter communication system. Every Florida SAR Compatriot will soon receive an introductory email from Club Express, inviting you to create an account.

Please do not discard or disregard the Club Express email as spam! If there is any question about whether an email received from Club Express (or any other entity) with respect to the SAR is legitimate, please don't hesitate to contact your chapter president or Florida SAR Secretary Scott Breckenridge.

The creation of an account will be mandatory to use the system, as you will need to log in to your user account to pay your dues directly in Club Express.

You will still receive your dues notice from your Chapter, as you have in the past. You may continue to pay your dues as you wish to. Club Express will also give you the option of paying your dues online.

ALL Florida SAR members whose Chapters have elected to join our Club Express automated dues invoice system will be receiving those invoices within the next few days. You can then elect to pay your dues online, or you can continue to send your checks to your Chapter representative.

Our other Chapters are welcome to join the Club Express system at any time, and their members will also be able to pay their 2025 dues online. But until then, you can continue to pay your dues by check to your Treasurer, based upon the invoices that are sent to you directly by your Chapter.

Chapters wishing to join Club Express should contact us by Reply All email, and we will get you into the system as soon as possible.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our consultant Peter Mitchelson at EuroPWM@mindspring.com, Or contact National Dues Billing Task Force Committee members Wm Lee Popham (WmLeePopham@outlook.com) or Matt Mathews (EMathewsJr@comcast.net).

Technology Advisory Committee

Lee Popham, Chairman

No report submitted.

Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade

Scott Breckenridge – Commander

Jeff Brunelle – Vice-Commander

Kevin Shurte – Adjutant

Commander's report

I'm so proud of our Florida Guardsmen. You never cease to step up and honor our Patriot Ancestors at events around the state. And every time, you fulfill our Society's goals of History, Education, and Patriotism. Well done!

I have decided to implement the past practice of the Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade regarding the Adjutant position. During the two-year term of the Commander and Vice-Commander, we will have two separate Adjutants, each serving a one-year term under the current Commander. This will allow us to evaluate the two candidates on their administrative skills, ability to learn and take direction, and leadership potential. At the end of my term in May 2025, Jeff and I will discuss and decide which candidate is best qualified to move into the Vice-Commander's role.

Now that Harry Rinker has completed his one-year term, he has stepped aside, and I have appointed Kevin Shurte to serve the 2024-2025 term as Adjutant.

Please join me in thanking Harry for his service, and congratulating Kevin, and I ask that you give him your full support. Together, I know that we can all continue to be the "public face of the SAR", and support all three of its goals of History, Education, and Patriotism.

Keep up the good work. And keep sending me pictures of your events so that I can send them to the National Colorguardsman magazine.

Scott Breckenridge, Commander

1. George Washington Camp # 1, Jacksonville Chapter - Paul Tucker, Commander

The Jacksonville Chapter George Washington Camp 1 began our May 30 to September 30, 2024, period at Nassau County, Callahan, Florida with the commemoration of The Battle of Alligator Bridge on June 29, 2024, in alliance with The West Nassau Historical Society and City of Callahan, Florida. The event was fortunate to have the presence and participation of National Color Guard Commander Kenneth Scott Collins and spouse, FLSSAR President James Gaskins, Florida State Color guard Commander & Secretary Scott Breckenridge, 24 Georgia and Florida Color Guard Members, and many SAR Florida and Georgia Compatriots. Other participating organizations were BSA, CAR, and multiple DAR Regents and representatives. Other participants were Presenter Professor Peter Mullins, West Nassau Historical Society, and The Freedom Singers. The colors were presented by 24 Color Guard Compatriots led by National Commander Kenneth Collins. A BBQ Lunch was enjoyed after the program completion.

Our Color Guard and other chapter members continue to participate in the monthly Naturalization Ceremonies at the Jacksonville, Florida Federal Courthouse.

The Jacksonville Color Guard presently consists of 21 active members. We continue to encourage new members to join the Color Guard. We have many event requests throughout the year and at times struggle to accommodate due to many conflicting event dates.

COLOR GUARD EVENTS MAY 30 to SEPTEMBETR 30 2024:

June 1, 2024, The Founding Patriots of America Annual Banquet and Officer Installations at St. Augustine, Florida.

June 29, 2024, The Battle of Alligator Bridge Commemoration at Callahan, Florida.

The Jacksonville Chapter Color Guard did not participate in July 4, 2024 Independence Day Events due to intense heat and concern for member safety.

The September 2024 /2025 scheduled meeting season begins with intense activity with multiple events with good member participation.

Saturday September 07, 2024, DAR Fall Forum at the OMNI CHAMPIONSGATE Orlando, Florida.

Thursday September 12, 2024, Remains Internment of MIA Jacksonville, Fl. native WWII Veteran Pilot Lt. Alfred J. Hamwey. MIA Remains accounted for Papua, New Guinea May 20, 2024.

Sunday September 15, 2024, Constitution Week The St. Augustine Chapter and DAR Palatka, Florida First Presbyterian Church.

Tuesday September 17, 2024, Orange Park Town Hall Constitution Week Bell Ringing Event Orange Park, Florida.

Thursday September 19, 2024, The Jacksonville Chapter Dinner Meeting Colors Presentation first meeting of the 2024/2025 season.

September 21, 2024, Jacksonville, Florida Airport Honor Flight 4:30 AM Muster Time.

September 21, 2024, DAR Ponte Verda, Florida DAR Regional Constitution Week Luncheon.

We are looking forward to working with our Chapter Education Outreach Chairman to work with the Color Guard and other chapter members in taking advantage of the many programs to work with the many schools in our assigned tri county area. The Color Guard is foremost in the Chapter Educational programing and participation.

2. Francis Marion Camp #2, Ocala Chapter – Inactive

3. Commodore Barry Camp #3, Brevard Chapter – Nicholas Mihora, Commander
No Report Submitted.

4. Samuel Adams Camp #4, Clearwater Chapter – Robbie Robinson, Commander

The Clearwater Chapter's Color Guard participated in the following events from the time period of 12 May 2024 to 23 Sep 2024.

- 27 May: Memorial Day ceremony at the Tampa American Legion Post #5 in conjunction with the Tampa Chapter
- 4 Jun: Honor Flight at St Petersburg Airport, in conjunction with the Tampa Chapter
- 15 Jun: Supported the DeSoto DAR Chapter Flag Day event, with Tampa Chapter
- 4 Jul: Independence Day parade at Safety Harbor, along with Tampa Chapter
- 17 Aug: Blue Lick KY National Event
- 10 Sep: Honor Flight at St Petersburg Airport, in conjunction with the Tampa Chapter

5. Yorktown Camp #5, St. Lucie River Chapter – Inactive

6. Marquis de Lafayette Camp #6, Gainesville Chapter – Inactive

7. Nathan Hale Camp #7, Pensacola Chapter – Chris Washler, Commander
 17 May 2024 – Compatriot Washler participated in the FLSSAR Fall BOM CG
 19 July 2024 – Compatriot Washler participated in the CG for the Commemoration and Plaque Dedication at Historic Christ Church in Alexandria, VA as part of the 250th Anniversary of the Fairfax Resolves
 19 September 2024 – Compatriots Washler, Matrone, and Matthews participated in the N.B. Cook Elementary History night.
8. Nathaniel Green Camp #8, Saramana Chapter – Steve Fields, Commander
 No Report Submitted.
9. Thomas Paine Camp #9, Miami Chapter – David Mitchel, Commander
 No Report Submitted.
10. Daniel Morgan Camp #10, Central Florida Chapter – Philip Markoe, Commander
 No Report Submitted.
11. Thomas Jefferson Camp #11, Withlacoochee Chapter – Bob Thomas, Commander
 2nd Quarter Activities Report for May, June, July and August 2024
 May 3 - ROTC Awards
 May 8 - ROTC Awards
 May 15 - Post Flags Bushnell Cemetery Florida
 May 27th - Post Wreath Memorial Program Floral City Florida
 June 1 - Remove Flags Bushnell Florida Cemetery
 July 4 - Post Flags 4th of July Riverhaven Village Homosassa Florida
 Aug 9th - (Scheduled) Post Flags for two programs Citrus Co Back to school Teachers meeting.
12. General Thomas Sumter Camp #12, Lake Sumter Chapter – Inactive
13. Bernardo de Galvez Camp #13, Naples Chapter – Jim Meerpohl, Commander
 No Report Submitted.
14. Hillsborough River Camp #14, Tampa Chapter – Dick Young, Commander
 Even though the Tampa Chapter suspended meetings for the summer, the Color Guard stayed busy. We participated in the following events:
 - o May 27 - Memorial Day Service at American Legion Post #5 USS Tampa, in Tampa
 - o Jun 04 – Welcome Home to Honor Flight #50 at the St Petersburg/Clearwater Airport
 - o Jun 14 – Presented the Colors at the annual Flag Day meeting of the DAR DeSoto Chapter at the Tampa Yacht Club in Tampa
 - o Jul 04 – Independence Day in Safety Harbor, FL marching with the Military Vehicle Preservation Association
 - o Sep 10 - Welcome Home to Honor Flight #51 at the St Petersburg/Clearwater Airport

The following Tampa Chapter members participated in some or all of these events: Dick Young (Commander), Robbie Robinson, Will Wagner-Hart, Matt Balencie, Dwight Hamborsky, Terry Doan, Joe Dato, Bill Swain and David Bryant. We were often joined by members of the Clearwater Chapter: Walter Arnold, Rob Moore, Tim Shaner and Warren Wilson.

In addition, President Robbie Robinson and Matthew Balencie participated in the Commemoration of the Battle of Blue Licks in Carlisle, KY on August 17 and Commander Dick Young was part of the Florida SAR Color Guard at the DAR Fall Forum in Orlando on September 7.
15. General Lighthouse Harry Lee Camp #15, Caloosa Chapter – Jeff Brunelle, Commander
 No Report Submitted.
16. Gabriel Long Camp #16, St. Petersburg Chapter – Inactive
17. Lake City Chapter Outpost #17, Lake City Chapter – Charles Millican, Commander

The Lake City chapter had two members participate in the Lake City Independence Day parade. They were in uniform.

18. Lakeland Chapter Outpost #18, Lakeland Chapter – Inactive
19. USS Alliance Camp #19, Charlotte Chapter – Noel Reese, Commander
No Report Submitted.
20. William Dunaway Chapter Outpost #20, William Dunaway Chapter – Matt Mathews, Commander
Nothing to report.
21. Panama City Chapter Outpost #21, Panama City Chapter – Brad Marble, Commander
April 28, 2024; ‘Five Patriot Grave Marking’ at Midway Church Cemetery, Georgia, V.P. Benny Raffield and Registrar Harry L. Rinker participated in Color Guard under Nat’l Society SAR Commander K. Scott Collins and presented the FLSSAR Panama City Chapter Wreath.
May 10, 2024, Friday; “Battle of Pensacola” participation by Chapter Vice President Benny Raffield. Activities included presenting colors at the opening event, a service at Basilica St. Michael, Luncheon at the Pensacola Yacht Club, and completing with a SAR/DAR Program laying wreaths at Veterans Memorial Park. Due to illness, Marble was absent.
June 29, 2024; “The Battle of Alligator Creek Bridge” Ceremony in Callahan, Florida with Marble and Raffield participating in the Color Guard and Wreath Presentation.
August 17, 2024, Saturday, 10:00 A.M.; “The 242nd Anniversary of the Battle of Blue Licks Memorial Service” (which includes a ‘Five Patriot Grave Marking’) at Blue Licks Battlefield State Resort Park, 10299 Maysville Road, Carlisle, Kentucky. Raffield participated in the Color Guard with the Florida State Flag and presented the FLSSAR Panama City Chapter Wreath. Marble in Color Guard uniform took many video shorts of Color Guard, Militia, and Ceremony. All videos copied and sent to Scott Giltner of the Governor Isaac Chapter, KYSSAR and some posted at Facebook.
August 18, 2024, Sunday; ‘Five Patriots Grave Marking’ at Bethel Presbyterian Church Cemetery, 4620 Bethel Road, Lexington, Kentucky, sponsored by the Lafayette Chapter KYSSAR. Raffield participated in the Color Guard with the Florida State Flag and presented the Panama City Chapter Wreath. Marble in CG Uniform took many short videos and later posted videos on Facebook. NSSAR Commander K. Scott Collins presented his Challenge Coin to Marble for participation in previous NSSAR events & video efforts.
September 7, 2024, Saturday; At 6:00 PM, Marble and Raffield participation at the FSSDAR 54th Annual Fall Forum at the Omni Orlando Hotel Resort, Champions Gate, Florida, with another 13 compatriots of the FLSSAR ‘Sons of Liberty Brigade’ Color Guard presenting the Colors at the FSSDAR Jubilee Banquet Ceremony.

22. Highlands Chapter Outpost #22, Highlands Chapter – James Dean, Commander
No Report Submitted.

23. Samuel Nicholas Camp #23, Ft Lauderdale Chapter – Chuck Adams, Commander
The Fort Lauderdale Chapter formed its Color Guard on May 19, 2023. The initial subscribers to the Samuel Nicholas Camp #23 Color Guard are Compatriots: Chuck Adams, Thomas Carpenter Jr, Steve DePaul, Tim McLane, Mark Snider, and Kevin Shurte. Subsequently, Compatriots Paul Moore (Dec 16, 2023), James Clark (May 25, 2024) & Braeden Shurte (Jul 26, 2024) have joined the camp.

<u>Events</u>	<u>Participants</u>
Chapter Mtg, Posting of Colors, May 25, 2024	Clark, DePaul, McLane, K Shurte, & Snider
Memorial Day Parade, May 27, 2024	Adams, DePaul, McLane, B Shurte, K Shurte
Honor Flight Ft Lauderdale, Jun 1, 2024	Adams, Clark, DePaul, McLane, B Shurte & K Shurte
Chapter Mtg, Posting of Colors, Jun 15, 2024	Adams, Carpenter, Clark, DePaul, McLane, K Shurte, Snider
Battle of Alligator Bridge, Jun 29, 2024	K. Shurte
Biltmore Hotel July 4 th Event, Coral Gables	Adams, Moore & K Shurte
134 th National Congress, Lancaster PA	
• 250 Bench Dedication at York, PA	K Shurte
• Memorial Program	DePaul & K Shurte
• Rumbaugh Oration Program	K Shurte
• PG Awards Banquet	K Shurte
• Installation Banquet	DePaul & K Shurte
Honor Flight Ft Lauderdale, Sep 7, 2024	Adams, DePaul, Moore, B. Shurte, Snider
Chapter Mtg, Posting of Colors, Sep 21, 2024	Adams, DePaul, McLane, Moore, B Shurte, K Shurte, Snider
Honor Flight W Palm Beach, Sep 21, 2024	McLane, B Shurte, K Shurte, Snider
FLSSAR BOM Fall Forum, Kissimmee	Planned: Adams, DePaul, K Shurte & Snider

24. Swamp Fox Camp #24, Okeechobee Chapter – Brian Bray, Commander
Presentation of colors at community Memorial Day service (May 27, 2024)
25. John Parker Camp #25, Daytona-Ormond Chapter – Ken Nunnelley, Commander
Newly established on 11/18/2024.

Liaisons

C.A.R. and Junior Members Liaison

(C.A.R. and SAR Junior Members Aide Liaison Committee)

Scott Cook, Chairman

No report submitted.

DAR Liaison

Phil Markoe, Chairman

This committee of 9 met on 9/4/2024 at 7pm via Zoom call and is comprised of the following members:

- Phil Markoe, Chairman (Central Florida Chapter);
- Hamp Allen (Caloosa Chapter);
- Jeff Brunelle (Caloosa Chapter);
- Bill Elder (Daytona-Ormond Beach Chapter);
- Jim Gaskins (Jacksonville Chapter);
- Doug Gibbens (Naples Chapter);
- Robin Preston (Central Florida Chapter);
- Kevin Shurte (Fort Lauderdale Chapter);
- Dick Young (Tampa Chapter)

DAR Fall Forum

On Friday, 9/6/2024 the SAR set up office in the DAR's Pineapple Promenade at the Omni Orlando Resort at Championsgate. 2 tables were manned by 3 DAR Liaison Committee members from 8am-4pm to assist any one wishing to sign up family members into the SAR or DAR. This year with help from the Education Outreach Committee, new QR code technology was added to our SAR contest materials allowing safe and easy access via cell phone.

On Saturday, 9/7/2024 both tables were manned by 5 SAR members from 8am-4pm. A statewide challenge was made by the DAR Liaison Committee to assemble the largest color guard at a Florida Society DAR forum. We achieved this goal with the help of Scott Breckenridge by mustering a total of 14 color guard members to present the colors at their banquet. The DAR Liaison Committee also offered a special gift to any participant who volunteered for color guard duty.

The DAR Liaison Committee plans to reconvene again in January, 2025.

FLSSAR Ladies Auxiliary Liaison

Hampton Allen, Chairman

Nothing to report.

Historic Sites

Historic Sites & Celebrations

Chris Washler, Chairman

The Historic Sites and Celebrations Committee responsibilities include not only supporting the several battlefield celebrations already having national recognition, expanding recognition of historic sites in Florida, but also actively engaging in helping chapters and the State Society create and promote activities celebrating the 250th Anniversary Program.

This year, the Historic Sites and Celebrations committee has set three primary goals for the committee:

- 1) Reach the milestone of 100 America 250 Gold Medals for FLSSAR Compatriots
- 2) Build a ‘History of the Revolution in Florida’ product that tells the history of our 4 Revolutionary War battles.
- 3) Build greater support across the region and National Society for all of our battle commemorations. (This effort will include trying to get the battles featured on an episode of NSSAR’s podcast, “Revolutionary War Rarities.”)

Dates for the Established Battlefield Celebrations in 2025 are:

Last Naval Battle – 15 March 2025 (VMC Merritt Island)

Thomas Creek – 29 March 2025 (Seaton Creek Historic Park Preserve)

Battle of Pensacola – 9 May 2025 (Pensacola)

If local chapters have other historic celebrations that they are hosting or establishing (including Liberty Tree dedications), they are encouraged to contact the Committee Chair at cwashler@outlook.com so that our committee can help promote those events throughout the year.

One upcoming event that the committee is aware of is the St. Augustine Chapter Liberty Tree Dedication on 8 February.

America 250 Celebrations

The Historic Sites and Celebrations Committee is taking an active role in helping the state Society and local Chapters establish and promote programs that celebrate and promote the 250th Anniversary of the founding of our country.

America’s 250th Anniversary is an amazing opportunity for the Sons of the American Revolution to live out our Mission Statement in our communities. Local chapters should take advantage of the opportunity to be front and center in leading the celebrations of our nation’s founding. During the Fall BOM, we had a one-hour session that gave an overview of the America 250 program and the various ways that SAR chapters can engage in this. We will be doing another session on Saturday morning for the Spring BOM/Annual Meeting. Additionally, there will be more discussion and guidance around how to earn the America 250 medals and streamers! If your chapter has any questions about the America 250 program, reach out to Historic Sites and Celebrations Committee Chairman, Chris Washler.

Battle of Alligator Bridge, 2024, Callahan FL

The annual Battle of Alligator Bridge Event was held on June 29, 2024, at Callahan, Fl. Community Building and West Nassau Historical Society location. This is a FLSSAR and Jacksonville SAR Chapter event. Our Chapter Member and Florida State President Compatriot James Gaskins was in attendance and declared this a 250 Event with all requirements met for said declaration. Alligator Bridge is presently classified as a state event and with hopes to evolve to a National Event. We had 83 registered attendees for the event, and we think we exceeded that number. Many attendees did not stay for the BBQ Luncheon and failed to sign up, but all chairs were occupied for the program with furnished seating numbered over 100 chairs. In attendance were representatives of DAR, BSA, CAR, SAR, (Jax. Chapter, Florida State, Georgia State with multiple Chapter representatives). Colonial Dames were to be represented but due to a funeral conflict were not able to make it but pledged to be there in 2025. Of significant note is that Compatriot Kenneth Scott Collins, the SAR National Color Guard Commander was present and took command of the Color Guard along with State Color Guard Commander Scott Breckenridge. The result was a great and memorably performance by the Color Guard. This included an impressive Colors Presentation with our Chapter Compatriot Fred Emery’s rendition of the Star-Spangled Banner accompanied by the group, The Freedom Singers. The Freedom Singers performed multiple patriotic songs to include a resounding rendition of Lee Greenwood’s GOD BLESS THE USA. A black Powder Salute was performed by Commander Scott and other Georgia Compatriots. Florida members could not participate due to insurance issues but hope to be able to fire in future local events. Taps was played by Compatriot Fred Emery after the Black Powder Salute. Twenty-Four SAR Color Guard Members participated in the event. Attendees enjoyed a presentation by Professor Peter Mullen titled, OUR FLORIDA HERITAGE. The presentation was a walk-through Florida History with emphasis on Battle of Alligator Bridge and Thomas Creek. Many organizations from Florida, Georgia, and other locations presented wreaths in honor of our Patriot Ancestors. The Commemoration ended with a BBQ Luncheon enjoyed by most attendees. Members of the West Nassau Historical Society, our facility host, along with Nassau County officials and Callahan City Officials were in attendance. Due to the excessive heat, we did have a heat induced medical event but ended well with onsite and summoned medical care. Due to the high possibility of this type of occurrence in late June, EXCOM is looking for alternative solutions for 2025. Many THANKS to The Freedom Singers, Professor Mullen, City of Callahan, WNHS, Florida and Georgia Color Guard Participants, Jacksonville Chapter Members, and all attendees who contributed to a successful event.

Battle of Pensacola Committee

Chris Washler, Chairman

The Battle of Pensacola Commemoration for 2025 will once again be held in conjunction with Pensacola's Galvez Day Celebration on 9 May 2025 in downtown Pensacola. This year's celebration will start with the SAR Color Guard Parade of Colors from Fort George on Palafox Street down to the Galvez Monument to open the Galvez Day ceremonies. Planning is currently in the early stages with the City of Pensacola and other historic partner organizations. Please check the Pensacola Chapter website for the most current information as it becomes available (<http://pensacolasar.org/chapter-programs/battle-of-pensacola-commemoration/>).

Battle of Thomas Creek Committee

David Ramseur, Chairman

As reported in the May Annual BOM Report, our 247th Anniversary of the Battle of Thomas Creek held on March 23rd, 2024 was another great National Color Guard event with over 100 in attendance. However, as mentioned, we were able to secure a large local hotel meeting room for our ceremony at the airport - due to bad weather.

We are looking forward to next year's ceremony on Saturday 29 March 2025 at the Seaton Creek Historic Park and if the weather is bad again they have agreed to allow us to use their meeting room again. (see flyer in Appenix B)

Thanks, for all the SAR, DAR and C.A.R. and guests support in commemorating this Southernmost Battle of the American Revolution.

First Amphibious Assault Memorial

(First Amphibious Assault Memorial Committee)

Steve DePaul, Chairman

No report submitted.

MOTION

The First Amphibious Assault Memorial Committee moved to approve changes to the committee charter as presented.

PASSED

Last Naval Battle

(Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution Committee)

Joel Etherton, Chairman

No report submitted.

Youth Programs

Americanism Youth Contests

David Hitchcock, Chairman

We had a total of seven entries in the Poster contest and four entries for the Brochure contest.

Poster:

1st prize	2nd Prize	3rd Prize
Scarlett Taylor	Rosemary Gabriel	Zion Havlykke
Withlacoochee Ch	Central Florida Ch	Caloosa Ch

Brochure Contest:

1st prize	2nd Prize	3rd Prize
Gianna F Manns	Ezrah Hogsed	Nashaly Soto
Fort Lauderdale Ch.	Caloosa Ch	Lake-Sumpter Ch

This year we have some changes 1st the chapter winners for both the Poster and Brochure Contest must fill out the form provided. By May 1st 2nd I have sent the current information to Each RVP and I have sent a request to each chapter president to give me the

names and email address of each Chapters Americanism (Poster and Brochure Contest) chairman , They will receive any updates as we get them.

Our goal this year is to receive 20 Poster and Brochure submittals we have a mission statement

The Sons of the American Revolution honors our Revolutionary War Patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities and education and inspiring future generations about The Founding Fathers of our Country

Compatriots we have approximately 30 Chapters there is no reason we can't be the top State in the country with all the State contests. All we need to do is change the last four letters in American to we can

Eagle Scout Scholarship Committee

David Bryant, Chairman

There are no changes to report from the Eagle Scout Award Committee. I have sent a reminder to all the Chapters to encourage them to promote the contest and have their local winner forwarded to us for consideration **before the deadline of January 15, 2025**. Our committee will evaluate all the entries and select the State winner who will be submitted to the National competition. The Florida website has been updated and information to apply can be found at: [Arthur M. & Berdena King Eagle Scout Contest – National Society Sons of the American Revolution \(sar.org\)](https://www.sar.org/Florida/Arthur-M.-Berdena-King-Eagle-Scout-Contest-National-Society-Sons-of-the-American-Revolution)

History Fairs

Jonathan Hunt, Chairman

Due to conflicting schedules the committee has been unable to meet by Zoom.

Knight Essay Contest

(George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest Committee)

Hampton E. Allen, Jr., Chairman

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 closest FLSSAR Chapter to their location (Chapter locations and points of contact can be found on the FLSSAR website at [flssar.org](https://www.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 1st - \$6,000; 2nd - \$3,000; 3rd - \$2,000; 4th - \$500; and 5th - \$500. See SAR.ORG for complete details.

Rumbaugh Orations Contest

(Joseph P. Rumbaugh Orations Contest Committee)

Tom Bowen, Chairman

The Rumbaugh Oration Contest deadline will be December 31, 2024. This will give adequate time to judge entries and get the contestant winners to State and National. Please review the contestant forms and requirements posted in the SAR National website. You can find it by simply punching in "Rumbaugh Oration" on the search engine. There are nine pages to be reviewed. This contest has the most stringent requirements of all the youth contests. A video of your Chapter contest winner must be included with your entry packet. It would be wise to get your entry forms to me prior to December 31, 2024 so I can review them for accuracy and completeness. If you have any questions please email me at captteb035@gmail.com.

ROTC / JROTC Committee

Dale Bottom - Chairman

Following the May Board of Managers meeting, President Gaskins appointed the 2024/2025 ROTC Committee. The Committee consists of Rene Jewett, Miami Chapter; Doug Gibbens, Naples Chapter; Bill Hayes, Lake-Sumter Chapter, Bob McGuire, Charlotte Chapter; Jonathan Hunt, Caloosa Chapter; and Dale Bottom, Brevard Chapter; as Chairman.

President Gaskins asked the Committee to provide him with the Committee's 2024/2025 goals. The Committee agreed on the following goals:

1. Determine the high schools in Florida offering JROTC and colleges and universities offering ROTC.
2. Identify any chapters that have a school offering JROTC and ROTC in their area that are supporting them with medals or other activities. Encourage chapter leadership to consider including ROTC support for any Senior ROTC programs in their area.
3. Encourage chapter JROTC leadership to contact the Primary Military Officer in each high school, offering their support.
4. Encourage every chapter to support every JROTC program in their designated chapter area. If it is not possible to have a presenter available for a JROTC Awards Program, at a minimum, provide a Bronze Medal and Certificate to be presented by the school.
5. Create a database, as it were, of Florida JROTC high schools and ROTC colleges and universities by Chapter location.
6. Emphasize the Senior ROTC program in colleges and universities. The various services rely on these programs for officers.
7. Encourage chapters to promote the Enhanced JROTC program. Participation dropped off during COVID and is slow to come back. In 2022/2023, seven Florida chapters entered a cadet in the Enhanced Program. In 2023/2024 there were only 3. With the number of great JROTC programs in Florida, we must do better than that. We should have a goal of at least 10 entrants. Florida has cadets that are the best and brightest in JROTC programs that are also among the best in the country and we should showcase them. In 2022/2023, the first-place winner in the State, from the Tampa Chapter, won National. The second-place winner, from Brevard Chapter, was so outstanding, he too would have won over all other state entries in the National Contest! Florida Society has had National Winners and National high placement candidates in past years and should continue to do so in the future.

The Committee's first effort has been to identify every JROTC and ROTC program in Florida Schools. So far as we can ascertain, there are: 170 Army, 77 Navy, 74 Air Force, 16 Marine Corps and 2 Coast Guard JROTC high school programs, for a total of 339 in Florida. Nineteen colleges and universities offer Army, Navy and Air Force Senior ROTC programs. Some may offer one program, some two and some all three. Their reach is extended to many more colleges and universities as they serve as hosts for other nearby schools' students that do not have Senior ROTC available.

The second effort has been to identify the Chapter Area in which the high schools offering JROTC programs are located. All thirty-two Florida SAR chapters have at least one JROTC program in their area. Using geography and guessing, the Committee developed a draft list of programs reasonably expected to be within each chapter area.

Each chapter's draft list was sent to the leadership of the respective chapter, asking them to confirm, correct or modify what was indicated for their chapter. About half of the chapters have confirmed their schools. If your chapter has not confirmed its list, we ask chapter leadership or the JROTC liaison do so. When that is achieved and the list is updated, we will have a complete list of JROTC/ROTC program by chapter area.

There are two "orphan" JROTC schools. The Committee is seeking a "home" for these programs, or another solution to make certain they receive SAR support.

Several Chapters support Sea Cadet programs and a small number also support the Civil Air Patrol and Young Marine programs. While organized differently from the JROTC, both programs provide similar leadership development opportunities and a wholesome environment for the personal growth of our youth to become better citizens.

The National ROTC Committee has recently approved a minor change in the rules of the Enhanced JROTC Program. The requirement that a cadet must be in the top 25% of his or her student body class is no longer absolute. The cadet now must be in the

“top 25% of his or her class or have a non-weighted 3.5 GPA in a 4.0 curriculum”. The reason for this change was that there have been situations in which a very qualified nominee, in a very high-level high school, did not meet the 25% of his or her student body class hurdle. It was determined that a high GPA in those schools provided adequate evidence of sufficiently high academic achievement.

National award levels have also been increased as follows; 1st Place \$6,000 (plus \$1,500 travel expense); 2nd Place \$3,000; 3rd Place \$1,000; 4th Place \$500; 5th Place \$500. All other rules remain the same.

The Nomination Form on the website will be revised to reflect this change. Meantime, these changes have been communicated to all Florida SAR chapters by the ROTC Committee so they can be passed on to the Military Leadership in the JROTC school programs.

The Committee recognizes there are many demands on the time and efforts of Chapter leadership. The ROTC Committee appreciates your commitment to and support of the ROTC/JROTC and other Youth Programs.

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please contact any member of the ROTC Committee.

Community Outreach

Habitat for Humanity Committee

Ron Grove, Chairman

I have not received any notices of flag presentations but very pleased to say that The Villages chapter will be participating. The Villages charter school established a construction academy a couple years ago and as part of that program they assist H4H in home building. This school year they will build 2 and The Villages SAR Chapter plans to present flags at those dedications. This is a great program we have and I surely wish all our chapters would participate. Contact your local H4H and I am sure they will welcome you to their next dedication. By participating you get great exposure for the SAR and it costs so little in time and money. The nice flag kits about around \$30 and the ETF will reimburse you 75% of your cost. In Lake and Sumter counties those dedications are well attended and usually include dignitaries. And usually food! If you are not now participating, please consider it.

Patriotic Activities Committee

Jonathan Hunt, Chairman

Since the committee is comprised of just the Chairman, I'd like to encourage any/all Compatriot to join. During the Summer break I've been reaching out to Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion Post across southwest Florida. When talking to the Commander it's been alarming of how many don't realize the 250th is upon us. This is hopefully opening doors for some joint participation.

Public Service and Heroism

Jerry Hanchett, Chairman

The Public Service and Heroism Committee (PS&H) recognizes and honors citizens and individuals in our public service sectors of Law Enforcement, Fire Safety, and Emergency Medical Services for their contributions to the community and for heroic acts with a commendation and medal. States, chapters and commendation recipients are recognized in a booklet published and distributed at the National Congress each July.

The State-level PS&H Committee exists to publicize the committee's function to the states' local chapters and to encourage their participation. Awards presented are reported to the National-level PS&H Committee and the State-level society by filling out an on-line form. All Commendations should be reported prior to June 1, to ensure inclusion in the PS&H Committee Commendation booklet for distribution at the July NSSAR Congress. The fillable on-line [Public Service & Heroism Report Form PDF](#) forms may be found here. Some browsers use a default application to read PDF files and you may need to specify that the file be "opened" with the Adobe Reader application.

Note: Be certain to use the most current version of Adobe Reader for this form, as some web browsers have proprietary PDF readers that do not work with this form. Save and rename the file identifying your Chapter and name on your computer. Do not fill out the blank form on the above links. After saving the blank reporting form to your computer, open from your computer and fill out the form completely. Use the second button-bar at the top, right-side of the form labeled "Click to Save and Email," to save the completed form to your computer and simultaneously send the completed form to the PS&H Committee. If you do not receive a receipt confirmation

of the completed form in 3-4 days, contact the chairman of the PS&H Committee. One should also send the completed reporting form to their State PS&H chairman

This program is an excellent way to recognize deserving individuals in our community and the public sector. We do suggest that those individuals, in the public sector of Law Enforcement, Fire Safety, and Emergency Medical Services, who are being considered for a Heroism Commendation, be previously recognized by their division head for their heroism. Department heads generally welcome the opportunity to recommend deserving individuals for recognition. The commendations may be presented at either chapter meetings, departmental meetings, or other suitable events. The presentation of NSSAR commendations is an excellent means by which our Society can receive recognition and broaden our exposure and recruitment of potential new members. This program is also an excellent vehicle for publicity. The presentation of PS&H commendations at chapter and state meetings should be noted and reported by local media optimally; however, the recipient may elect not to have the commendation published for privacy concerns. Questions about the National SAR Public Service and Heroism Committee may be directed to a state's representative or the current chairman of the Public Service and Heroism Committee.

Publicity Committee

Jeff Sizemore, Chairman

The stated deadline each year for the Marlin Publicity Contest is March 1, 2025. Please send in the form digitally and if paper proofs are needed, it will be requested thereafter. The details and updated form of the Marlin Publicity contest can be found on the FLSSAR website later this year. All submittals are to be sent to the email address above.

American History Teacher Award

(Tom & Betty Lawrence American History Teacher Award Committee)

Kevin Shurte, Chairman

Following the 2024 Spring BOM, newly-elected FLSSAR President James Gaskins expanded the committee appointing three new members – Ronald Grove, Benjamin Tidwell III, and Hampton Allen, Jr. The committee met via Zoom on August 2, 2024, to discuss administration of the program for the coming year. Specific points of discussion included the 2025 committee budget, contest submission deadline, scoring rubric, and contest promotions.

The committee drafted, voted on, and submitted a 2025 budget proposal for \$1900 to State Treasurer Walter Arnold on August 4, 2025. This proposal includes \$500 cash awards for first-place winners of the middle and high school contests. The budget also extends cash prizes of \$250 and \$100 to the second and third place winners respectively. This extension is consistent with the newly-announced NSSAR policy that affords cash prizes to second and third place winners at both contest levels. The committee would allocate the remaining \$200 in the budget to cover Youth Luncheon meal expenses at the Spring 2025 BOM for the first-place contest winners and their plus-ones.

In accordance with its charter, the committee reviewed the 2025 calendar and established a submission deadline for the coming year. The committee approved that Chairman Kevin R. Shurte must receive all chapter entry packets that include the application, release form, 500-1000 word essay, and letter of recommendation on or before midnight on Friday, January 3, 2025. State Secretary Scott Breckenridge posted this new submission date under the Reporting tab on the FLSSAR member homepage.

For scoring contest entries, the committee agreed to continue use of the existing scoring rubric that considered the quality of the essay, curriculum vitae, and letter(s) of recommendation. However, new directives from NSSAR Education Outreach specify that essays are to be judged on the following five criteria:

1. Unique or innovative approach
2. Student excitement
3. Collaboration
4. Outside related activities
5. Goal for attending the conference.

In accordance with the National guidelines, greater value is to be afforded to criteria 1 and 5. Therefore, these new scoring guidelines will be implemented this contest year.

Hoping to increase interest and grow chapter participation in this program, the committee agreed to implement new promotional policies. The first change was the aforementioned restructuring of the prize matrix through the amended 2025 budget proposal. Secondly, members coordinated with the FLSSAR Education Outreach Committee to distribute chapter contest packets that promoted the various Education Outreach Scholarship Programs including the Tom & Betty Lawrence American History Teacher Award. Chapter presidents statewide received these packets via email and U.S. Mail. The committee also reached out to Secretary

Breckenridge who updated the FLSSAR website to include current contest information and uploaded the contest guidelines, application, and informational flyer under the Education/Youth tab on the public homepage.

According to our SAR Mission Statement, one goal of our society is “educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our Country.” Last year only nine percent of Florida chapters participated in this teacher outreach program. Today’s teachers are a valuable conduit through which we can reach today’s students and tomorrow’s leaders. We challenge your chapter to identify, recognize, and reward one deserving teacher from your area “who distinguishes themselves in teaching the history of the American Revolution” (nssar.org).

To find out more about this contest, please visit the following links or reach out to Committee Chairman, Kevin R. Shurte @ kevinshurte2009@comcast.net.

<https://www.sar.org/wp-content/uploads/Revised-New-Rules-for-Contest-Year-2024.pdf>

<https://www.sar.org/wp-content/uploads/American-History-Teacher-Chapter-State-Society-Instructions-2024.pdf>

https://www.flssar.org/Docs/Forms/American_History_Teacher_Award_Flyer.pdf

Veterans Affairs Committee

Doug Gibbens, Chairman

1. 2024-2025 Committee members:

CSM W. Douglas Gibbens, Chairman
Donald K. Lanman, Veterans Recognition Director
COL Patrick J. Niemann, Member
Philip Markoe, Member
Charles Hayes, Member
DeCody “Brad” Marble, Member
Jonathan Hunt, Member
Mark Snyder, Member

2. USS Stark Memorial Award

The USS Stark Memorial Award recognizes outstanding chapters and state societies for their support of veterans. This activity is taken from the proper submission of the USS Stark Scoring Sheet. This is the only form recognized. Submission in any other form is not accepted.

A USS Stark Tracking Sheet is available to download from the national website to enable chapters to track throughout the year, their Veterans activities. Chapters are encouraged to use this form to the fullest. If this form is used throughout the year, then completing the 2024 USS Stark Scoring Sheet will be simple.

3. FLSSAR Veterans Battalion Membership has increased by 20 to 722. The breakdown by region is as follows:

Northeast Region – 111
Northwest Region – 57
North Central Region – 97
East Central Region – 83
West Central Region – 136
Southeast Region – 78
Southwest Region – 166
Florida Battalion – 728

This represents more than 25% of our total Florida membership

4. **The Veterans Affairs Committee** continues to encourage Chapters to expand the membership both the *FLSSAR Veterans Battalion* and *NSSAR Veterans Corps* with Compatriots who served honorably in the armed forces. Chapter Presidents are encouraged to promote the Veterans Battalion program. Presidents and Registrar should always ask a new member if they are a Veteran, and if so, they should ask for a copy of their DD214 or other proof of service and submit the new member to both the FLSSAR and the NSSAR for their awards. There is no cost for this recognition, and it gives another opportunity to all a new member to the front of your meeting with another recognition.

Trust Funds

ETF Disbursements

(Endowment Trust Fund Disbursements Committee)

Matt Mathews, Chairman

We are coming to a close for filing by the end of October.

- Processed 15 ETF's totaling \$5,609.51, approved and distributed to the chapters
- Processing 8 ETF's requesting \$2,627.63, pending completion for approval's

Last year as a reminder \$18,902 was disbursed, we are way behind. Please do not wait till the end to file for reimbursements!

Endowment Trust Fund

Operating Budget Trust Fund

(Florida SAR Endowment and Operating Budget Trust Funds)

Lee Popham (185977), 1/1/2022 – 12/31/2024

Jonathan Hunt, 1/1/2023 – 12/31/2025

Jim Stone (187805), 1/1/2024 – 12/31/2026

No report submitted.

Jeff Brunelle was nominated to fill the Trust Fund Trustee position currently held by Lee Popham and ending on 12/31/2024. Jeff Brunelle was elected unanimously.

New Business

MOTION

Steve Hohman moved to create a new ad-hoc committee to oversee the Youth Video Contest, with members Steve Hohman (chairman), Doug Gibbens, Kevin Shurte, and Phil Markoe. Second by Steve Fields.

PASSED

Appendix A – Proposed Changes to the Standing Rules and Procedures.

Section 100 (Members)

Section 100, Regular Members, presently reads as follows:

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

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

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

Justification:

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

Section 100, Dual Members, presently reads as follows:

A member in good standing may transfer to any other state society, subject to the acceptance of that body. Transfer forms are available from state societies, National Headquarters, or the NSSAR web site. The Transfer form is sent to National Headquarters for registration once it is signed by the secretary of the state society of current affiliation and the secretary of the state society to which transfer is desired.

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

Move to Section 100, Regular Members.

Justification:

This does not only apply to Dual members.

Section 100, Dual Members, presently reads as follows:

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

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

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

Justification:

The method of payment need not be specified.

Section 105 (Regional Vice President)

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

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

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

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

Justification:

BOM Meetings are no longer held quarterly.

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

Upon election to office at the Annual Meeting of the State Society, the State Secretary will provide each RVP with...
7. A supply of up-to-date FLSSAR letterhead and envelopes or templates.

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

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

Justification:

We no longer send letters.

Section 107 (Treasurer)

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

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

Proposed Amended Section 107, 7, revised as follows:

Remove this item.

Justification:

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

Section 110 (Registrar)

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

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

Proposed Amended Section 110, 1, revised as follows:

Move this sentence to Section 106 (Secretary).

Justification:

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

Section 122 (Vice President General South Atlantic District)

Section 122, presently reads (in part) as follows:

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

Proposed Amended Section 122, revised as follows:

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

Justification:

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

Section 123 (Fund Management)

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

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

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

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

Justification:

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

Section 500 (Rules of Protocol)

Section 500, Requests for Visits By the President General, presently reads as follows:

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

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

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

Justification:

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

Section 500, Wearing Medals, presently reads as follows:

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

Proposed Amended Section 500, Wearing Medals, revised as follows:

1. Rename heading to "Color Guard Wearing Medals"

Justification:

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

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

Justification:

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

Section 502 (Registration and Hospitality Room)

Section 502, A.1, Regular or Special BOM Weekend, presently reads as follows:

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

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

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

Justification:

This is no longer the "Blue Book".

Appendix B – Commemoration of the Battle of Thomas Creek

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

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

Appendix C – Cash Receipts and Disbursements / Budget

Florida Society Budget Comparison	8	12		
Year Ending December 31, 2024 & 2025	2024 YTD	2024	2024	Operating
Statement of Activities (aka P/L)	August	Yr End	Budget	Budget
Cash Receipts:	Actual	Projection		2025
Annual Dues:				
Prepaid Nat'l				
Dues Collections, Current Year	\$38,028.00	\$38,028.00	\$37,500.00	\$38,160.00
Dues Collections, Next Year	\$0.00			
Patriot Magazine Subscription:	\$0.00			
Prepaid in December	\$1,296.00	\$1,296.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
2024 Collection	\$12.00			
Operating Budget Trust Fund	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Registrar Receipts/Application Fees	\$10,542.50	\$15,800.00	\$12,500.00	\$15,800.00
Reinstatements	\$1,310.00	\$1,310.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Other Income	\$0.60			
BOM Receipts:	\$0.00			
Registration	\$13,488.00	\$19,388.00	\$16,000.00	\$20,000.00
Room	\$0.00			
Hospitality Room	\$0.00			
Donations:	\$0.00			
ETF	\$0.00			
Meeks Fund	\$50.00	\$50.00		
Other	\$0.00			
National Awards	\$0.00			
LNB Medal Sales	\$0.00			
Patriot Mag Ad Income	\$0.00			
Discontinued Chapter Cash	\$0.00			
Cash Transfer into Checking	\$0.00			
CD Interest Income	\$0.00			
Carry Over From Prior Year	\$274.00	\$274.00	\$274.00	
Congress, Total	\$0.00			
Total Receipts	\$65,001.10	\$81,146.00	\$74,274.00	\$81,960.00
Total Cash Expenses	\$57,022.72	\$75,072.50	\$76,974.00	\$83,750.00
Net Cash Surplus/Short Fall ...	\$7,978.38	\$6,073.50	(\$2,700.00)	(\$1,790.00)

2025 Member/Dues Detail			
Total FI Members, 31 Dec 2024 *	2,478		
Non-Pay (E-1, E-2, Jr, Act Dty)	(260)		
Drops	(310)	14.0%	
Est Pay Members 2025	1,908		
State Dues 2025	\$20.00		
FLSSAR Est. Dues 2025	\$38,160.00		
* Base Member number comes from FLSSAR website plus the avg 15 New Members for the remainder of 2024.			

Florida Society Budget Comparison	8	12		
Year Ending December 31, 2024 & 2025	2024 YTD	2024	2024	Operating
Statement of Activities (aka P/L)	August	Yr End	Budget	Budget

Cash Expenses for Admin, Programs & Events:

NSSAR Dues				
Dues Refunds	\$110.00	\$130.00	\$0.00	
Reinstatement Dues	\$900.00	\$900.00	\$1,000.00	
Registrar Stipend	\$3,600.00	\$4,800.00	\$4,800.00	\$4,800.00
Secretary Stipend	\$3,600.00	\$4,800.00	\$4,800.00	\$4,800.00
Exec Admin Stipend	\$3,600.00	\$4,800.00	\$4,800.00	\$4,800.00
Presidents Expenses, Current Year	\$4,218.87	\$6,300.00	\$5,000.00	\$6,000.00
Presidents Expenses Carryover	\$274.00	\$274.00	\$274.00	
Sr VP Expenses, Current Year	\$833.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$3,000.00
Sr VP Expenses, Prior Year	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	
Secretary Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Treasurer Expenses	\$893.61	\$1,340.00	\$100.00	
Registrar Expenses	\$817.39	\$1,200.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,300.00
BOM Expenses:				
Hotel (Meals)	\$14,193.75	\$19,100.00	\$15,000.00	\$20,000.00
Rooms	\$1,471.70	\$2,200.00		
Reclassify Room Charges	(\$1,356.00)	(\$1,356.00)		
BOM Refunds	\$0.00			
Hospitality Room	\$0.00		\$500.00	
Printing, A/V & Other	\$566.69	\$800.00	\$750.00	\$750.00
PG Room	\$0.00		\$300.00	\$500.00
Hotel Deposits	\$0.00			
Americanism/Chapter Challenge	\$0.00		\$100.00	
C.A.R. Committee	\$64.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	
Educational Outreach Committee	\$1,486.16	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00
Florida Veterans Foundation	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Good Citizenship Comm	\$0.00			
Historical Sites Committee	\$0.00		\$200.00	\$200.00
History Fair Comm	\$0.00		\$500.00	
Internet/Computer Expense	\$0.00		\$500.00	\$500.00
Medals & Awards Comm	\$670.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
New Chapter Dev Comm	\$0.00		\$750.00	\$750.00
Newsletters & Period Comm	\$500.00	\$700.00	\$500.00	\$600.00
Other Committee Cost	\$0.00		\$250.00	
Patriot Medal Comm	\$300.76	\$300.76	\$300.00	\$400.00
Patriotic Education	\$0.00			
Publicity Comm	\$500.00	\$525.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Technology Comm	\$0.00			
Veterans Battalion	\$0.00		\$100.00	\$100.00
Website Taskforce	\$359.70			
American His Teacher Comm	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,500.00
Americanism Brochure Contest	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$400.00
Americanism Poster Contest	\$350.00	\$600.00	\$350.00	\$600.00
Eagle Scout Contest	\$2,250.00	\$2,250.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00

Florida Society Budget Comparison
Year Ending December 31, 2024 & 2025

	8	12		
	2024 YTD	2024	2024	Operating
Statement of Activities (aka P/L)	August	Yr End	Budget	Budget
JROTC Contest	\$1,750.00	\$2,250.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Knight Essay Contest	\$1,750.00	\$1,750.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Rumbaugh Oration Contest	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$2,000.00
FSCAR Donation	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
NSSAR Library	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
SAR Museum & Learning Center	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Battle of Pensucola	\$0.00		\$500.00	\$650.00
Battle of Thomas Creek	\$553.74	\$553.74	\$600.00	\$650.00
Last Naval Battle	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$650.00
Bank Charges/Fees	\$15.00	\$30.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
D&O/Liability Insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$3,500.00
Miscellaneous Costs	\$162.10	\$200.00	\$250.00	\$300.00
Quick Books	\$0.00	\$40.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
QB Checks	\$0.00	\$45.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bank Error	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other Postage/Delivery	\$27.20	\$90.00	\$100.00	\$200.00
Patriot Mag Cost	\$3,935.05	\$5,900.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,500.00
Storage Fees	\$2,376.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
Total Cash Expenses	\$57,022.72	\$75,072.50	\$76,974.00	\$83,750.00
Net Cash Surplus/(Short Fall) .	\$7,978.38	\$6,073.50	(\$2,700.00)	(\$1,790.00)

Schedule

Friday, 10/11/2024	Saturday, 10/12/2024
9:00-10:00 - Membership Promotion & Retention (Matt Mathews) 10:00-12:00 - Club Express (Lee Popham) 12:00-2:00 - Ladies Auxiliary Lunch & Meeting (The Cove) 12:00-2:00 - Society of 1812 Meeting (Lee Popham) 2:00-3:00 - RVP Meeting (Chris Washler) 3:00-3:30 - Youth Video Contest (Steve Hohman) 3:30-4:30 - Color Guard Meeting (Scott Breckenridge) open forum	9:00-10:00 - Membership Promotion & Retention (Matt Mathews) 10:00-11:00 - Veterans Affairs Committee (Doug Gibbens) 11:00-11:30 - George Washington Endowment Fund (Steve Hohman) 11:30-12:00 - 250th Anniversary Q&A (Chris Washler) 1:00-4:30 - BOM Meeting (Jim Gaskins) 5:00-6:00 - Reception 6:00-8:00 - Banquet (Cypress 1,2,3)
All meetings are in Cypress 1	
Registration - Friday, 9:00-4:00 - Saturday, 9:00-1:00	
Hospitality Room - 9:30am-11:00am and after Banquet	

Oct 11-12, 2024						
FRIDAY			SATURDAY			
	Mtg Room	Banquet Room	Center Hallway	Mtg Room	Banquet Room	
8:00-8:30			REGISTRATION			
8:30-9:00						
9:00-9:30	Member Promotion and Retention					
9:30-10:00						
10:00-10:30	Club Express					
10:30-11:00						
11:00-11:30						
11:30-Noon						
Noon-1:00	1812 Meeting	Ladies Auxilary Lunch and Meeting		Lunch on your own		
1:00-1:30				BOM Meeting (includes National Candiates Forum)		
1:30-2:00						
2:00-2:30	RVP Meeting					
2:30-3:00						
3:00-3:30	Youth Video Contest					
3:30-4:00	Color Guard Meeting					
4:00-4:30						
4:30-5:00	Dinner on your own				Color Guard Rehearsal	
5:00-5:30					Reception	
5:30-6:00						
6:00-6:30						
6:30-7:00						
7:00-7:30						
7:30-8:00						Banquet
Hospitality Room 107 9:30am - 11:00am and after Banquet						