

Volume 26 November 2020 Number 06-07

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~ October Meetings Highlights~

The Chapter held its first "Virtual" online meeting October 20 using the exciting online Zoom.us service. Over two dozen Compatriots, DAR Daughters and Guests joined us for some much needed fellowship as we inducted 4 new members, conducted a special Memorial service for 4 Compatriots, presented service awards, inducted a member into the SAR "Veterans Battalion" and enjoyed an informative "Patriot Bio" on the famous Battle of Guilford Courthouse.

Mark your calendars and join us at the next virtual Chapter meeting November 17 @ 12 Noon featuring a *Veterans Day Tribute*, plus a special guest speaker on the Scotch-Irish in America! Family, Friends & Guests are Welcome to attend!

President's Message:

Fellow Compatriots, DAR Daughters & Friends...

On behalf of *Chapter Officers* and the *Board of Directors*, we wish to express our sincere gratitude for the support and willingness of all *Compatriots*, *DAR* and *Friends* to accept, as a *Patriotic Duty*, the CDC guidelines for social distancing and mask wearing to minimize the spread of the *Covid-19 Virus*.

We also extend our sincere admiration and appreciation to the thousands of *Healthcare Workers, Law Enforcement Professionals, First Responders, Emergency Service Providers, Retail Employees, Supply Chain Teams* and our *Military* who place themselves in danger daily to protect, and sustain us all through this very trying time.

Palm Beach Chapter Compatriots are answering the call to service by checking on fellow *Compatriots*, delivering food to homebound seniors and supporting veterans in need. In the coming weeks, we encourage everyone to "make the time" and personally contact as many *Compatriots* and *Friends* as possible to offer moral support, exchange stories, provide physical assistance and fellowship.

While this *Pandemic* and recent social unrest may test our resolve, we believe it will ultimately serve to strengthen the *SAR* core beliefs that we are a nation of, by and for the people, and that freedom has come at a great price, is often tested and can be easily lost.

November being *Veterans Month*, I encourage you to join us for our next virtual meeting on *November 17* to honor *Veterans, Serving Military* and our *Great Nation*. Once the *Pandemic* has passed and life returns to some level of normalcy, let's all go out, visit friends, patronize local businesses, visit the malls, sports events and help our country return to prosperity.

As the *Honorable Benjamin Franklin* remarked in **1776**, "We must all hang together, or most assuredly we will all hang separately". Thank you, in advance, for the help and support of my fellow *Compatriots* and *DAR Daughters*.

Since we were compelled to cancel the spring meetings, including our special annual *Firefighters/EMS* & *Law Enforcement Awards Ceremonies*, these important ceremonies will be rescheduled for our fall 2021 meetings.

What fun, we held our first "Virtual" online meeting October 20 using an exciting online service. It was a full meeting with over two dozen Compatriots, DAR Daughters and Guests joining us for some much needed fellowship!

We inducted 4 new members, conducted a special **Memorial** service for 4 Compatriots, presented service awards, inducted a member into the **SAR** "Veterans Battalion" and enjoyed an informative "Patriot Bio" on the famous **Battle of Guilford Courthouse**.



We formally inducted and welcomed 4 new members into the **SAR** including **Compatriots Paul Spencer**, **David Wratislaw**, **Ed Ferree** and **John Annan**. Welcome Gentlemen, we look forward to your active involvement on Committees and as Officers.



The Chapter recognized several *Chapter Compatriots* who received awards from *FLSSAR* including;

Ray Wess: Oak Leaf Cluster-Roger Sherman Medal Don Lanman: Patriot Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, & Distinguished Service Certificate, Bob Boggs: Oak Leaf Cluster-Liberty Medal, Pete Miller: Liberty Medal, Ben Tidwell: Certificate of Appreciation, Michael Anderson: Certificate of Appreciation, DAR Vice Regent Karen Christie: FLSSAR Medal of Appreciation.

Our Chapter was also recognized by the **NSSAR** with a **National Education Outreach Streamer**, and a **Chapter Newsletter Winners Certificate. Well Done All!**

FLSSAR Veterans Battalion Chairman, Don Lanman installed Compatriot Robert E. Phinney into the Veterans Battalion.

Veterans Battalion Compatriots are recognized with either the SAR Military Service or War Service Medal in recognition of their service, and join the 18% of Palm Beach Chapter Veterans who've served honorably in WW II, Korea, Vietnam, Global War on Terrorism, Iraq, & Afghanistan. Chapter Veterans are encouraged to join the VB.



FMR Chapter Presidents Greg Parkinson & Don Lanman conducted a **Special Memorial Service** for four of our dear departed Compatriots. Our Chapter sincerely mourns the loss of these beloved Patriots...

~<u>Michael Smyth Johnson, 2005</u>~ ~<u>J. W. Porter, 2011~</u> ~<u>William Edward Stout, 1997</u>~ ~Robert Edward Gearing, 2019~

Chapter Compatriots joined **DAR Daughters** and dozens of other supporters October 24th in Boynton Beach for a special "**Honor Flight-Parade of Vehicles**", honoring and thanking Veterans from **WW 2**, **Korea**, **Vietnam**, and the **Middle East** conflicts.



Don't wait to be asked, volunteers are needed for Chapter Committees today 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.

Recruit New Members! The ongoing success of our Chapter relies on increasing membership and the mentoring new members. Help by recruiting **Sons, Grandsons, Friends** and civic-minded individuals interested in honoring their *Patriot Ancestors* and enjoying good fellowship. Call it a Holiday or Birthday gift, no wrapping, and no returns.

To our beloved *DAR Patriot Daughters* we extend our heartfelt appreciation as they continue to support our Chapter by attending meetings, events, and their tireless efforts to help grow the *Chapter* by referring new *SAR* prospects.

Palm Beach Compatriots are encouraged to actively support **DAR Chapters** by attending their meetings, fundraising activities and related patriotic events.

Fellow Compatriots, I look forward to seeing you and your guests at the November 17 meeting! Please, join me in remembering our Patriot Ancestors, Dear Departed Compatriots and especially our nation's Military and Veterans.

God Bless You & God Bless the United States of America. Yours in Patriotism – J. Reeve Bright, Esq., President 2020



Hear Ye-Hear Ye.....Chapter Editorial

Don Lanman-Editor, State Officer & FMR Chapter President

~LIBERTAS ET PATRIA~

~LIBERTY & COUNTRY~

Given the Pandemic, You have time on your hands... So please provide me with some 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.

Share your Patriot Bios! We all enjoy sharing stories about family histories 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, just pick a meeting date and I'll help you develop your 10 minute presentation, contact me @ dlanman258@aol.com.



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

~2020/2021 Chapter Meeting Dates/Topics:

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

- > April, 21, Cancelled-Pandemic
- > May, 19, Cancelled-Pandemic
- > Oct. 20, Special Virtual Meeting
- Nov. 17, Veterans Honor Event, Special Guest Speaker
- > Dec. 5, Christmas, Speaker Ed Lamont-St. Nick to Santa Clause
- ➤ Jan. 19 2021, Officer Installations, Guest Speaker
- Feb. 16, Special Guest Speaker, John Stewart as Thomas Jefferson
- > March 16, Special Guest Speaker
- > April 20, Special Guest Speaker
- > May 18, Special Guest Speaker

~2020 Officers & Board Members:

- > President, J. Reeve Bright Esq.
- Vice President, Anthony Shea
- > Secretary, FMR President Bob Boggs
- > Treasurer, James Mangan
- > Registrar, Peter Miller
- > Chaplain Father, Sanford Sears
- > Sgt. @ Arms, FMR President Greg Parkinson
- Historian, FMR President Samuel "Buddy" Miller
- > Officer @ Large, Barry Clayton
- Patriot Newsletter Editor, FMR President Donald Lanman
- > Note: FMR Presidents are Voting Board Members

~SAR National, State, & Chapter Events:

- ✓ FLSSAR Board of Management Meeting, Orlando May 1-3-2021
- ✓ Battle of Pensacola Event, Pensacola, FL May TBD
- ✓ Flag Placement Day S. FL National Cemetery, WPB May TBD
- ✓ Forgotten Soldiers Memorial Day Event, WPB May TBD
- ✓ Missing in America Veterans Event, TBD
- ✓ 131th SAR National Congress- TBD

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

~Feature Article~

The First Thanksgiving

By Karen Christie, Vice Regent Garcilaso de la Vega DAR Chapter Lake Worth

As we prepare for a "different" type of Thanksgiving than we have celebrated before, we might be surprised about how little we know about the origins of the Thanksgiving and that in fact, there are those who question whether such an event happened and whether the Native Americans would have shared food with the Plymouth colonists given the hostility that had gone before and that transpired later.

When the colonists first landed at Cape Cod in November of 1620, they were faced with a



strong possibility of starvation. Stores were limited, people were ill or dying and it was too late to plant crops before winter. Their first winter was a time of hardship and suffering with a loss of almost half of the colony.

At the same time, the Wampanoag Confederacy, comprised of Pakanoket Indians under the leadership of Ousamequin or Massasoit (Great Leader) had just suffered an epidemic that had

reduced their population by half and they were under hostile pressure from the Narragansets. According to Colonial sources, Massasoit prevented the failure of Plymouth Colony and the starvation that the Pilgrims fought during the earliest years of its establishment.

In 1621, Massasoit sent Squanto to live among the colonists at Plymouth, where he acted as a translator, guide and advisor. Squanto and other Pokanokets taught the Plymouth colonists the fur trade and how to fertilize and sow native crops such as maize, climbing beans and squash, known as the Three Sisters.



Between September and November of 1621, the colonists held a three day event to celebrate the successful harvest, according to Tom Begley, the executive liaison for administration, research and special projects at Plimoth Plantation.

According to historians, most of the adult colonists in attendance were men.

Of the original 102 who has set sail on the *Mayflower*, only 53 remained including 22



men, 4 married women and 27 children and teenagers. Some 78% of the colonist women had died during the first winter.

Nearly all of what historians have learned about the first Thanksgiving comes from a single eyewitness report. Plymouth colonist and author Edward Winslow, who was present at the event, recorded it in December 1620, and included it in A Relation or Journal of the Beginning and Proceedings of the English Plantation Settled at Plimoth in New England (first published in England in 1622): "Our harvest being gotten in, our governor sent four men on fowling, that so we might

after a special manner rejoice together, after we had gathered the fruits of our labors; they four in one day killed as much fowl, as with a little help beside, served the Company almost a week, at which time amongst other Recreations, we exercised our Arms, many of the Indians coming amongst us, and amongst the rest their greatest king Massasoit, with some ninety men, whom for three days we entertained and feasted, and they went out and killed five Deer, which they brought to the Plantation and bestowed on our Governor, and upon the Captain and others. And although it be not always so plentiful, as it was at this time with us, yet by the goodness of God, we are so far from want, that we often wish you partakers of our plenty".

William Bradford, Plymouth's governor in 1621, also wrote briefly of the event in *Of Plymouth Plantation*, his history of the colony, but that was more than 20 years after the feast itself.

Massasoit forged critical political and personal ties with colonial leaders William Bradford, Edward Winslow, Stephen Hopkins, John Carver, and Myles Standish, which had grown out of a negotiated peace treaty on March 22, 1621.

At the celebration in 1621, the Plymouth colonists were likely outnumbered more than two-to-one at the event by their Native American guests. "We don't know for sure how it came about that they were there," Begley says of the Native Americans at the first Thanksgiving. "Some native historians have suggested that Massasoit and his men were in the area anyways, because at the end of the harvest was when they typically made their diplomatic rounds to other native groups. Also, Massasoit commented to the Pilgrims in March of 1621 that they would be back to plant the corn on the south side of what we know as Town Brook in Plymouth. So he still recognized that there are some planting grounds that were his peoples' in Plymouth."

While the 1621 event may not have been called Thanksgiving, giving thanks was certainly present in that historic celebration. "Giving thanks is really an important part of both cultures," Begley says. "For the English, before and after every meal there was a prayer of thanksgiving. For something on this scale, celebrating a successful harvest, there definitely would have been moments of giving thanks to their God."

For the Native Americans at the first Thanksgiving, giving thanks was a daily part of life. "We as native people [traditionally] have thanksgivings as a daily, ongoing thing," Linda Coombs, the former associate director of the Wampanoag program at Plimoth

Plantation, told the *Christian Science Monitor*. "Every time anybody went hunting or fishing or picked a plant, they would offer a prayer or acknowledgment."



When the colonists and Native Americans sat down to feast, they *may* have eaten wild turkey in addition to the venison brought by the Native Americans. Begley says that the group also probably ate fish, shellfish and fruits and vegetables that the colonists grew in their home gardens: Cabbage, carrot, cucumbers, leeks, lettuce, parsnips, pumpkins along with native wild plants including Jerusalem artichokes, garlic, cranberries, Concord grapes, walnuts and chestnuts." There were no potatoes.

Pumpkin pie would have been impossible, as the colony didn't have butter, wheat flour or an oven.

As for who prepared the meal, since there were only four English housewives left in 1621 to prepare and serve a meal for over 100, it is speculated that the children, servants and maybe some unmarried men helped with the food."

A. Lincolw.

It's not known whether the Plymouth colonists repeated the 1621 celebration.

However, the tradition of giving thanks to God merged with celebrations of the harvest to become a fall tradition in New England by the late 1600s.

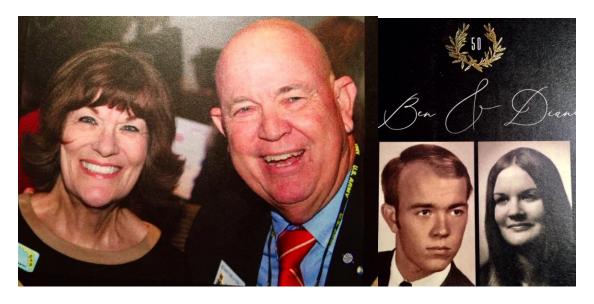
In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed the final Thursday in November as a national Thanksgiving holiday for the first time.



~ Meeting & Event Pictures ~

FMR President Ben Tidwell celebrates 50 Years of Bliss with the beautiful Diane.

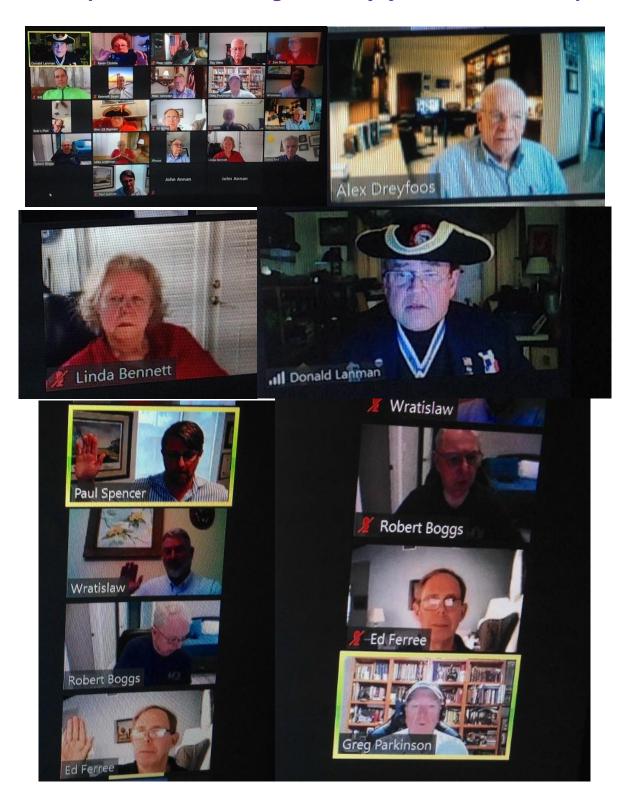
Congratulations to Two Fine Patriots



FMR Chapter President Don Lanman and DAR Vice Regent Karen Christie supported the "Honor Flight Program" in a Vehicle Parade in Boynton Beach.



~Compatriots, DAR Daughters Enjoy Virtual Fellowship~



~Join the President's Brigade - Support Youth Programs!

The *Palm Beach Chapter* provides 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 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, and related community civic programs.*

Please Help increase the scholarships this year by donating a few dollars to the **Presidents Brigade** in support of these **"Students of Character"**.

~JOIN THE 2020 CHAPTER PRESIDENTS BRIGADE ~

~ Honored Presidents Brigade Members~

Bronze Level: \$25-\$99:

M. Anderson, R. Bright, J. Blackburn, A. Cass, R. Culpepper, D. Coldwell, S. Curry, J. Dorsey, W. Davis, K. Davis, F. Devitt, J. Harper, J. Kane, R. Linn, L. Lanpher, R. Moore, P. Miller, S. Miller, H. Oyer, G. Odell, G. Scott, A. Shea, J. Wearn, M. Wess

Silver Level: \$100-\$199:

S. Barber, J. Curry, T. Friend, R. Gearing, B. Gunter, G. Green, A. Griswold, W. Meakin, W. Told, R. Warwick

❖ Gold Level: \$200-\$499:

J. Curry, S. Hitt, J. Wynns, W. Richards

❖ Platinum Level: \$500+

B. Boggs, A. Dreyfoos, J. Damron-Fritz, D. Lanman, G. Parkinson, B. Tidwell, R. Wess

~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 Reeve Bright @ 561-573-8186 to lend a hand on any of the following committees...

- > 2021 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, Barber
- -Parkinson. Lanman
- -Lanman, Richards
- -Lanman, Bright
- -Boggs, Tidwell
- -Boggs
- -Lanman, Tidwell
- Lanman, Parkinson, Tidwell
- -Lanman, Bright, Boggs
- -Coldwell, Mangan, Johnston
- -Miller, Parkinson
- -Bright, Miller, Lanman, Boggs
- -Miller, Parkinson
- -Boggs, Barber, Lanman
- -Anderson, Lanman

~Palm Beach Chapter SAR Store~

Palm Beach Chapter Commemorative Coin \$10!





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.

This beautiful collector's coin is highlighted in *George Washington Military Blue* colors on a stunning *Gold* background personalized with the Chapter's founding date and a *Patriot Minuteman* standing guard over the *Florida State* motto "*In God We Trust*".

This collector's coin includes an inscription listing the 4 major *Revolutionary War* battles waged in *Florida* including the battles of *Ft. George-Pensacola, Thomas Creek Massacre, Alligator Creek Battle,* and the *Last Naval Battle of the Revolutionary War* between the mighty *USS Alliance* vs. the *British HMS Sybil.* The reverse side displays the national *Sons of the American Revolution, Cross of Malta.* The Chapter provides these collector coins for just \$10.



Wear the Gold SAR Lapel Pin on your clothing beside your SAR Rosette. The unique SAR Lapel Pin is part of a national branding program to help promote the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and stimulate new memberships!

The SAR Gold lapel pin along with the SAR Rosette are recognizable public symbols of the SAR providing Compatriots recognition as an honored members of a great Patriotic society, and may spark conversations about SAR that leads to a new member. Wear your pin with pride Today for just \$10.

~ 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...

~GARCILASO DE LA VEGA, DAR CHAPTER

~DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

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

~ JAMESTOWN SOCIETY

~International Lineage Society

~<u>COMPATRIOT SONNY BARBER</u> ~HISTORIAN/AUTHOR/VETERAN/PATRIOT

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



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

~Sheila Zile-Pecoraro, Regent~

~Karen E. Christie, Vice Regent~

~NSDAR Volunteer Genealogist, Area 9~

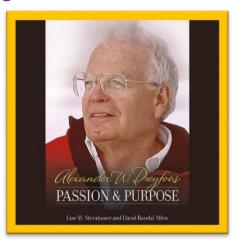
~Dianna Stoffer, Registrar~

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

~TWO GREAT BOOKS-ONE GREAT MAN~

-Alexander W. Dreyfoos-





-A PHOTOGRAPHIC ODYSSEY- -PASSION & PURPOSE-

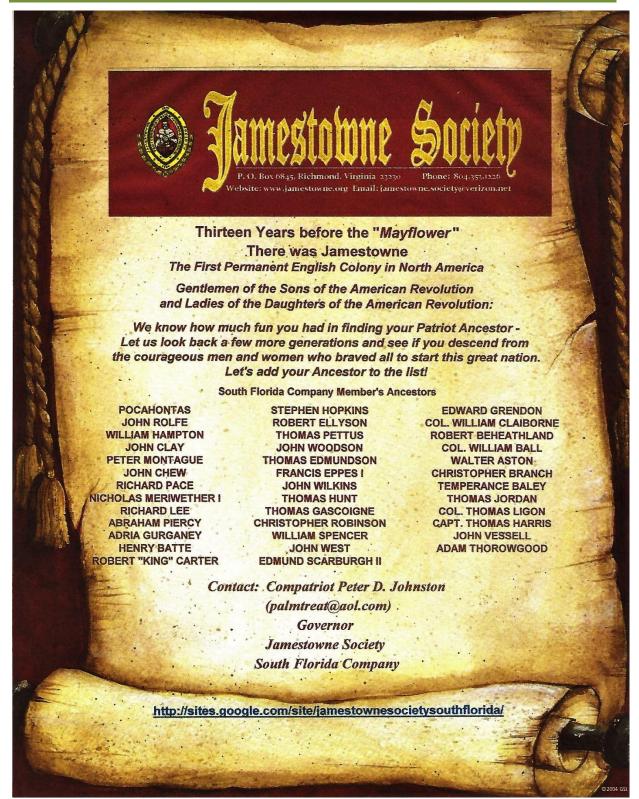
Compatriot Alexander W Dreyfoos, Jr. an honored member of the Palm Beach Chapter Sons of the American Revolution, noted American entrepreneur, and philanthropist has published two remarkable books that should be on every bookshelf. Book sales proceeds donated to local West Palm Beach charities!

- 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. \$29.95.
- ➤ 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. \$60.00.
- Support your Chapter & local charities! Get both books, Passion & Purpose & A Photographic Odyssey, just \$71.96 @ kravis.org/books or Call 561-651-4329.

~ <u>Author/Photographer/Philanthropist, Alexander W. Dreyfoos</u>~

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.

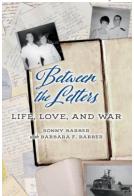
JAMESTOWN SOCIETY



"BETWEEN THE LETTERS"

Life, Love, And War

By Palm Beach SAR Compatriot/Veteran/Author, Sonny Barber and Barbara Barber



Palm Beach Chapter SAR Compatriot/Veteran/Author Sonny Barber and his wife Barbara just released their latest book titled "Between the Letters-Life, Love, And War". This moving testimonial to the ravages on the Vietnam War and the inspirational power of love is captured in this latest book from the Barbers, and a must read. Compatriot Barber is also the author of three remarkable American Historical Mystery series for young adults/children titled "Crossed & Found", "Stonewalled", and "Gold Hush".

~ Overview "Between the Letters-Life, Love, And War"~

Separated by war and thousands of miles, a young navy ensign and his nurse fiancée share their everyday experiences from Vietnam and from back home through hundreds of letters, keeping alive their love, hopes and dreams.

Between these letters, the fledgling officer-in-charge of a U.S. Navy Swift Boat shares his first-person stories of life and death in a combat zone.

~Plot Description~

"I miss you!" "Why haven't you written?" "Thank God, you're safe!" These are the beginning lines of some of the hundreds of letters between a freshly-commissioned U.S. Navy ensign and his fiancée, a new nurse graduate, from the start of their relationship until eighteen months later when he returns from Vietnam.

Between these letters are first person accounts of the fledgling naval officer's life in charge of a five-man crew aboard a fifty-foot Swift Boat, patrolling the coastal waters and rivers in "I Corps," the northernmost military operational area of South Vietnam.

The letters and stories show the challenges of life—and death—in a combat zone and provide a glimpse into the stress-filled lives of these two young people, separated by the war and thousands of miles across an ocean and a continent.

~ About the Authors ~

Sonny and Barbara Barber created this heartfelt memoir as a tribute to their life experience, the impact of separation, and a moving testimonial to the ravages on the Vietnam War and the inspirational power of love.

Soon after graduating college, *Rufus R. "Sonny" Barber, Jr.* joined the *U.S. Navy* and volunteered for duty in *Vietnam* as an officer-in-charge of a *"Swift Boat,"* a fifty-foot navy patrol craft.

After his four years of active military service, he worked in public relations and corporate communications, concurrently serving as a public affairs officer in military reserve components and retiring as a Captain from the U.S. Navy Reserve.

In his second career as an author, he's also written several fiction books for preteens and up, which use events in early American history as the basis for modern-day mysteries.

Sonny and wife, Barbara, residents of Boca Raton, Florida, have two wonderful daughters, devoted sons-in-law, and four inspiring and amazing grandchildren.

~BOOK DETAILS~

- Genre: Biography & Autobiography
 - Sub-Genre: Personal Memoirs
 - Language: English, Pages: 306
- Format: Paperback, ISBN:9781543961898
 - Book Available; \$13.99 @
 - BookBaby.com, https://bit.ly/2JboBRB
 - Amazon, https://amzn.to/2V7s19