



SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION  
**BREVARD BEACON**  
 Vol 50:2 November/December 2016



Vol. 50 Issue 2

1

Nov - Dec 2016

# November Meeting

November 19, 2016

at Tides Restaurant, PAFB



Come On Down!

Arrive at 11:15

Submit reservations to Carroll Lord  
 Send Pre-Payment and meal choices to Carroll Lord 830 Thrasher Dr, Viera FL 32955



## November Program

Carl Miller, Military Order of the Purple Hearts

## President's Message



Compatriots,

This is my second President's message since I was elected. My main objective for this year remains to gain greater recognition of the Brevard SAR through partnerships with local organizations and businesses. Take the 10 minutes to tell me if you work for a company or organization that has a community outreach or awards program. We want to join with them and add our SAR awards to theirs for those activities in which our goals align. I'm sure the local Chamber of Commerce, fire department, police and schools have awards we can help with.

The school year has started so talk to your children and grandchildren about entering our essay and oratory contests. In many cases something they are already writing for their school can easily be modified (or written in the first place) to comply with SAR requirements. The details can be found at [https://sar.org/education/youth-con-](https://sar.org/education/youth-con) Eller to page 10

# INSIDE

- Florida and National Meetings
- Revolutionary War Time frame - Nov/Dec
- National Activities and Events
- Children of the American Revolution
- Executive Committee Meeting minutes
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- Dues notice statement
- Battle of Great Cane Break & MORE !

## National News

## Genealogist General Communication

### Trustee Decisions at the Fall Leadership Meeting.

The trustees approved a budget that included money for adding a full-time genealogist to the staff and work on the index module for a genealogical research system. A motion was made to require use of the new application system effective 1 January 2017. A reason offered for the motion was the need to move data bases, including the Patriot Search data base, from an old server that must be retired due to reliability. However, moving the data bases can be accomplished independent of using the new system. The motion was soundly defeated by a voice vote.

Genealogy Committee Resolutions. The Genealogy Committee unanimously passed GG to page 12

*Florida Society Richard Fowler Award winner for Best Newsletter - 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2015; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place 2009; Honorable Mention: 2014; NSSAR Carl Bessent Newsletter Award - 1<sup>st</sup> Place - 2015; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place 2012, 2013, Honorable Mention 2009; NSSAR Winner Periodical - 2009*

# BREVARD CHAPTER COLOR GUARDSMEN

## IN ACTION!

Events for the coming year with dates, times, and locations to be communicated by Color Guard Commander, include but not limited to: various Veterans Day events and Wreaths Across America.

*So be on the look-out for a Call To Assemble coming to an INBOX near you.*



### Uniform Reimbursement Fund:

Please remember that the chapter will reimburse any member obtaining a Color Guard uniform/costume. It does NOT have to be a Military Uniform. The rate of reimbursement is:

- \$100.00 for a complete set - Hat to shoes.
- \$50.00 for 1/2 of the above set.

Contact the Color Guard commander for information.

Thank You, Current Color guard Members for your participation in past events. You helped us to Honor our Country, Military, Citizens, Patriots and Forefathers. I would like to extend a welcome to those of you who are new members.



As you consider how you wish to participate in SAR, please consider joining the Color guard. The events can be enjoyable and can be another outlet to meet with other Patriotic Americans. The

necessities for Color Guard attendance is a Colonial outfit and a Tricorn Hat. The outfit can be purchased or it can be made or modified from existing wear. There is also a refund for a part of the purchase price that can be issued. However you choose to participate, I hope you will enjoy your participation as well as the Fellowship of our members.



## Chapter Color Guard 2015- 2016 Schedule of events

**November 11<sup>th</sup>** - Veterans Day events; Parade, Veterans Facility Ceremony, Massing of the Colors.

**December 17<sup>th</sup>** - Wreaths Across America at Cape Canaveral National Cemetery

### JOIN THIS COLORFUL GROUP

Get your uniform now and sign up to join this handsome - and beautiful crowd.



Picture with Compatriot Wright - 3 Sea Cadets from the David McCampbell Battalion, USNSCC. They are (L-R): Chris Bradley, Olivia Troisi, and Aran Heath.



## Meeting Schedule, Program, and Menus

The 2016-2017 Meeting Schedule is as follows:

**N**ovember 19. The Tides PAFB 11:30 a.m., Speaker Carl Miller, Military Order of the Purple Hearts , \$15 per person; menu: Turkey & Dressing, Potatoes & Gravy, Cranberry, Squash, Garden Salad OR Tuna Salad/Chicken Salad Duo.

**D**ecember 10. The Tides PAFB 11:30 a.m., No Speaker, \$15 per person; menu: Meat Loaf with appropriate sides OR Chicken Cashew Salad

**J**anuary 21, 2017. The Tides PAFB 11:30 a.m., Speaker TBD, \$15 per person; menu: Crispy baked chicken breast OR classic chef's salad

**F**ebruary 18, 2017 - The Tides PAFB 11:30 a.m., Speaker TBD, \$15 per person; Menu TBD.

**M**arch 11, 2017. The Tides PAFB 11:30 a.m., Speaker TBD, \$15 per person; menu: Corned beef & cabbage OR Classic chef's salad.

**A**pril 15, 2017. The Tides PAFB 11:30 a.m., Speaker TBD, Topic TBD, \$15 per person; menu: Seared Salmon OR Grilled Chicken Caesar Salad.

**M**ay 20, 2016. The Tides PAFB 11:30 a.m., ELECTION/AWARDS, \$15 per person; menu: Teriyaki Chicken OR Tuna Salad/Chicken Salad Duo.

**R**emember to mark your calendar for this year's meeting schedule.

**DOORS OPEN 11:00 AM - Meetings are at The Tides Restaurant, PAFB unless otherwise noted, They begin at 11:30 unless otherwise noted. After lunch program starts at 12:45 pm. Meals are still \$15.**

***Please pay by check. "No Shows" will be billed for meal costs.***

### October Meeting photos



# BREVARD CHAPTER Ladies Auxiliary

**M**embership in the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution is open to *wives, mothers, daughters, sisters, aunts, nieces and other women relatives of members of the National Sons of the American Revolution who are in good standing, or were at the time of their death.*



The Ladies' Auxiliary supports the SAR in its historical, patriotic and educational objectives. The Ladies' Auxiliary raises funds in order to honor, on a smaller scale, the same individuals that the Florida Society SAR honors. Our chapter is pleased to have members of the Florida Ladies Auxiliary and hope that more will pay the \$5 annual dues to become members and work to support our SAR chapter.

Current Ladies Auxiliary members (and Husband) from Brevard Mary Anne Chorney, Georgia Ralston, and Cilla Tomme. Anyone interested can request an application form from Mary Anne Chorney.

Pictured below is the new Inductee, Compatriot Joslin who was presented with his Certificate of Membership at the October meeting. The photographer, his wife, is also shown below



# BREVARD CHAPTER



## *Children of the American Revolution*

C.A.R., the nation's oldest, largest, patriotic youth organization, offers membership to anyone under the age of 22, lineally descended from someone who rendered material aid to the cause of American Independence as a soldier, sailor, civil officer, or recognized patriot in one of the several Colonies or States, or of the United States. C.A.R. activities focus on patriotism, service, and education about our American heritage.

Brevard County Regents Council will be sponsoring the Captain John Barry Society of the Children of the American Revolution. We are asking each DAR Chapter and the SAR to help us continue the work begun by the late Rebecca Serio. We are asking each Chapter to have a senior representative to encourage membership and



organize activities for the newly formed group. We will have special events for our Pee Wee Patriots, which

are those children under 10. We plan to participate in area parades, patriotic ceremonies, and explore the history of this great land. A newsletter will be sent out shortly outlining those upcoming events to those DAR members that show an interest. I will be asking each chapters Registrars to query new members of their interest in adding the child or grandchild to their application as all the documentation needed is at hand.

### ***How much does C.A.R. cost?***

An applicant for membership pays an application fee of \$15 to the National Society and National dues of \$20 for the first year. Additional children of the same parents applying for membership on an identical line at the same time pay an application fee of \$10 each and National

dues of \$20 for the first year. Annual National dues are \$20 per year. You will need to include a copy of your DAR or SAR papers with the application. Please see the website for the application. [www.nscar.org](http://www.nscar.org). If you have any questions please contact our registrar Lucy Gunthorpe 321-725-3239, she will be happy to make this a family adventure.



I am so sure with over 700 DAR members and over 100 SAR members we can get an active, and hopefully one day an awarding winning society. Please contact me at any time Deb Plaag 321-543-0778 Senior Society President,

## *September Executive Committee Minutes*

Saturday, September 17, 2016

The Executive Committee met at The Tides Restaurant at Patrick Air Force Base. Elected Officers attending included Barry Eller, President; Roger Bonnett, First Vice President, Sam Ashdown, Second Vice President, Carroll Lord, Treasurer and Bob Humker, Recording Secretary. A quorum was reached as at least 50% of the Elected Officers (5 of the 8) were present.

The meeting was called to order by Chapter President Barry Eller at approximately 9:15 A.M.

- A discussion was held as to when to donate the framed painting portraying the Last Naval Battle to the Brevard Veteran's Center. It was decided to get the input of Ray Norman on this matter as Ray is associated with the Veteran's Center.
- President Eller stated that he wanted to encourage the Chapter's connections to the community.
- It was suggested that perhaps Jerry Scarpate might be a viable candidate for appointment to the ROTC Committee.
- President Eller continued discussion of community connections suggesting that when various public organizations (the Sheriff's Office, police departments, fire departments give awards that we might ask to "tag along" at those ceremonies and present our awards or certificates to the same individual. The same would apply to any private firms (i.e. Harris Corp.) that give awards for civic service.
- We have a new member to induct at next month's luncheon; John Michael Joslin.
- Barry, Roger, Sam and yours truly all said they plan to attend the FLSSAR Board of Management Meeting next month.
- Carroll Lord presented a financial report of the Chapter's assets and liabilities.
- It was discussed that we distribute a questionnaire to the membership to get information on their past civic activities.
- It was suggested that some member, perhaps the committee chairman, give a fairly in depth presentation on the committee's objectives and activities in hopes of educating the membership as well as generating interest in participating in those activities.
- Problems with the Caller list were discussed.

- Roger brought up the point protecting the membership's private information. Barry will follow up with recommendations.
- The Committee, having finished its business, was adjourned by President Eller at 10:10 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
BREVARD CHAPTER OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

B. Humker, Recording Secretary

**Next Executive Board Meeting**

We are going to get the ExComm to come about 9 a.m. before the meeting so we can talk.



# 2nd Notice

## Dues Notices

Dues notices have been sent (or included with your newsletter hard copy) to each Brevard member.

Please submit your dues early as that makes the chapter's reporting in December much easier for the Treasurer and Secretary. Dues payments for 2017 will include any National, Florida, and Chapter dues.\

- Regular (adult) dues = \$65.00
- Junior dues = \$5.00 (National dues only)
- Active Military members = \$35.00 (National dues only)
- Emeritus 1 dues = \$30.00 (chapter & state)
- Life member dues = \$30.00 (chapter & state)
- Dual (out-of state) member dues = \$30.00 (chapter & state)
- Dual (in-state) member dues = \$10.00 (chapter)

**\*Emeritus 3 (Florida status) = \$35.00 (National dues only)**

\* Must submit request to chapter secretary to continue Emeritus 3 status.

# BREVARD CHAPTER

## Welcome Our New Members

New members Carl Miller, Jerry and Jason Scarpatte were approved after our September Meeting. They could be Inducted at our November meeting.

We currently have *many* prospects working on their applications as they have been reported to the chapter Registrar.

If you have anyone who is interested and you wish to help them or are working on their application, report their name and information to the Registrar so that we can assist when needed and to ensure that the application is completed correctly. National Genealogists report that there are sloppy applications being submitted by persons not familiar with the SAR application process and requirements.

## Membership Status

With new members and new Associates (Pending approval) our membership levels are:

- Emeritus 1 = 1
- Emeritus 3\* = 2
- Junior = 14
- Life = 2
- Memorial = 1
- Regular = 98
- At National = 1
- Youth = 2
- Dual (w/ GASSAR & NCSSAR) = 2
- Dual (In-state) = 1
- Associate = 1

With our 1 Associate (not counted by the state or National ) the membership is 125.

**\* Emeritus 3 status must be renewed each year by a request from the member to renew this status.**

This allows the Brevard Chapter to have 5 voting Delegates to any Board of Management meetings (BOMs). They are: The Chapter President, the **IMMEDIATE** past chapter President, and three other designated delegates.

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## Revolutionary War Time line

### 1773

- Dec. 16 The Boston Tea Party

### 1775

- Nov. 10-21 Ninety Six, SC, Patriots sieged
- Nov. 13 The patriots under Montgomery occupy Montreal in Canada
- Dec. 11 Virginia and NC patriots rout Loyalist troops and burn Norfolk
- Dec. 22 Col. Thomson with 1,500 rangers and militia capture Loyalists at Great Canebrake, SC
- Dec. 23-30 Snow Campaign, in SC, so-called because patriots are impeded by 15" of snow
- Dec. 30-31 American forces under Benedict Arnold fail to seize Quebec

### 1776

- Nov. 16 The Hessians capture Fort Mifflin, NY
- Nov. 20 Lord Cornwallis captures Fort Mifflin from Nathanael Greene.
- Dec. 26 Washington crosses the Delaware and captures Trenton from Hessians

### 1777

- Nov. 16 British capture Fort Mifflin, Pennsylvania
- Dec. 5-7 Americans repulse British at Red Bank, Pennsylvania
- Dec. 19 Washington's army retires to winter quarters at Valley Forge

### 1778

- Dec. 29 The redcoats occupy Savannah

### 1779

- Nov.-June 23, 1780 Washington's 2nd winter at Morristown, NJ (the harshest winter of the 18th century)

### 1782

- Nov. 30 British and Americans sign preliminary Articles of Peace.
- Dec. 14 British leave Charleston, SC

### 1783

- Dec. 23 Washington resigns as Commander

## Brevard Executive Board Meeting Schedule

Brevard Executive Board meetings generally will be held on the Saturday before Chapter membership meetings. These will be held at a designated location generally in Viera at 9 a.m. until further notice or notification by President Eller. Officers are requested to submit their reports to President Eller before the meeting for distribution to all officers. For dates of these meetings check the Meeting Calendar at <http://www.brevardsar.org/Calendar.htm>

## Dues notices

have been E-mailed or USPS mailed to all members or returning to the chapter Treasurer. Our goal is to have 100% retention at the chapter and state level. Dues support all S.A.R. Goals and the missions.

## Last Naval Battle Medal sets

Order NOW!

The Brevard Chapter and the Last Naval Battle committee are selling official LNB - National Society SAR - Medal sets (large & small in presentation case) for \$25. see below for Medal set.

Brevard Chapter LNB Medals are \$10.00.

We are taking orders for custom made ALLIANCE/JOHN BARRY FLAGS @ \$60 each plus postage. They were made by Annin Flags (Made in America!!) - nylon - indoor/outdoor - 3' x 5'

For Medal orders contact Steve Williams at 321-632-5663 / [swilliams16@cfl.rr.com](mailto:swilliams16@cfl.rr.com)



# September Meeting

## CHAPTER LUNCHEON MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, September 17, 2016

The September 2016 luncheon meeting took place at the TIDES at Patrick Air Force Base. Paid attendance was 71 and included SAR and DAR members and their guests. SAR Members of the Chapter attending in uniform included Ben DuBose and Sonny Jones.

- The meeting was called to order by Chapter President Barry Eller at approximately 11:55 AM.
- Rev. David Ralston gave the invocation.
- Ben DuBose led the attendees in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.
- President Eller acknowledged the past chapter presidents in attendance including Ben DuBose and Bob Humker.
- President Eller opened the floor for Officer Reports. ROTC Committee Chairman Ray Norman said that he needed help in carrying out the duties of the committee as the Chapter works with 22 schools in the County and it is too much work for one person. Ben DuBose said that he was giving up running the 50/50 drawings and that today was his last day of that effort.
- Ben DuBose reported on the upcoming Veteran's Day Parade which will be a Chapter Color Guard event.
- Ben DuBose read a moving summary of the tragic events of September 11th, 2001 as well as a tribute of the men and women of the Port Authority Police Department (37), the NY Fire Department (343) and the NYPD (24) that gave their lives in the line of duty that day. Ben also showcased the flags of the aforementioned departments.
- The meeting recessed for the luncheon at approximately 12:23 PM.
- The meeting was recalled to order at approximately 1:10 PM.
- Today's program was Don Green portraying Benjamin Franklin in period dress and was very well received. "Ben's talk focused on "his" participation and the events of the Constitutional Convention of 1786. "Ben" took questions from the audience after the program.
- Ben DuBose conducted the 50/50 Drawing.

All stood and recited SAR Recessional.

As there was no further business President Eller adjourned the meeting at approximately 1:53 PM.

The next luncheon is scheduled for Saturday, October 22, 2016 at The Tides.

Respectfully submitted,  
BREVARD CHAPTER OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN  
REVOLUTION

Bob Humker, Recording Secretary

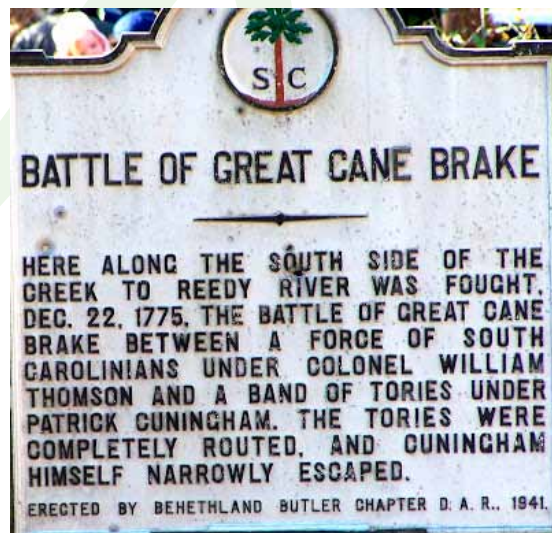
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## Battle of Great Cane Brake

The Battle of Great Cane Brake was a skirmish fought on December 22, 1775, during the American Revolutionary War in what was then Ninety-Six District, South Carolina, modern Greenville County.

With the coming of the American Revolution, the patriot government in Charles Town was opposed by a large concentration of "King's men" in the upcountry. Both sides recognized the need to cultivate the friendship of the Cherokees in a nearly lawless area of the state; and both sides promised to provide the Indians with ammunition and powder for hunting.

In October 1775, the patriot Council of Safety in Charles Town sent 1,000 pounds of powder and 2,000 pounds of lead to the Indians, but a force of loyalists under the command of Patrick Cunningham intercepted the wagon train. Following an unsuccessful attempt to retake the munitions, the Charles Town leaders determined to break the strength of upcountry loyalism by raising an overwhelming force of militiamen under the command of Colonel Richard Richardson. Heavily outnumbered, the King's men fell back toward the Piedmont. By late December, Richardson had perhaps as many as 5,000 troops under his command and had captured the major loyalist leaders.



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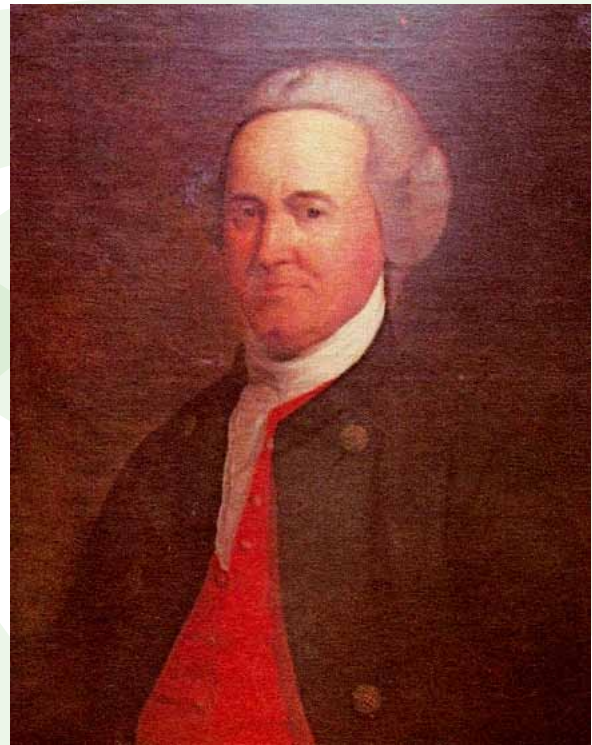
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On December 21, Richardson ordered 1,300 men under Major William “Danger” Thomson to pursue the loyalists into Indian territory. Thomson marched 25 miles through the night to a camp where loyalists had been sheltering from cold rain and snow flurries in a “Brake of Canes.” Because the ground was wet and the loyalists had been burning cane stalks that popped and crackled, Thomson’s men nearly managed to surround the camp before being discovered as they attacked at dawn. Cunningham escaped on an unsaddled horse and without his breeches, shouting for every man “to shift for himself.” The patriots recaptured the munitions intended for the Cherokees, and they took 130 prisoners, forcing them to sign a document promising not to take up arms again. Only five or six loyalists were killed, though Thomson had to restrain his men from harming the prisoners, some of whom were sent off to Charles Town in chains.

Despite the Patriot success, an unusual, heavy snowstorm occurred the following day, which caused considerable suffering among the militiamen, who had been called to duty on short notice with inadequate clothing and without tents. Some were permanently injured by exposure and frostbite. Thereafter the episode was known as the “Snow Campaign.” Richardson believed that his victory had pacified the upcountry, but the Cherokees soon joined the loyalists in what became a brutal civil war on the South Carolina frontier.

The exact location of the skirmish is unknown, although it took place near the Reedy River approximately 7 miles southwest of Simpsonville, South Carolina. There is a state historical marker on Fork Shoals Road south of Old Hundred Road (County Road 565).

The Snow Campaign was one of the first major military operations of the American Revolutionary War in the southern colonies. An army of up to 3,000 Patriot militia under Colonel Richard Richardson marched against Loyalist recruiting centers in South Carolina, flushing them out and frustrating attempts by the Loyalists to organize. The Patriot expedition became known as the Snow Campaign due to heavy snowfall in the later stages of the campaign.



**Colonel Richard Richardson**

By [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/patriot\\_leaders\\_sc\\_richard\\_richardson.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/patriot_leaders_sc_richard_richardson.html), Public Domain, <https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?curid=33919244>

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## State and National News

### National News -

**Spring Leadership Conference** - Louisville, KY,  
Thursday, 29 March 2017 - Saturday, 1 March 2017

**127th Congress** - Thursday to Wednesday  
July 6 - 12, 2017, Holiday Inn and Knoxville Convention  
Center, Knoxville, TN

### Sate News -

The state has its Board of Management (BOM) meeting location at the Embassy Suites Orlando - Lake Buena Vista South Orlando.

**FLSSAR 2017 Winter BOM** - February 4, 2017 at Embassy  
Suites Orlando - Lake Buena Vista South Orlando



## Brevard Web Site

For anyone needing to look a member up, or look at our chapter documents, or check on the meeting schedule visit our web site at <http://www.brevardsar.org/>. You will need a log-in ID and password to access the members Only pages. Contact the chapter secretary, Steve Williams, for your ID and temporary password.

## Member and Officer Survey

Coming to an e-mail Inbox close to you will be two - or three surveys if you're an officer.

The National Society is asking for members to submit a member survey on the direction that the membership feels the society should go. The survey introduction is at this link. [http://www.frogsncats.com/focus\\_Concept\\_Survey.pdf](http://www.frogsncats.com/focus_Concept_Survey.pdf)

The Florida Society has these surveys for its members and its state and chapter officers:

FLSSAR Member Survey link - <http://www.flssar.org/FLSSAR/MemberSurvey.asp>

FLSSAR Officer Survey link - <http://www.flssar.org/FLSSAR/OfficerSurvey.asp>



*Coming in the January/February issue*

More History, Updates on chapter's fall activities, pictures, and other "stuff." Look for reports on the NSSAR Fall Leadership conference - the discussions on the proposed Genealogy policy change, the Museum initiative, the new NSSAR web site, and a proposed Mentor program, plus other news from National.

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**SAR Lapel Pins.** Treasurer Lord has some left. First come first serve.

## Wreaths Across

### America

Our chapter is a registered group with Wreaths Across America for remembering and honoring veterans laid to rest all over the country by raising funds to sponsor wreaths.

- The Wreaths that we sponsor are shipped to the selected cemetery for the ceremony on the third Saturday in December this year.

Last year we received donations for \$360 (24 wreaths) as of the deadline. In return, we got \$120 as part of this fund-raising effort.

We can begin to submit funds to have wreaths for next December's ceremony at the Cape Canaveral National Cemetery in MIMS. We don't need to wait until the Fall to begin this effort - it's a year long opportunity. Send your check payable to **Wreaths Across America** to S Williams, 3403 Caraway St, Cocoa FL 32926.

Let's beat last year's total and aim for 50 wreaths!



*Don't let there be a veteran's headstone be without a remembrance. Give the gift of a wreath.*

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tests-awards.

Speaking of contests our chapter is having a banner year for winning awards. Steve Williams continues to produce one of the finest news letters in the country. We have won two major awards for that alone. (STEVE- Can you fill in more details?) We set a new record for the Chapter when 8 members attended the Board of Management Meeting in Orlando at the beginning of October.

By now the results of the election are in. I'm hoping you overlooked the personalities of the candidates and voted for those things that will keep the country strong. Constitution is very clear that the power of the government is derived from the consent of the people. Power and freedom flows up not down. We are free because we consent to be governed as we chose. It's our responsibility to guide the government not be led by it.

Last, as we are approaching the Christmas Season. As a Christian I invite all Americans of any religion or none to join in our celebration of peace on earth and good will toward men. Our Country was founded on freedom of religion and we need to celebrate that freedom whenever we can.

Barry Eller, President  
Brevard Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution

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## *Constitution Week Meeting*



# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, October 22, 2016

The Executive Committee met at The Tides Restaurant at Patrick Air Force Base. Elected Officers attending included Barry Eller, President; Roger Bonnett, First Vice President; Sam Ashdown, Second Vice President; and Bob Humker, Recording Secretary. A quorum was reached as at least 50% of the Elected Officers (4 of the 8) were present.

The meeting was called to order by Chapter President Barry Eller at approximately 10:15 A.M.

- The scoring of the Americanism Award was discussed at some length.

- President Eller restated that he wanted to encourage the Chapter's connections to the community by trying to "tag along" when various governmental organizations such as the police, fire department, and sheriff's office honor local heroes and other deserving citizens. It was noted that this has been an unsuccessful effort to date. It was suggested that we write a letter to these organizations formally requesting an audience. Lacking chapter stationary Bob Humker made a motion that the Chapter purchase stationary for this purpose. The motion was seconded by Sam Ashdown. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. Sam Ashdown will purchase the stationary and Carroll Lord will reimburse his expense from Chapter funds.

- Compatriot Bonnett suggested that it would be nice to have directional signage and a stand so provide messaging to persons looking for our locations at luncheon and other events. Roger made a motion to purchase a sign and stand. The motion was seconded by President Eller. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. Sam Ashdown will look into having the sign made and purchasing a stand.

- A discussion was held as to when to donate the framed painting portraying the Last Naval Battle to the Brevard Veteran's Center. Carl Miller was subsequently asked to inquire at the Veteran's Center about this when he meets with leaders there on Monday, October 24th.

- It was suggested that some member, perhaps the committee chairman, give a fairly in depth presentation on the committee's objectives and activities in hopes of educating the membership as well as generating interest in participating in those activities.

- The need for an ROTC Committee Chairman was discussed at some length. Bob Dance was subsequently asked to think about taking that position as his son, Robert Jr., is currently in the ROTC program.

- The Committee, having finished its business, was adjourned by President Eller at approximately 11:05 A.M.

Respectfully submitted, B. Humker, Recording Secretary

# CHAPTER LUNCHEON MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, October 22, 2016

The October 2016 luncheon meeting took place at the TIDES at Patrick Air Force Base. Paid attendance was 25. Compatriots Norm Desmarais and Sonny Jones attended the meeting in

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uniform.

- The meeting was called to order by Chapter President Barry Eller at approximately 11:45 AM.
- Sonny Jones gave the invocation.
- President Eller led the attendees in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.
- President Eller acknowledged the past chapter presidents in attendance including Norm Desmarais and yours truly.

- President Eller opened the floor for Officer Reports. There were none.

- President Eller presented the awards the Chapter received at the Board of Management (BOM) this past Friday & Saturday and gave a brief synopsis of the activities at the two-day event.

- President Eller presented Sonny Jones the Liberty Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster awarded to him at the BOM.

- John Michael Joslin was inducted into the SAR following the standard ceremony. Norm Desmarais represented the Color Guard.

- The meeting recessed for the luncheon at approximately 12:00 PM. Menu choices today were Bratwurst with sauerkraut and baked beans or grilled chicken Caesar salad. The Eller's brought a delicious cake for all members to share as dessert.

- The meeting was recalled to order at approximately 1:05 PM.

- Today's speaker was Mr. Matt Culver who spoke on the problems with algae blooms in the Indian River Lagoon and the efforts that are underway to mitigate the damage being done to the estuary as a result of excessive amounts of nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus) entering the ecosystem.

- Sharon Eller and her cousin Jane Lowe conducted the 50/50 Drawing.

- All stood and recited SAR Recessional.

- As there was no further business President Eller adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:00 PM.

- The next luncheon is scheduled for Saturday, November 19, 2016 at The Tides.

Respectfully submitted, Bob Humker, Recording Secretary



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two resolutions concerning the future modules that will provide a basis for an SAR genealogical research system.

**One resolution** concerns how the data base will be populated from applications. There were three basic points (my summary to save space).

1. Only information marked as verified on current and future applications will be used in the core data base.

2. Information from old applications will be used in the core data base. This information was verified in accord with the standards of the time, but may not meet current standards. (Old applications do have value. At minimum, if the applicant was in a position to have personal knowledge of the information, it can be considered as evidence. Other claims may provide a road-map for future research.)

3. Information displayed for an ancestor search will be corrected as new applications reveal problems with old information. Warning flags will be used.

### ***The second resolution is:***

Resolved, that the SAR should design its genealogical research system so that information from approved applications and documentation is searched and displayed separately from information from Revolutionary graves and Patriot Biographies. There should be links on the displays of information from one source to information from other sources where the information is about the same patriot.

The current Patriot Search intermingles information from applications with information from Patriot Grave. This decision was made over strong staff objections and without input from the Genealogy Committee. Applications have a lineage associated with them and have been reviewed in accord with standards in place at the time. Grave registrations undergo no national level review and seldom if ever include a lineage.

**Other Genealogy Committee Decisions.** The Genealogy Committee approved a number of changes in Genealogy Policy intended to clarify wording or correct typographical errors. These are posted at the website as

of this morning. Subcommittees were established to consider the following issues:

- Proposed changes to the Bylaws concerning signatures on Junior Member Applications and Memorial applications. The Bylaws Committee recommended at Congress that these be referred to the Genealogy Committee.

- Acceptable evidence for proof of residence of the patriot during the Revolution. Residence is required by Bylaw 1, but proof standards have not been addressed.

- Possible recognition of members who establish a new patriot ancestor through a new or supplemental application.

### **Ad hoc Committee on Digitization.**

President General Tomme appointed an ad hoc committee on the digitization of applications and supporting documentation.

**Expedited Applications.** Request and approval for expedited processing of an applicant is not well understood. The following persons can request that an application be expedited:

- An applicant, sponsor, state registrar, state secretary, or state president.

The following persons comprise a panel

with the decision-making authority:

- Executive Director, Genealogist General, and/or Chairman of the Genealogy Committee. (Don Shaw, John Sinks, and Jim Faulkinbury are the incumbents.)

Please submit requests by email to all three members of the panel.

The number of votes needed for approval depends on the applicant's circumstances:

- one vote for applicants who are nearing the end of their lives (in hospice care, extreme advanced age, etc.) or are on active duty military in a war zone or facing imminent deployment to a war zone;

- two votes for applicants of very high social or government status;

- three votes for applicants in all other cases.

I believe that all requests requiring only one vote have been approved during my tenure. There has been concern about the threshold for extreme advanced age, however. I believe that during my tenure the very few requests requiring two votes have been approved. Please bear in mind that celebrity is not the same thing as high social status. Where three votes have been required, some have been approved and some have been denied. These require a solid justification.

**Application Processing Status.** New member applications are currently being examined about 11 1/2 weeks and supplemental applications about 20 1/2 weeks after they are received, compared to about 4 1/2 weeks and about 14 weeks a year ago and about 11 weeks and 16 weeks on 21 August. Staff have informed me that President General Tomme and Executive Director Shaw decided to assign a supplemental genealogist to work a



John Sinks, Genealogist General

day or two per week reviewing new member applications.

**Genealogy Department Staffing.** In 2013 when I became Genealogist General in 2014 the staffing level in the Genealogy Department was 5.2 genealogists—4 full-time and 2 part time employees working 3 days per week. In the fall of 2014 the staffing level was reduced by 1 full-time employee to 4.2 genealogists. For much of the last year and a quarter a 3 day per week “floater” employee has been working in Genealogy. That person has been reassigned to other areas where her skills can be better utilized. I support this decision. Hiring a 3 day per week part-time employee was authorized in June. The person hired decided she wanted to work only two days per week, and then decided she wanted to work only 5 hours per day. She resigned a day or two after I sent Email #22, before she completed her training. I urged the President General to authorize budget resources to hire a full-time genealogist, but an offer was made for a 3 day per week part-time and accepted. The new employee, Debra Renard, started earlier this month, bringing the current staffing level to 4.8 positions. An additional full-time genealogy position is in the approved 2017 budget. There will be new work in the Department preparing for digitization. The total staffing in the Genealogy Department will be about 5.8 positions in 2017, but roughly 5.2 positions are expected to be devoted to reviewing applications.

*Genealogist General John Sinks*

# BREVARD CHAPTER

will be to limit one mentor to each new member. However this mentor could be assigned more than one new member.

The following are suggestions for identifying experienced chapter members for the role of mentor.

- Possibly the first line sponsor
- Has risen through chapter officer ranks and is looking for additional challenges
- Is a longtime member
- Has a working knowledge of the Sons of the American Revolution and what we are about
- Understands the chapter officer positions, activities and committee roles
- Is comfortable working with people
- Has the time and energy to devote to guiding new members
- Could work with more than one new member if called on to do so
- Is familiar with the Mentorship Program
- Is typically willing to take on new duties and challenges

For states with an at large membership category, the state society will identify mentors from the membership as they deem appropriate.

## ***Why Mentors are Important***

In addition to developing programs and strategies to promote new membership, the Membership Committee needs to ensure that retention of our members is a priority. Therefore, it is imperative that our chapters and societies promote the mentorship of new members and the Mentorship Program. The appointment of a mentor to ensure the new member is welcomed and integrated into the chapter should have a positive impact on retention and make the State Society more competitive for the Richard H. Thompson Jr Award which is presented at Congress to the State Society that has the smallest number of members dropped for non-payment of dues.

## National News



## Proposed SAR Mentor Program

The lifeblood of chapters will be members who are willing to: take an active part in the leadership of the chapter, participate in the activities of the chapter, volunteer when called for and encourage others to get involved. Active, growing chapters require that more members are encouraged to become active and participate at some level in the chapter. If the chapter can enrich the experience of new members from day one they are more likely to pay their dues and remain a member. Thus retention of members requires that they be given good reason to remain a member.

There are members in chapters who have been active participants and are familiar with the goals and programs supported by the Sons of the American Revolution. A chapter can encourage future leadership and program support by assigning mentors to new members as they are approved. Good mentors will be able to use their experiences in The Sons of the American Revolution and its programs to identify the interests and life experiences of new members and be able to guide and encourage these new members toward maintaining their membership. The best use of mentors



# BREVARD CHAPTER

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1st VP - Roger Bonnett - 453-8888  
2nd VP - Samuel Ashdown - 850-893-8041  
Secretary - Steve Williams - 632-5663  
Recording Secretary - Bob Humker - 631-4575  
Treasurer - Carroll Lord -638-4879  
Member-at-large: James Wade  
Member-at-large: Sonny Jones - 452-1319  
Chaplain - **Open**  
Registrar - Steve Williams - 632-5663  
Chancellor - **Open**  
Genealogist - Sonny Jones - 452-1319  
Sergeant-at-Arms - **Open**  
Historian - Norm Desmarais - 431-5524

## Committee Chairs:

Editor/Publisher - Steve Williams  
CG Commander - **Open**  
ROTC - Philip Wright (321) 557-3086  
Scouting - Philip Wright (321) 557-3086  
Education - **Open**  
Flag committee - Steve Williams  
Publicity - Clint Hill (407) 409-5765  
Parliamentarian - **Open**  
Veteran's Affairs - **Open**

## Callers and their areas:

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Ben DuBose - 952-2928 Melbourne/Palm Bay  
Carroll Lord - 638-4879 Merritt Island  
Barry Eller - 613-3112 Beaches  
Sam Ashdown - 850-893-8041 Melbourne/Beaches  
Bob Humker - 631-4575 Melbourne/Palm Bay  
Justin Murrell - 292-1840 Melbourne  
Roger Bonnett - 453-8888 Viera/Beaches  
Bob Chorney - 863-326-1826 Beaches  
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