

Volume 29 March 2023 Number 3

Compatriots, DAR Daughters & Friends,

Meet international award-winning Author & Revolutionary War historian Professor Robert P. Watson, PhD <u>Tuesday March 21</u> @ 12 Noon @ Embassy Suites Hotel 1601 Belvedere Rd. WPB.

Don't wait RSVP Today! This special event fills up fast and enjoy good Fellowship & a wonderful 2-Course Buffet Lunch, 2-Deserts & Beverages @ just \$35 cash/check/credit card @ the door. Invite family & friends too! RSVP using the Online invitation or call Don Lanman, 561-315-5073, dlanman258@aol.com.

#### ~<u>NEWSLETTER CONTENT</u>~

- President's Message
- Feature Article: Death Ships of New York, American Patriot POWs (page 8)
- Pictures, Meeting & Patriotic Events (page 11)
- > 2023 Chapter, State, National Meeting Dates, Topics & Speakers
- Chapter Officers, Committees, Committee Chairmen
- National/State/Chapter Events & Dates
- Presidents Brigade & Chapter Supporters

#### President's Message:

#### Fellow Compatriots, DAR Daughters & Friends...

Our February Luncheon was an overwhelming success with our special guests *George* and *Martha Washington*. We are looking forward to our March 21<sup>st</sup> Chapter meeting where our guest speaker is the international award-winning author, historian and Lynn University professor Dr. Robert Watson.

We're also excited to host the *133rd National SAR Congress* in Orlando beginning on July 14th. Chapter Volunteers are needed for a number of functions so please plan on attending even if it is just for a few days of the Congress. It is a great honor to be hosting this event in Florida and it promises to be one of the most interesting to date.

We also have a number of committee volunteer opportunities within our *Palm Beach Chapter* including Youth Programs, First Responder recognition, Veterans services, Flag Certificate program and many more. Please take the time and step up to help on a committee of particular interest to you.

During February Luncheon *Former President & Chapter Historian, Don Lanman* delivered a great presentation on his *Patriot Ancestor*, *Sargent James Lanman*.

These *Patriot Profiles* will give our members an opportunity to tell us a little about their patriot in written form and, if so inclined, share their profile with all Compatriots at Chapter meetings. This profile, in turn, can be submitted the *NSSAR* for inclusion in its database under the *Patriot Biographical Sketch*.

Don's presentation template can serve as an example for other members to share information on their *Patriot Ancestor(s)*. Don has volunteered to assist any Compatriot with their Patriot Bios.

Regarding our Patriot Ancestors, I attended a genealogy workshop conducted by the *Estahakee Chapter* DAR at the Boca Raton Historical Museum. It was an excellent source of information on identifying Patriot Ancestor(s); plus, I met three potential SAR members who were attending with their wives.

These historical events, *DAR* meetings and related linage venues are a great source of new member prospects. Due to the hard work of Chapter Officers, Compatriots, and DAR referrals, we currently have 175 members with another 9 in the pipeline as we continue to grow in both number and stature.

The *Chapter's 2023 Vision* remains to perpetuate the ideals of our nation's founders, as true and selfless servants of individual Freedom, and a country of laws encapsulated in the *Constitution* and *Bill of Rights* for a republic *Of. By and For the People*.

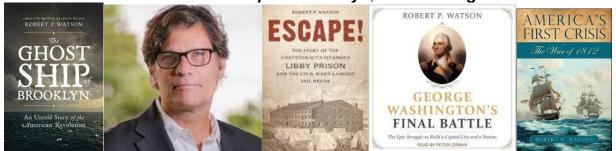
Over 65 Compatriots, DAR Patriots and guests enjoyed guest speakers *George & Martha Washington* at our February Chapter meeting honoring Washington's 291<sup>st</sup> Birthday. SAR and DAR Patriots, Bill & Cara Elder are remarkable Historians—First-

Person interpreters of George and Martha Washington for over 23 years.



Continuing our program of interesting guest speakers, international award-winning **Author & Revolutionary War** historian **Professor Robert P. Watson, PhD** will deliver a powerful presentation on the untold story of the infamous **Ghost Ships of Brooklyn** (see related article page 8).

**Dr. Watson** has published over 45 books and 200 scholarly articles on topics in political and military history including a book on *American Presidents* and *First Ladies*. His recent books include the **Ghost Ships of Brooklyn**, and **Washington's Final Battle**.



The Chapter inducted one new *Junior Compatriot; Kyle J. Peterson*. Compatriot Peterson is also a member of the *Children of the American Revolution, Civil Air Patrol* and recently obtained his *Glider Pilots License*. Welcome aboard Kyle.



The Chapter presented the *SAR-CAR Medal of Appreciation* to *CAR Senior Leader Katy Peterson* in appreciation for her ongoing support of the SAR. Katy is also the proud mother of new Compatriot Kyle Peterson.



Chapter Chaplain/FMR President Ben Tidwell delivered a moving memorial service for Compatriot Edwin A. Ferree who passed in January. Compatriot Ferree was remembered as a devoted Husband, Father, Grandfather, Professional, Civic Volunteer, Huguenot Society member and esteemed PB Chapter SAR Patriot.



**Compatriot & Associate Registrar Pete Miller** won the 50/50 drawing at the February meeting. Pete donated his winnings back to our Chapter on behalf of all Patriots. Thank you, Pete for your great service to the Chapter.



Ongoing Chapter *Veterans Service* programs include providing Volunteers supporting the *West Palm Beach VA Hospital*, *Fisher House*, VA Veterans homeless food projects and serving as an *Ambassador* and supporter of the *Florida Veterans Foundation* providing direct services to Florida's 1.6 Million Veterans.

As an *FVF Ambassador*, the Chapter is supporting *Florida Veterans Foundation Gadsden Flag "Don't Tread on Me" Specialty Florida License Plate*, fundraising program. **\$25** from each license plate sold will benefit Florida Veterans in need. License plates are available online at www.HelpFLVets.org or at local Florida vehicle offices.



Compatriots, volunteers are needed to serve on the *Veterans Service Committee* as we continue supporting the *VA, American Legion*, *FVF* and *VFW*. Contact Don Lanman 561-315-5073 and serve!

As a fundraiser *FLSSAR* is holding a drawing for a limited-edition bronze sculpture titled the "Sons of Liberty" (#10/50) crafted by world famous sculptor James N. Muir. Valued in excess of \$6,000, the drawing tickets are just \$25 each or 5 for \$100. Mail a check to *FLSSAR* Statue c/o Palm Beach Chapter, PO Box 16735 West Palm Beach FL 33416. All Compatriots are encouraged to attend the 133<sup>rd</sup> National SAR Conference in Orlando.

Sons of Liberty Statue

Help your Chapter by attending all meetings. While our meetings continue to be well attended by dozens of Compatriots, DAR Daughters and Guests to hear interesting speakers and share soul refreshing fellowship, we need more guests to meet the minimum required by the Hotel or the Chapter Loses Money. So please, personally attend all meetings, invite family members and friends to join you at our meetings.

<u>Volunteers</u> are needed for *Chapter Committees* for our youth and civic programs including *Historical Oration, Knight Essay, Poster* and *Brochure* contests, *American History Teacher of the Year, Boy Scouts, Police-Firefighter* recognition, *Flag & Liberty Tree*, and *Veterans* services.

#### Don't wait to be asked, please step up.

**Recruit New Members!** The ongoing success of our Chapter relies on increasing membership and mentoring new members. Help your Chapter reach **200** members this year to become the Largest SAR Chapter in Florida.

**DAR Daughters,** thank you for Recruiting **Husbands**, **Sons, Grandsons, Friends** and civic-minded men interested in honoring their **Patriot Ancestors** and enjoying good fellowship. **Remember SAR membership is open to all males from Age 0 to 100+**. **Call it a Holiday or Birthday gift,** no wrapping, and no returns.

All Chapter Compatriots are encouraged to actively support all DAR Chapters by attending their meetings, activities and related patriotic events. Fellow Compatriots, DAR Daughters, we look forward to seeing you and your guests on March 21.

Fellow Patriots, join me in remembering our Patriot Ancestors, Dear Departed Compatriots & Especially our Nation's Military & Veterans.

God Bless You! God Bless the United States of America!
Yours in Patriotism – David Bird, Chapter President



~LIBERTY & COUNTRY~

My Fellow Compatriots, DAR Daughters and Friends, I know that you all have time on your hands...So, will you please assist me with Newsletter Content!

This is a special request for readers to submit newsletter articles in the form of *Patriotic, Revolutionary War, Family Patriot Bios, Family Lore, Ancestors, Genealogy, Veteran Stories, Special Activities, Events etc.* 

Join the Fun...Share your Family history, Ancestor & Patriot Bios! We all enjoy sharing stories about family histories, don't we, especially about our Patriot Ancestors who sacrificed so much for our Nation.

To tell your story of how you became a member of the *SAR* or *DAR*, simply provide your history in a word document to publish and or pick a meeting date and I'll help you develop your 5–10-minute Bio presentation, contact me @ <a href="mailto:dlanman258@aol.com">dlanman258@aol.com</a>.

Please submit your content to the *Palm Beach SAR Chapter Editor* in a <a href="Word document format">Word document format</a> to <a href="mailto:dlanman258@aol.com">dlanman258@aol.com</a>. *Note:* publication of submitted content is not guaranteed, may be edited, and becomes the property of the *PB Chapter SAR*.

As the 2<sup>nd</sup> oldest and one of the largest Chapters in the State we're proud of our Chapter whose members includes 2 *National Officers*, 1 *SAR President General*, 1 *National/International Inspector General*, 1 *SAR Minuteman Medal*, 2 *SAR Gold Citizenship Medals* and 10 *Patriot Medal winners*.

*My fellow Compatriots*, as community leaders, we must commit to attending all Chapter, State and National Conferences to make our voices heard. So, schedule the time to get involved to protect our heritage.



### ~2023 Chapter Meeting Dates/Topics:

**Visit** the **SAR Palm Beach Chapter** web site @ www.FLSSAR.org/palmbeachSAR for general information, newsletters, pictures, and related links.

- March 21, Special Guest Speaker Author Robert Watson, PhD
- > April 18, Law Enforcement Recognition, Guest Speaker
- > May 16, Firefighters/EMT Recognition, Guest Speaker
- October 17, Special Guest Speaker
- > November 21, Special Veterans Program
- 2024 January 16 Officer Installations, Awards, Guest Speaker
- Feb. 20, Special Guest Speakers, George Washington & Martha
- March 19, Special Guest Speaker

## ~2023 Officers & Board Members:

- President, President David Bird
- > Vice President, TK Krumenacker
- > Secretary, FMR President Bob Boggs
- > Treasurer, Peter Johnston
- > Registrar, Bob Boggs
- > Chaplain, FMR President Benjamin Tidwell

- > Historian, FMR President Donald Lanman
- > Sgt. @ Arms, FMR President Greg Parkinson
- Chapter Genealogist, FMR President Bob Boggs
- > Patriot Newsletter Editor, FMR President Donald Lanman
- Note: Officers & FMR Presidents are Voting Board Members

## ~SAR National, State, & Chapter Events 2023:

- ✓ Last Naval Battle Ceremony, Merritt Island, FL 3/18
- ✓ Thomas Creek Battle Ceremony, Jacksonville, FL 3/25
- ✓ Battle of Pensacola, Ceremony Pensacola, FL 5/8
- ✓ FLSSAR Board of Management Meeting Orlando 5/19
- ✓ Flags 4 Fallen Veterans, S. FL Nat. Cemetery 5/28
- ✓ Forgotten Soldiers Outreach Memorial Day 5/29
- ✓ SAR National Congress, Orlando, FL July 14-20 2023

~Join Chapter Compatriots at all SAR & DAR events! Visit NSSAR/FLSSAR/Chapter Websites.

# ~Feature Articles~

# DEATH SHIPS OF NEW YORK HARBOR! Revolutionary War Patriot POWs

Compiled & Edited By Don Lanman, FMR PB Chapter President, Historian

One of the most gruesome chapters in the story of America's struggle for independence from *England* occurred in the waters of New York Harbor, close to the current location of the *Brooklyn Navy Yard*.

From 1776 to 1783, the **British** forces occupying New York City used abandoned or decommissioned ships anchored just offshore to hold those Patriot soldiers, sailors and private citizens captured in battle or arrested, many just for refusing to swear an oath of allegiance to the Crown.

Some 11,000 *Revolutionary War Patriot POWs* died aboard the prison ships over the course of the war, many from disease or malnutrition.

Many of these murdered POWs were on the notorious **British Death Ship**, **HMS Jersey**, which earned the nickname "**Hell**" for its inhumane conditions, extreme brutality and the obscenely high death rate of its prisoners.



It is estimated that between 4,500 and 8,000 *American Patriots* died in battle during the Revolutionary War, while an even higher number of 8,000 to 11,000 POWs died during that same time in the hell of British prison ships.

Following the capture of New York, the **British** had more prisoners than they could handle in their makeshift land prisons. To manage the POWs, at the lowest possible cost, the British began converting older ships into floating jails.

The ships, stripped of rudders, sales, masts or anything that would allow them to sail, were anchored in *Wallabout Bay*, on the northwest shore of *Brooklyn*. Sixteen of these prison hulks including the infamous *HMS Jersey* soon floated in the bay, crammed with a thousand *American Patriots* on each prison barge.

Conditions aboard these rat-infested *Hell* barges were both horrific and lethal. The combination of insufficient food that was often spoiled or raw, inadequate cooking facilities, lack of clean water, no toilet facilities, disease or medical services and brutal treatment by the *English* guards caused dozens of Patriots to die daily.

Each morning, *American Patriot* POWs were ordered above decks, regardless of the weather or the health of the prisoners, while the holds were washed out with foul harbor water. The smallest infraction brought immediate, harsh, and often lethal punishment from the *English* guards. At sunset, the POWs were forced back below decks, where there was very little fresh air, no food, bedding, toilet facilities, or access to clean water where many died.

The unsanitary conditions, along with the malnutrition of the prisoners—led to the rampant spread of diseases including yellow fever, dysentery, small pox, and typhoid. *Patriots* who died during the night were left in the hold until the morning, when they were unceremoniously tossed into the bay or buried in shallow mass graves along the bay.

"He was subjected to every privation, was starved, poisoned & became sick & very much enfeebled. Constitution nearly broken was suffered to be dirty & lousy & was nearly consumed by body lice & last tho not least he took the small pox the natural way while a prisoner in New York & came very near dieing for want of care & the conveniences of life." -Jonathan Banks, Revolutionary War pension file.



A few Patriots managed to escape the death ships by agreeing to join the **British** army or navy or by swearing an oath of allegiance to the **Crown**, while others, mostly officers, were able to buy their way out of prison, and a few others were part of prisoner exchanges.

However, most remained in the floating prisons until they died or until the end of the war—whichever came first. By the time the war finally ended in 1783, only 1,400 prisoners, out of the more than 11,000 on the ships, had survived the **Death Ships** of **New York**.

Years after the end of the war, some of the remains of Patriots who died aboard the prison ships were located in shallow graves along the harbor.

Their remains were reinterred in *Fort Greene Park* after the 1808 burial vault near the *Brooklyn Navy Yard* had collapsed.

In 1908, one hundred years after the first burial ceremony, a *Prison Ship Martyrs Monument* was erected and dedicated to the POWs at *Fort Greene Park* in Brooklyn.





# SAR MEETING & EVENT PICTURES

The Chapter presented Bill & Cara Elder with SAR Certificates of Appreciation & rare books on George Washington in appreciation for their George & Martha

Washington presentation in Honor of Washington's Birthday.



The Chapter inducted on new Junior Compatriot; Kyle J. Peterson. Compatriot Peterson is also a member of the Children of the American Revolution, Civil Air Patrol and recently obtained his Glider Pilots License. Welcome aboard Kyle.



The Chapter presented the SAR-CAR Medal of Appreciation to CAR Senior Leader Katy Peterson in appreciation for her ongoing support of the SAR. Katy is also the proud mother of new Compatriot Kyle Peterson.

Compatriots, DAR Daughters & Friends Enjoy Fellowship In Memoriam Compatriot Edwin A. DAR WELCOME DAR! Jupiter/Tequesta **Broward County** Palm Beach West Palm Beach

#### Join to the President's Brigade, Support Youth Programs...

The *Palm Beach Chapter* provides the *Alex Dreyfoos History Scholarships* to colleges and universities including *Palm Beach Atlantic University* and *Palm Beach State College*. These colleges educate our youth on the values of *Patriotism*, *God* and *Country*, train them for productive careers in our community and help develop their character as the leaders of tomorrow.

The **Palm Beach Chapter** honors and expresses its sincere appreciation to **Alex Dreyfoos**, and the many **Compatriots** who contribute financially to the **President's Brigade**.

The dedicated members of the *President's Brigade* donate "*Extra Dollars*" in support of the Chapter's many *youth programs, scholarships, award certificates, police/firefighter/EMT medals, veterans' projects, community and civic programs. Help* increase the scholarships this year *by* donating a few dollars to the *Presidents Brigade* in support of these "*Students of Character*".

#### ~JOIN THE 2023 CHAPTER PRESIDENTS BRIGADE ~

- ~ Honored Presidents Brigade Members~
- **❖** Bronze Level: \$25-\$99:

M. Anderson, R. Bright, J. Blackburn, D. Bird, A. Cass, R. Culpepper, S. Curry, D. Coldwell, J. Dorsey, W. Davis, K. Davis, F. Devitt, J. Harper, J. Kane, P. Johnston, R. Linn, P. Miller, McCampbell, R. Miller, G. Odell, G. Scott, A. Shea, P. Spencer, Watkins, J. Wearn, M. Wess

#### **❖** Silver Level: \$100-\$199:

S. Barber, S. Curry, T. Friend, B. Gunter, G. Green, A. Griswold, E. Jonas, P. Miller, W. Meakin, W. Richards, T. Smith, W. Told, D. Wratislaw

#### \* Gold Level: \$200-\$499:

J. Curry, W. Johnson, TK Krumenacker, J. Wynns, W. Warwich

### ❖ Platinum Level: \$500+

J. Annan, W. Adams, B. Boggs, A. Dreyfoos, J. Damron-Fritz, D. Lanman, G. Mitchell, G. Parkinson, B. Tidwell, R. Wess, C. Wetherill

Thank You for Supporting Chapter Youth & Civic Programs

## **Chapter Committees, Chairs & Members:**

Fellow Compatriots.....The Chapter expresses its sincere appreciation to those members who volunteer to serve on our committees. As you can see a few Compatriots are serving on multiple committees and could use some extra support! Just choose your committee of interest.

It doesn't take much time and is a major help with our many civic and youth initiatives. Support your Chapter, call Chapter President Don Lanman @ 561-315-5073 to lend a hand on any of the following committees...

- > 2024 Officer Nominations
- > JROTC & Boy Scouts
- > Law Enforcement-Fire Safety
- > Veterans Affairs
- Newsletter/Publicity
- Knight Essay/Rumbaugh Oration
- > American History Teacher
- Medals/Awards
- > DAR-CAR Liaison
- > Speakers Bureau
- > Financial Audit
- > Flag Certificates
- Membership Development/Mentor
- Liberty Tree
- Patriot Bios
- Web Site-Facebook/Social Media

- -Chapter Membership
- -Tidwell, Lanman
- -Parkinson, Wess
- -Lanman, Tidwell, Kimler
- -Lanman, Bird
- -Tidwell, Boggs
- -Boggs, Bird
- -Tidwell, Lanman, Boggs
- -Lanman, Parkinson, Tidwell
- -Lanman, Bird, Boggs
- -Johnston, Bird
- -Langenstein, Parkinson
- -Bright, Bird, Krumenacker
- -Parkinson, Krumenacker
- -Boggs, Johnston, Lanman
- -Anderson, Lanman

# ~Palm Beach Chapter SAR Store~

Palm Beach Chapter Commemorative Coin \$15!





1 3/4"

The Chapter's unique *Commemorative Collectors Coin* celebrates the founding of the *Palm Beach Chapter* in *1938* and honors our 80+ years of historic, patriotic, and civic service in Palm Beach County, State of Florida and our Nation.

# ~ Compatriot Sponsored Promotions ~

Compatriot sponsored newsletter Ads are important to the Chapter as they represent additional funds in support of Chapter projects including; Scholarships, Boy Scout & JROTC medals, Rumbaugh & Knight Essay Youth contests, Police-Firefighter-EMT medals, Americanism & community civic programs!

Support your Chapter...sponsor an Ad for 8 issues at a modest cost: Business Card \$50, Half-Page \$100, Full-Page \$250. Your promotional Ad donation will also qualify you for membership in the Chapter's Presidents Brigade. Contact Don Lanman 561-315-5073 for AD information today!

## CHAPTER SUPPORTER PROMOTIONS...

~<u>COMPATRIOT ALEXANDER DREYFOOS</u> ~AUTHOR/PHOTOGRPHER/VETERAN/PATRIOT

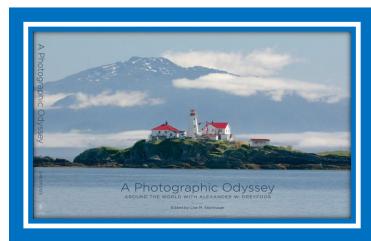
~GARCILASO DE LA VEGA, DAR CHAPTER
~DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

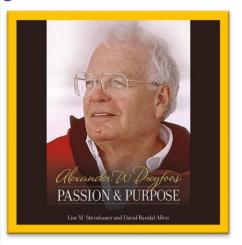
~<u>JAMESTOWN SOCIETY</u> ~International Lineage Society

~SEE ALL PATRIOT ADS ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES....

## ~TWO GREAT BOOKS-ONE GREAT MAN~

## -Alexander W. Dreyfoos-





#### -A PHOTOGRAPHIC ODYSSEY- -PASSION & PURPOSE-

Compatriot Alexander W Dreyfoos, an honored member of the Palm Beach Chapter Sons of the American Revolution, noted American entrepreneur, and philanthropist published two remarkable books that should be on every bookshelf. All Book sale proceeds donated to the Palm Beach Chapter SAR Youth Programs!

- Passion & Purpose chronicles a remarkable lifetime of passion with photography, his business, inventions and philanthropic ventures, as well as his adventures above and below the water.
- ➤ A Photographic Odyssey is a remarkable collection of hundreds of stunning pictures from 100,000 photos taken by Alex around the world and bound in an elegant 15" by 10" glossy photographic book. You will travel with Alex around the world, above and below the water, to forests, jungles, glaciers, and deserts in the exotic locals of Papua New Guinea, Bhutan, Nepal, China, Japan, and Tibet. The subjects are very divergent contrasting palaces and temples with the vulnerability of people, animals, and exotic scenery.

Get both books, for just \$49.00 (retail \$90)...all proceeds donated to the Chapter. Order today, contact Don Lanman @ dlanman258@aol.com.

#### ~Author/Photographer/Philanthropist, Alexander W. Dreyfoos~

Graduating from MIT and Harvard Business School, Alex founded Photo Electronics Corporation (PCS), specializing in photography and video production. Over the decades, Alex earned 10 US patents and invented the Video Color Negative Analyzer for motion pictures earning him an Academy Award for technical achievement. Many inventions, developed by PCS, are on permanent display at the Smithsonian Institution. Locally Alex also owned television station WPEC TV-12, the CBS affiliate in West Palm Beach. Alex's many philanthropic achievements include founding the Palm Beach County Cultural Council, the Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts and gifting a million dollars to the Dreyfoos School of the Arts. Alex also donated a million dollars each to the Palm Beach County biomedical research campus of the Scripps Research Institute and the local Max Planck Florida Foundation for Neuroscience in Jupiter, Florida.



## ~Garcilaso De La Vega Chapter, NSDAR~ ~Lake Worth, Florida~

# ~Karen E. Christie, Regent~

~NSDAR Volunteer Genealogist, Area 12~

# ~Teresa Bevan, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Regent~

# ~Dianna Stoffer, Registrar~

Phone; 404-536-5727, Email; <u>Dianna.Stoffer@IHG.com</u>
Chapter Email: <u>GarcilasodelaVegaDAR@gmail.com</u>
Visit us on Facebook @ <u>https://www.facebook.com/LWDAR</u>

# JAMESTOWN SOCIETY

