



SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

BREVARD BEACON

Vol 49:1

September/October 2015



Volume 49 Issue 1
1
Sept - Oct 2015

September Meeting

President's Message

September 12
at Tides Restaurant, PAFB

Come On Down!

Arrive at 11:30

Submit reservations to
1st VP Barry Eller

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

The September Program

Constitution Week Celebration with Charles Pfeiffer on Colonial Currency

INSIDE

- Minutes of Executive Committee meetings
- Constitution Week
- Florida and National Meetings
- Revolutionary War Timeframe-September & October
- President General Message
- National Activities and Events
- Seige of Savannah
- Cape Canaveral National Cemetery update

Compatriots,

As we approach our Constitution Week luncheon I am reminded what an incredible set circumstances and events occurred in the decade after the Revolution that turned our rag-tag confederation of individual sovereign states (which had just won their hard fought freedom from the clutches of Mother Britain) into a national republic framed upon a new "Constitution". Award winning author Joseph Ellis tells the story of this amazing transformation and the four men who led the effort in his book entitled *The Quartet: Orchestrating the Second American Revolution, 1783-1789*. I would suggest it is also an amazing example of what a few men with high ideals and a great vision can change the course of history and help found a nation that becomes the envy of every other on the planet. A great read as well as an inspiration to all that we can to create a better society.



Robert "Bob" Humker, President

Brevard Executive Board Meeting Schedule

Brevard Executive Board meetings 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 Humker. Officers are requested to submit their reports to President Humker before the meeting for distribution to all officers. For dates of these meetings check the Meeting Calendar at <http://www.brevardsar.org/Calendar.htm>

F&L S.S.A.R. Richard Fowler Award winner for Best Newsletter - 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014. 2nd Place 2009. Honorable Mention 2014. N.S.S.A.R. Carl Bessent Newsletter Award - 2nd Place 2012, 2013. Honorable Mention 2009. N.S.S.A.R. 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 Colorguard 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 Colorguard. 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

- September 12th - Constitution Week Meeting
- October 12th - John Barry's Brithday - Jetty Park
- November 11th - Veterans Day Massing of the Colors at Eastern Florida State College - Cocoa Campus
- December 12th - Wreaths Across America ceremonies at Noon.
- February 27th - George Washington's Birthday celebration.
- March 5th - Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution - MI Veterans Center
- March 19th - St Patrick's Day Parade, Melbourne
- May 30th - Memorial Day Parade, Melbourne
- June 11th - Flag Day Celebration

JOIN THIS COLORFUL GROUP



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



Florida Chapter Color Guardsmen in attendance at the Memorial Service held at the Christ Church Episcopal (below) in Greenville, South Carolina.



Meeting Schedule, Program, and Menus

The 2015-2016 Meeting Schedule is as follows:

September 12. Constitution Week, The Tides PAFB 11:30 a.m., Speaker Charles Pfeiffer on Colonial Currency, \$15 per person; menu: Crispy Crumb Chicken Breast OR Chefs Salad

October 10. The Tides PAFB 11:30 a.m., Speaker TBD, topic TBD, \$15 per person; menu: Bratwurst with German Potatoes Salad and Red Cabbage OR Grilled Chicken Caesar Salad

November 14. The Tides PAFB 11:30 a.m., Speaker TBD, topic TBD, \$15 per person; menu: Turkey & Dressing, Potatoes & Gravy, Cranberry, Squash, Garden Salad OR Tuna Salad/Chicken Salad Duo.

December 19. The Tides PAFB 11:30 a.m., No Speaker, \$15 per person; menu: Meat Loaf with appropriate sides OR Chicken Cashew Salad

January 16, 2016. The Tides PAFB 11:30 a.m., Speaker Diane Zalenski - Colonial Customs, \$15 per person; menu: Garlic Shrimp w/Basil served over Linguine OR Fresh Fruit Plate

February 2016 - DAR Regents Council event for Washington's Birthday. Date, location and menu are TBD.

March 19, 2016. The Tides PAFB **12:30 pm.**, Speaker TBD, topic TBD, \$15 per person; menu: Corned beef & cabbage OR Classic chef's salad.

April 16, 2016. The Tides PAFB 11:30 a.m., Speaker TBD, topic TBD, \$15 per person; menu: Baked Cod Filet with Béarnaise Sauce OR Grilled Chicken Caesar Salad.

May 21, 2016. The Tides PAFB 11:30 a.m., ELECTION/AWARDS, \$15 per person; menu: Teriyaki Chicken OR Tuna Salad/Chicken Salad Duo.

Remember 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.

BREVARD CHAPTER

August 8, 2015 Executive Committee

Meeting Minutes

Location: Perkins Restaurant, Viera

Attendance:

President Robert Humker, 1st Vice President Barry Eller, Corresponding Secretary Steve Williams, Treasurer Carroll Lord. Excused: Roger Bonnett.

Pres. Humker called the meeting to order at 9:15am. Humker called a close to the meeting at 10:35am.

July Executive Committee meeting minutes could not be approved as there was no quorum of the Executive Committee present. Discussion on

- September 12, 2015 meeting with coordination with the Brevard Regent's Council and sending out of the meeting information
- Possible Inductions of new members with having some at the September meeting since there will be new members who are relatives of local DAR members who referred these relatives to the SAR.
- Presenting SAR medals at the October meeting.
- Getting a quorum at these meetings.
- Caller List has been updated; discussion on coordinating reservations with payments between Barry and Carroll. Carroll will give Barry the contact information for The Tides.
- Proposed speakers and topics for the rest of the year with suggestions coming from members present - Honor Flight, members speaking on their Patriot Ancestor, etc.
- Florida Veterans Battalion (FVB) membership * and whether someone is specifically listed. A survey will be sent to all members to determine which members are veterans and to give them the opportunity to join the FVB.
- Secretary's reports mentioned and no questions presented concerning those reports.
- John Barry medal/pin/medallion possible production (pin), costs vs income, market for pin, minimum production run (250), size of pin, etc.
- Last Naval Battle program speaker and luncheon after program with reservations from Sonny's BBQ (Cocoa Beach) and meal cost.
- JROTC committee chair assistance for Ray Norman and

**Minutes -
Continued on page 10**

BREVARD CHAPTER

Siege of Savannah

The Siege of Savannah or the Second Battle of Savannah was an encounter of the American Revolutionary War in 1779. The year before, the city of Savannah, Georgia, had been captured by a British expeditionary corps under Lieutenant-Colonel Archibald Campbell. The siege itself consisted of a joint Franco-American attempt to retake Savannah, from September 16 to October 18, 1779. On October 9 a major assault against the British siege works failed. During the attack, Polish nobleman Count Casimir Pułaski, leading the combined cavalry forces on the American side, was mortally wounded. With the failure of the joint American-French attack, the siege failed, and the British remained in control of Savannah until July 1782, near the end of the war.

In 1779, more than 500 recruits from Saint-Domingue (France's colony which became Haiti two decades later, after a massive slave revolt), under the overall command of French nobleman Charles Hector, Comte d'Estaing, fought alongside American colonial troops against the British Royal Army during the siege of Savannah. This was one of the most significant foreign contributions to the American Revolutionary War. This French-colonial force had been established six months earlier and included hundreds of soldiers of color in addition to white soldiers and some black slaves.

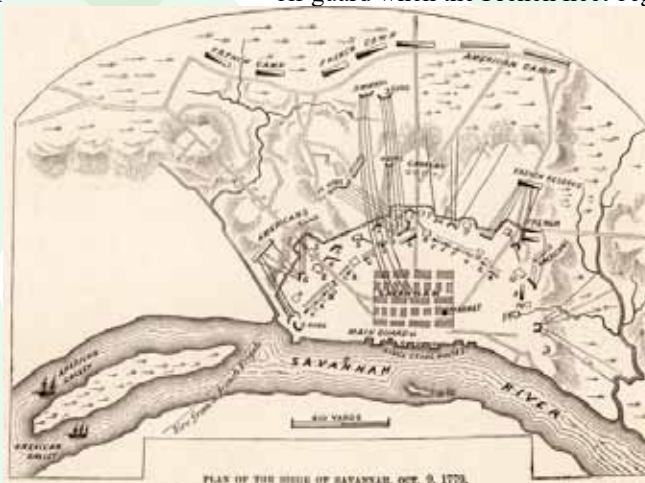
Following the failures of military campaigns in the northern United States earlier in the American Revolutionary War, British military planners decided to embark on a southern strategy to conquer the rebellious colonies, with the support of Loyalists in the South. Their first step was to gain control of the southern ports of Savannah, Georgia, and Charleston, South Carolina. An expedition in December 1778 took Savannah with modest resistance from ineffective militia and Continental Army defenses.

The Continental Army regrouped, and by June 1779 the combined army and militia forces guarding Charleston numbered between 5,000 and 7,000 men. General Benjamin Lincoln, commanding those forces, knew that he could not recapture Savannah without naval assistance; for this he turned to the French, who had entered the war as an American ally in 1778. French Admiral the

Comte d'Estaing spent the first part of 1779 in the Caribbean, where his fleet and a British fleet monitored each other's movements. He took advantage of conditions to capture Grenada in July before acceding to American requests for support in operations against Savannah. On September 3, an uncharacteristically early arrival as there was still substantial risk of seasonal hurricanes, a few French ships arrived at Charleston with news that d'Estaing was sailing for Georgia with twenty-five ships of the line and 4,000 French troops. Lincoln and the French emissaries agreed on a plan of attack on Savannah, and Lincoln left Charleston with over 2,000 men on September 11.

British troop strength in the area consisted of about 6,500 regulars at Brunswick, Georgia, another 900 at Beaufort, South Carolina, under Colonel John Maitland, and about 100 Loyalists at Sunbury, Georgia. General Augustine Prevost, in command of these troops from his base at Savannah, was caught completely off guard when the French fleet began to arrive off Tybee Island near Savannah and recalled the troops stationed at Beaufort and Sunbury to aid in the city's defense.

Captain Moncrief of the Royal Engineers was tasked with constructing fortifications to repulse the invaders. Using 500-800 African American slaves working up to twelve hours per day, Moncrief constructed an entrenched defensive line, which included redoubts, nearly 1,200 feet (370 m) long, on the plains outside



the city.

D'Estaing began landing troops below the city on September 12. By September 16 he was moving in on the city. Confident of victory, and believing that Maitland would be prevented from reaching Savannah by Lincoln, he offered Prevost the opportunity to surrender. Prevost temporized and asked for 24 hours of truce.

Owing to miscommunication about who was responsible for preventing Maitland's movements, the waterways separating South Carolina's Hilton Head Island from the mainland were unguarded, and Maitland was able to reach Savannah hours before the truce ended. Prevost's response to d'Estaing's offer was a polite refusal, even though Lincoln had also arrived outside the city.

The French commander, rejecting the idea of assaulting the British defenses, unloaded cannons from his ships and began a bombardment of the city. The city, rather than the entrenched defenses, bore the brunt of this bombardment, which lasted from October 3 to 8. "The appearance of the town afforded a melancholy prospect, for there was hardly a house that had not been shot through", wrote one British observer.

When the bombardment failed to have the desired effect, d'Estaing changed his mind, and decided it was time to try an assault. He was motivated in part by the desire to finish the operation quickly, as scurvy and dysentery were becoming problems on his ships, and some of his supplies were running low. While a

traditional siege operation would likely have succeeded eventually, it would have taken longer than d'Estaing was prepared to stay.

Against the advice of many of his officers, d'Estaing launched the assault against the British position on the morning of October 9. The success depended in part on the secrecy of some its aspects, which were betrayed to Prevost well before the operations were supposed to begin around 4:00 am. Fog caused troops attacking the Spring Hill redoubt to get lost in the swamps, and it was nearly daylight when the attack finally got underway. The redoubt on the right side of the British works had been chosen by the French admiral in part because he believed it to be defended only by militia. In fact, it was defended by a combination of militia and Scotsmen from John Maitland's 71st Regiment of Foot, Fraser's Highlanders, who had distinguished themselves at Stono Ferry. The militia included riflemen, who easily picked off the white-clad French troops when the assault was underway. Admiral d'Estaing was twice wounded, and Polish cavalry officer Casimir Pulaski, fighting with the Americans, was mortally wounded. By the time the second wave arrived near the redoubt, the first wave was in complete disarray, and the trenches below the redoubt were filled with bodies. Attacks intended as feints against other redoubts of the British position were easily taken.

The second assault column was commanded by the Swedish Count Curt von Stedingk, who managed to reach the last trench. He later wrote in his journal I had the pleasure of planting the American flag on the last trench, but the enemy renewed its attack and our people were annihilated by cross-fire.[6] He was forced back by overwhelming numbers of British troops and was pushed back with only some 20 men left; all, including himself,



French Ships at the Siege of Savannah

were wounded. He later wrote, The moment of retreat with the cries of our dying comrades piercing my heart was the bitterest of my life.

After an hour of carnage, d'Estaing ordered a retreat. On October 17, Lincoln and d'Estaing abandoned the siege.

- Source ushistory.org

BREVARD CHAPTER

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 website 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.

Welcome Our New Members

The new member, Dennis Gibson, will be Inducted as schedules permit and, if not present, will have their certificates mailed after the next 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 reports 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 = 1
- Junior = 11
- Life = 2
- Memorial = 1
- Regular = 91
- Youth = 2
- Dual (w/ GASSAR) = 1
- Dual (In-state) = 1

With our 2 Associates (not counted by the state) the membership is 113.

BREVARD CHAPTER

Revolutionary War Timeline September - October



Coming in the November/December issue

More History, Updates on chapter's fall activities, pictures, and other "stuff." Look for reports on the NSSAR Spring Leadership conference - the discussions on the proposed Genealogy policy change and the Museum initiative.

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



1774

- Sept. 5-Oct. 26 - The First Continental Congress meets in Philadelphia and issues Declaration and Resolves
- Oct. 10 - Battle of Point Pleasant, Virginia (disputed as to whether it was a battle of the American Revolution or the culmination of Lord Dunmore's War)
- Oct. 20 - The Association (prohibition of trade with Great Britain)
- Oct. 24 - Galloway's Plan rejected

1776

- Sept. 15 - The British occupy New York City
- Sept. 16 - Generals George Washington, Nathanael Greene, and Israel Putnam triumphantly hold their ground at the Battle of Harlem Heights
- Sept. 19 - Col. Williamson's patriots attacked by Cherokees at Coweecho River, NC
- Oct. 11 - Benedict Arnold defeated at the Battle of Valcour Island (Lake Champlain),
- Oct. 28 - The Americans retreat from White Plains, New York. British casualties (~300) higher than American (~200).

1777

- Sept. 11 - The British win the Battle of Brandywine, Pennsylvania
- Sept. 16 - Rain-out at the Battle of the Clouds, Pennsylvania
- Sept. 19 - Burgoyne checked by Americans under Gates at Freeman's Farm, NY.
- Sept. 21 - Paoli Massacre, PA
- Sept. 26 - British under Howe occupy Philadelphia
- Oct. 4 - Americans driven off at the Battle of Germantown
- Oct. 7 - Burgoyne loses second battle of Freeman's Farm, NY (at Bemis Heights).
- Oct. 17 - Burgoyne surrenders to American General Gates at Saratoga, NY
- Oct. 22 - Hessian attack on Fort Mercer, NJ repulsed

1779

- Sept. 23 - John Paul Jones, aboard the Bonhomme Richard, captures British man-of-war Serapis
- Sept. 28 - The Tappan Massacre ("No Flint" Grey kills 30 Americans by bayonet)
- Oct. 9 - American attempt to recapture Savannah, GA fails

1780

- Sept. 23 - John André arrested, leading to the exposure of Benedict Arnold's plans to cede West Point to the British
- Oct. 7 - King's Mountain, SC: battle lasts 65 minutes.
- Oct. 14 - Washington names Nathanael Greene commander of the Southern Army.

1781

- Sept. 8 - Greene defeated at Eutaw Springs, SC
- Sept. 15 - French fleet drives British naval force from Chesapeake Bay

From the President General

There are several important matters I want to bring to your attention in this message. 1st I want to talk about Sharefile, 2nd about reports from our project chairmen, 3rd about communications and 4th about outreach education. I hope to be able to send these communications at least once a month but it will depend largely on my travel schedule which will begin to get busy later this week.



The 1st topic is Sharefile. Sharefile is a document management system that allows many people to access information simply by joining the SAR Sharefile account when you are sent a request to join. Some of you have already received this invitation and many more will receive it in the next few days. Thanks to Operations Director Mike Scroggins providing the e-mail addresses, our IT committee chairman Bill Marrs will be sending out over 17,000 invitations to SAR members. Please accept the invitation and join so you can access important business records of the society. There will be several different folders for the EXCOM, Trustees and committees but everyone will have access to the members folder and that will contain documents such as officer reports, meeting agendas, committee reports and other news of the society.

2nd I am making available reports from the following people who hold important positions in our society; PG Nathan White, who is the Building Construction Manager on the construction progress of the library and the HQ, Bill Stone, who is the Solid Light Project Manager on the Solid Light project, Don Shaw, Executive director on news and events at SAR HQ, Colleen Wilson, Education Director on our progress with outreach education, Sam Powell, SAR Foundation President on the plans to raise money for our projects, and IT committee chairman Bill Marrs on our software enhancement projects and website redesign. There is a lot of important information in these reports.

3rd and 4th is a survey about outreach education and communications where you have an opportunity to respond about what is important to you.

Please fill out the attached form and return it as indicated on the form.

[Editor's note: If you desire to respond to the survey, contact Steve Williams, Chapter Secretary for the survey form]

The outreach education position of the survey is particularly important because decisions will be made about the design of the lower level of the HQ building which is set aside for education. We need to know what the members want before we make any assumptions about how that area should be designed.

Tom Lawrence (TXSSAR)
President General

BREVARD CHAPTER



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 second Saturday in December.



We received donations for \$315 (21 wreaths) as of the deadline. In return, we will be getting \$105 as part of this fundraising effort. Compatriot Williams went to the Edgewater Cemetery and took part in that ceremony once again by reading the SAR President General's Proclamation before the assembled crowd.



Once the Holiday season is over, we can begin to submit funds to have wreaths for next December's ceremony at a cemetery of our choice. 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.

As of printing, we have funded 9 wreaths - 7 by member Jeff Rawson and 2 by Steve Williams. Let's beat last year's total! Let's shoot for 50 wreaths!

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

BREVARD CHAPTER

Constitution Week

Constitution Week is an American observance to commemorate the adoption of the United States Constitution. The observance runs annually from September 17 to September 23. It was officially enacted on August 2, 1956 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower from a congressional resolution petitioned by the Daughters of the American Revolution, but it was George W Bush who officially declared the inception of Constitution Week in September 2002. The purpose of the observance week is to promote study and education about the constitution which was originally adopted by the American Congress of the Confederation on September 17, 1787.

The weeklong commemoration of America's most important document is one of our country's least known official observances. Our Constitution stands as a testament to the tenacity of Americans throughout history to maintain their liberties and freedom, and to ensure those



inalienable rights to every American.

The tradition of celebrating the Constitution was started many years ago by the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). In 1955, the Daughters petitioned Congress to set aside September 17-23 annually to be dedicated for the observance of Constitution Week. The resolution was later adopted by the U.S. Congress and signed into Public Law #915 on August 2, 1956 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower. The aims of the celebration are to (1) emphasize citizens' responsibilities for protecting and defending the Constitution, preserving it for posterity; (2) inform the people that the Constitution is the basis for America's great heritage and the foundation for our way of life; and (3) encourage the study of the historical events which led to the framing of the Constitution in September 1787.

The United States of America functions as a Re-

public under the Constitution, which is the oldest document still in active use that outlines the self-government of a people. This landmark idea that men had the inalienable right as individuals to be free and live their lives under their own governance was the impetus of the American Revolution. Today, the Constitution stands as an icon of freedom for people around the world.



Signers of the United States Constitution, the supreme law of the United States, include 39 of 55 delegates who attended the Constitutional Convention, and the convention's secretary, William Jackson, who signed the document to authenticate the results of the Convention's sessions. The Constitution, called the most important document in American history, describes the branches of the United States government and how the government should be operated. It was signed on September 17, 1787, in Independence Hall, Philadelphia, with all of the original Thirteen Colonies members sending representatives, with the exception of Rhode Island.

Of the constitution's 40 signers, 23 were veterans of the Revolutionary War. Jonathan Dayton was the youngest to sign the Constitution, at the age of 26, while Benjamin Franklin, at the age of 81, was the oldest. Connecticut's Roger Sherman also signed the Articles of Association, the Declaration of Independence, and the Articles of Confederation, making him the only person to sign all four documents. Six other signatories' names are on the Declaration of Independence, while another four are on the Articles of Confederation.

Sources:

- "William Jackson: Soldier-Statesmen of the Constitution" (PDF). Army Center of Military History. 1987. pp. 3-4. Retrieved June 2, 2012.
- Jump up ^ Rossotti, Charles O. (2005). *Many Unhappy Returns: One Man's Quest To Turn Around The Most Unpopular Organization In America*. Harvard Business Press. p. 172. ISBN 978-1-59139-441-9.
- ^ Jump up to: a b "The Founding Fathers: Delegates to the Constitutional Convention". National Archives and Records Administration. Retrieved June 28, 2009.
- Jump up ^ "Roger Sherman". Architect of the Capitol. Retrieved June 28, 2009.



Cape Canaveral National Cemetery To Begin Accepting Burial Applications July 13

Cape Canaveral National Cemetery will begin accepting applications for burial of deceased eligible Veterans and their spouses on Monday, July 13. The cemetery is located along U.S. Route 1 in northern Brevard County, two miles south from Interstate 95, exit #231, and 12 miles north of Titusville.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) purchased the land in July 2012 for \$2.1 million and construction on the cemetery began in March of this year. The VA is planning to hold a public dedication ceremony later this year prior to opening for first burials. The first phase of construction is scheduled to be completed in May 2017 and will provide for approximately 17,000 gravesites and accommodate both casket and cremation urn interments.

The new 318-acre cemetery will serve the burial needs of more than 163,000 Veterans in the cemetery's service area for the next 100 years. Burial in a VA national cemetery is open to all members of the armed forces and Veterans who have met minimum active duty service requirements and were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable. Their spouse, widow or widower, minor children, and, under certain conditions, unmarried adult children with disabilities, may also be eligible for burial.

Eligible spouses and children may be buried even if they predecease the Veteran. Members of the reserve components of the armed forces who die while on active duty or who die while on training duty, or were eligible for retired pay, may also be eligible for burial. VA provides the gravesite, opening and closing of the grave, government headstone or marker, U.S. burial flag, Presidential Memorial Certificate and perpetual care of the gravesite at no cost to the family. For questions regarding burial eligibility and burial application at the cemetery, please contact the Cape Canaveral National Cemetery staff at 321-383-2638, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The next-of-kin, or funeral home acting on the family's behalf, may request burial at either or any VA national cemetery by contacting the VA's National Cemetery Scheduling Office in St. Louis, Missouri:

- First, send a copy of the military discharge documents to the NCSO by fax at 1-866-900-6417 or email at NCA.Scheduling@va.gov. Next call the Scheduling Office toll free at 1-800-535-1117 to complete application process.



BREVARD CHAPTER

Ladies Auxiliary



Membership 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 are Sheila Shaughnessy (Williams) and Mary Anne Chorney. Anyone interested can request an application form from Mary Anne.

State and National News

National

Fall Leadership Conference - Louisville, KY, 25 September 2015 - 26 September 2015

State News -

The state has its Board of Management (BOM) meeting location at the Florida Hotel and Conference Center at Florida Mall.

FLSSAR 2015 Fall BOM October 23-25, 2015 The Florida Hotel and Conference Center, Orlando

FLSSAR 2016 Winter BOM February 5-6, 2016 The Florida Hotel and Conference Center, Orlando

BREVARD CHAPTER

In Memoriam Ron Ryan



Ron, 81, a 16 year Cancer Survivor passed July 21 after more than a year long illness. He was born, raised and educated (graduating High School and College) in Utica NY. At 18, during the Korean War, he joined the USMC, and served 5 years as a Staff Sergeant. Ron was a Marine Security Guard at the US Paris Embassy. Living in Los Angeles, Lake Arrowhead CA, and Rochester NY, Ron worked in Sales and in Private

Security. Ron was a Colonel in the NYS Guard, State "Soldier of the Year" in 1987 and activated during 9/11; an Officer in Cooper Marine, and in the Genesee Valley MC League, in the Mendon Conservation League. In 2002, he retired to Suntree, and was a Vice President and JROTC Chairman of the Brevard Chapter Sons of the American Revolution and Vice Commander of the BC Marine Corps League. Ron, a quick wit, tireless story teller, avid reader and book and military memorabilia collector loved his family and friends, his German Shepherd pets and his Marine Corps. He leaves his sister Nancy (John) Gnan, Viera; niece Katie (Larry) Bloomfield and children Karl and Mia of NJ; nephew Bill (Bobbi) Gnan and sons Jamie and John, Oviedo. Special thanks to Drs. David Ross, Todd Panarese, and Scott Nunes and Staffs, as well as Health First and Vitas Hospices. Ron wishes any donations to go to Cancer Care Center of Brevard's "Caring Hearts".

A Celebration of his Life will be held at a future date. - See more at: <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/floridatoday/obituary.aspx?n=ronald-w-ryan&pid=175351921#sthash.nuJCRu8P.dpuf>

Ron's Brevard chapter service included serving as 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, JROTC Committee Chair, and in the chapter Color Guard. Until the past year, he attended practically all of the chapter meetings from his joining in 2005.

Ron was sponsored into the Sons of the American Revolution by his good friend George Darby who passed away last year. Ron's Patriot Ancestor was Pvt. Danial Buck. He received his 10 Year Membership pin this year,

Previous recognitions include the Chapter SAR Meritorious Service Medal, Chapter Medal of Distinguished Service, Chapter Roger Sherman Medal (Bronze), SAR Color Guard Medal (Bronze), and a Bronze Good Citizenship Medal.

- possible members to fill that position.
- Veterans Affairs Committee chairman possible members.
 - 2016 Dues report - Treasurer reported that 5 members have submitted already.
 - Wreaths Across America promotion to exceed last year's wreaths purchased (21); to-date we have 9.
 - Creation of a Chapter Membership Directory as part of the Editor's responsibility.
 - Having new meeting 'cards' be created and then laminated to prevent future need to have more made to replace ruined.
 - Getting information for the USS Stark award from members that have stated that they have done things that can be listed.
 - Boston Congress information handed out.
 - NSSAR reports presented.
 - Two CDs presented concerning Keyhole to History and presenting it to local radio stations for their PSA; Amerca's Heritage CD for presentation to local schools' history teachers as part of Education Outreach program.
 - Possible re-instatements.
 - Chapter member participation and reasons for not participation with possibility for survey to determine cuases for this inactivity.
 - Having our chapter members speak to DAR chapters to increase our recognition in Brevard County.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Williams, Secretary

* Brevard chapter FVB members as of April 3, 2015:

William Fuller, Silas Baker, Ron Ryan, Charles Boardman III, George Darby, Douglas Humm, Gerald Melter, Frank Cockerham, Frank Smith, John Dibble, Billy Peters.

.....

"People talk about the middle of the road as though it were unacceptable. Actually, all human problems, excepting morals, come into the gray areas. Things are not all black and white. There have to be compromises. The middle of the road is all of the usable surface. The extremes, right and left, are in the gutters."

Dwight D Eisenhower

.....

"Get your facts first, and then you can distort them as much as you please."

Mark Twain

Bermuda Gunpowder Plot!

**Patriotic Organizations to Commemorate
A Little-Known Event of the American Revolution . . . in
Bermuda!**

Members of the Sons of the American Revolution (S.A.R.), the Daughters of the American Revolution (D.A.R.), and the Children of the American Revolution (C.A.R.) will travel to Bermuda this month to commemorate the 240th anniversary of the Bermuda Gunpowder Plot, an important but little-known event of the American Revolution. The delegation of more than 50 people includes members from Alabama, California, Georgia, Maryland, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia. National officers from all three organizations, including two past National Presidents of the S.A.R. and the current National President of the C.A.R., will officiate at the dedication of three historical markers in separate ceremonies in Southampton Parish and the Town of St. George's.

The group will also attend a luncheon with The Honorable Michael Dunkley, MP, Premier of Bermuda, at his official residence, Camden. Acting U.S. Consul General Linda Rosalik will host a reception for the group on their first full day in Bermuda. His Excellency the Honorable George Fergusson, Governor of Bermuda, will also host a reception for the group at Government House, but the rumor is that he intends to present the descendants of the American rebels with a bill for the stolen gunpowder.

What was the Bermuda Gunpowder Plot? In the spring of 1775, as tensions with Great Britain rose, two Bermuda-born patriots - St. George Tucker and Thomas Tudor Tucker - separately informed leaders of the American cause that the lightly guarded magazine on Bermuda contained about 100 barrels of gunpowder (which was in short supply in the colonies). With that intelligence, Benjamin Franklin and others in Philadelphia were able to convince a few Bermudians to "appropriate" the gunpowder and have it loaded on American ships waiting off of Tobacco Bay. In exchange, the Bermudians received a partial exemption from the Continental Congress's trade embargo, which would allow Bermuda to continue receiving the American farm products on which islanders depended. Some of the gunpowder went to Charleston, South Carolina, where it was used in the successful defense of Sullivan's Island in June 1776. This famous battle prevented the early occupation of Charleston, one of America's most important port cities at that time. Thanks in part to Bermuda's gunpowder, Charleston's port would remain open to shipments of weapons, gunpowder and other goods from American allies until 1780, thus altering the course of the war in favor of the Patriot cause. The three scheduled ceremonies in Bermuda, all open to the public, were as follows:

- August 14, 2015 (4:30 p.m.) - Ceremony dedicating a DAR-SAR-CAR historical marker honoring Thomas and St. George Tucker, Port Royal Golf Course, Southampton.

BREVARD CHAPTER

- August 15, 2015 (4:45 p.m.) - The Mayor of St. George's, Ms. Quinell Francis, will greet the delegation. Following a re-enactment, the group will walk up the hill, and dedicate a DAR-SAR-CAR historical marker near the site of the Gunpowder Magazine.
- August 15, 2015 (6:00 p.m.) - Re-enactment of the rolling of the barrels of gunpowder down the hill toward Tobacco Bay Beach. After the re-enactment, the group will dedicate an interpretive sign regarding the Bermuda Gunpowder Plot at Tobacco Bay. There will be a party at the beach for Bermudians and tourists alike with Revolutionary War themed specials!

These events are the culmination of a three-year program designed to bring attention to Bermuda's role in the American Revolution and deepen the long-standing friendship between Bermuda and the United States. The series began in March 2013 with a ceremony honoring St. George Tucker and Thomas Tudor Tucker at the Tucker House Museum in St. George's, Bermuda. The groups held ceremonies marking the graves of the two brothers in Nelson County, Virginia (November 2013), and Washington, D.C. (May 2014). In October 2014, the national presidents of all three organizations participated in a ceremony at the home of St. George Tucker in Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia. The three patriotic organizations also conducted a ceremony at Fort Moultrie, Sullivan's Island, South Carolina, in April 2015 to commemorate the victory won in part with Bermuda's gunpowder. A final event is scheduled for October 2015 at Carpenter's Hall in Philadelphia, which was the site of the negotiations between Benjamin Franklin and the Bermuda delegation to the Continental Congress. All of the events have been co-sponsored by the Somers Isles Chapter, D.A.R., located in Bermuda. Bermuda's Overseas Representative, Cheryl Packwood, has attended all of the events held during her tenure, and she will speak at one of the ceremonies in Bermuda. The groups have also sold commemorative pins in order to help "pay Bermuda back" for the stolen gunpowder. Over \$4,000 has been raised for Bermuda charities, and presentations of the proceeds from the fund-raising effort will be made during the visit to representatives of the Bermuda National Trust, the St. George's Foundation, the Friends of St. Peter's Church, the Family Centre, and Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Bermuda.



J Michael Tomme and DAR & CAR members

BREVARD CHAPTER

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1st VP - Barry Eller - (571) 224-2945
2nd VP - Roger Bonnett - 453-8888
Secretary - Steve Williams - 632-5663
Recording Secretary - Ben DuBose - 952-2928
Treasurer - Carroll Lord - 638-4879
Member-at-large: James Alderman 941-896-3216
Member-at-large: Sonny Jones - 452-1319
Chaplain - David Ralston - 258-1982
Registrar - Steve Williams - 632-5663
Chancellor - **Open**
Genealogist - Sonny Jones - 452-1319
Sergeant-at-Arms - **Open**
Historian - Norm Desmarais - 431-5524

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CG Commander - Ben DuBose
ROTC - Ray Norman
Scouting -
Education - **Open**
Flag committee - Steve Williams
Publicity - **Open**
Parliamentarian - Ben DuBose
Veteran's Affairs - **Open**

Callers and their areas:

Carl Green - 269-3833, N Brevard
Ben DuBose - 952-2928 Melbourne/Palm Bay
Sonny Jones - 452-1319 Merritt Island
Barry Eller - 613-3112 Beaches
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