



SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

BREVARD BEACON

Vol 55:1 January-February 2023



Next Meeting

15 April 2023

TBD speaker

At Tides Collocated Club

1001 Florida A1A

Patrick SFB, FL 32925

Doors open at 11:00

Program starts at 11:30

Lunch Starts 12:00

BBQ Chicken, Roasted Sweet Potatoes, Coleslaw, Garlic
Bread

Or

Mushroom and Spinach Stack with Mozzarella, Pesto, and
Marinara Sauce, Broccoli

\$20

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President's Message

Greetings Compatriots,

I hope this New Year finds you well. We had outstanding membership renewals for this year. Thank you for your continued membership in and support of our organization. I also

want to recognize the work of Secretary Jensen in tracking down and contacting many of you to make sure you had the renewal form in time.

The Last Naval Battle Observance is just around the corner. It will be at the Veterans Memorial Center on March 18 at 10:00. Our LNB Committee has been hard at work to prepare for the ceremony. Please join us if you are able. There will be no regular monthly Member meeting in March in order to focus our attention on the LNB.

It's an important year for the Florida Society of the SAR as the annual National Conference will be held in Orlando in July. If you've ever wanted to attend the national event, this is a great opportunity. As part of the scheduled activities, there will be a bus to bring attendees to the Veterans Memorial Center to dedicate a bench for the 250th Celebration and recognize the location of the Last Naval Battle. We are quite honored to be included in the National Society's schedule of events.

Our Constitution and By-Laws Committee has completed their final draft of the revised Constitution and By-Laws. The Chapter Executive Committee is busy reviewing the revision, and we plan to bring the revision to the April Chapter Members Meeting to consideration.

Chapter Elections will be held in May. If you are interested in serving in an elected position please notify Nominations Committee Chairman James Ward.

Respectfully,

Brevard Chapter 2022-2023 President

Joel Etherton

Brevard

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Our 2023 Meeting Schedule is as follows:

Note: Menu items subject to change

March — No meeting due to LNB on 18 March

April 15, 2023 - Tides: Price \$20;
BBQ Chicken, Roasted Sweet Potatoes, Coleslaw, Garlic Bread or Mushroom and Spinach Stack with Mozzarella, Pesto, and Marinara Sauce, Broccoli

May 13, 2023 - Tides: Price \$20;
Lasagna with Meat Sauce, Vegetables, Breadsticks or Spinach and Strawberry Salad with Feta, Roasted Pecans, and Balsamic Reduction

June 10, 2023 - Tides: Price \$20;
Chef Salad (Ham, Swiss, Cheddar Cheese, Eggs, Cucumbers, Tomatoes, Onions and Peppers) or Bean and Cheese Quesadilla with Corn Chips and Salsa

July — No meeting

August — No meeting

Remember to mark your calendar for this year's meeting schedule

DOORS OPEN 11:00 AM - Meetings are at The Tides Collocated Club is open at 11:00, Meetings begin 11:30 sharp unless otherwise noted.

Pay by check to

***Laurence Herman
300 Harbor Dr. #302A
Vero Beach, FL 32963
ltherman@gmail.com***

Or pay at meeting with cash or check

Coming in the Next Issue

More History, Updates on chapter's activities, pictures, and events.

Look for reports on the NSSAR 2023 Congress, the Museum initiative, NSSAR web site updates, plus other news from National and State.

National and State Events

National Events

**2023 Spring Leadership
02-04 Mar 2023 Louisville KY**

**133rd Annual Congress
13 - 20 Jul 2023 Orlando, Florida
Hotel Registration now open**

Our group is NSSAR2023

The Rosen Plaza toll free number is 1-800-627-8258

The 2023 Congress has chosen Brevard County for both planned field trips. With all of Orlando's attractions, this speaks well of our county. The first field trip will be to KSC July 15th and the 2nd will be a visit to the Veterans Memorial Center July 19th. Help is needed in Brevard for the July 19th event as we will be having several functions for our visiting SAR members at the VMC

State Events

Spring BOM 19—20 May 2023

**Embassy Suites Orlando - Lake Buena Vista South
4955 Kyns Heath Road
Kissimmee, Florida, 34746**

New or Reinstated Members 2023

Member	Patriot
Rev. Dr. Gary Harbaugh	Capt. Enos Grannis– CT
David Garraway	Pvt. John/Johnannes Angstadt– PA
Timothy David Wright Kerns	Pvt. Conrad Dieffenbacher - PA



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

Regular	98
Junior	11
Life	6
E-1	1
Active Duty/Military	1
Dual	0
Total	117

Brevard

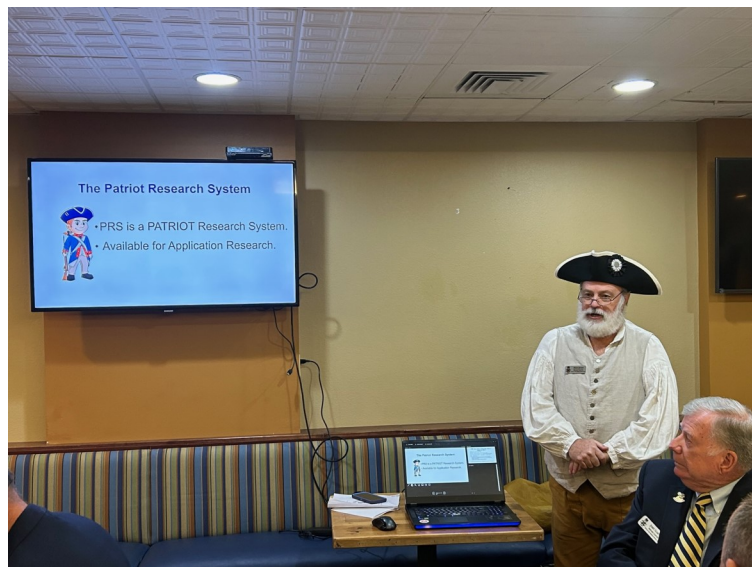
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Patriot Research System

The PRS is a combination of the previous NSSAR Patriot and Graves Registry (Online), NSSAR Revolutionary War Graves Registry (Book and CD), information from the NSSAR Patriot Index CD (2002), and additional information and updates from various State Grave Registry Databases.

Please be aware that the Patriot and Grave Registry is NOT a comprehensive list of all the individuals who served in the American Revolutionary War, nor is it an indication that an SAR membership application (Record Copy) exists for every Patriot listed herein.

This database is available for the purpose of general research and assisting with the SAR membership process. The sources contained within this database are NOT acceptable



Brian Jensen gives a lecture on the Patriot Research System at the January meeting

Flag History

By Compatriot Lou Stocks



Continental Flag

The Battle of Bunker Hill was fought on June 17, 1775. American colonists were surrounding Boston which at the time was full of British troops. Across the Charles River from Boston was the Charlestown Peninsula where the town of Charlestown and Breed's Hill, as well as Bunker's Hill, were located. A few days before the 17th, the colonists received word the British would attempt to try to break out of Boston, and they sent 1200 men under the command of William Prescott into the quiet of the night and built fortifications on those two hills. It's there that it's rumored the first continental flag was flown.



The Fort Moultrie Flag

The Moultrie Flag, also known as the Liberty Flag, is a strong symbol of the Southern role in the American Revolution. It's also a handsome flag with a simple design on a beautiful blue color. The flag was developed specifically for the Battle of Sullivan's Island, a short but important engagement in the Southern theater of battle during the American Revolutionary War.

In 1775, in the lead up to the American Revolution, Colonel William Moultrie wanted a flag that represented the new American nation. Moultrie was the commander of the 2nd South Carolina Regiment. He commissioned a design based on the uniform of his soldiers. This was the distinctive deep blue you see on the flag today. The crescent moon might come from the caps of the soldiers, which initially bore the legend "Liberty or Death". Some historians believe that it's instead a form of neck armor. Whatever the symbol's origin, its message was eventually simplified to "liberty", which is either written within the crescent or in the center at the bottom of the flag.

Flag History (continued)

By Compatriot Lou Stocks



Philadelphia Light Horse Flag

The history of the Philadelphia Light Horse Troop Flag: This troop was formed by a group of Philadelphia gentlemen on November 17, 1774. Many were businessmen and merchants who supplied their own uniforms, military equipment and horses. The flag was contributed to the unit by Captain Markoe. It was designed by John Folwell and painted by James Claypoole. The British Union was originally painted in the canton but the artist was instructed to paint thirteen stripes to represent the united colonies. It was this troop that escorted General Washington from Philadelphia to take command of the Continental Army assembled at Cambridge outside of Boston in June, 1775. The Light Horse Troop later carried their flag in the Battles of Brandywine, Germantown, Princeton and Trenton.



William Montgomery Atwater II, age 84, of Melbourne, Florida passed away December 13, 2022. Monty was born and raised in Miami, Florida. He graduated from Miami Edison High School, the University of Miami and also attended Stetson University, College of Law and the City of London College. Monty was a Certified Financial Planner for 38 years and also successfully managed stock brokerage offices in South Florida. In 1993, he retired to Melbourne after his lengthy Wall Street Management Career.

While living in Miami, he served as a Deacon at the Miami Shores Presbyterian Church. Monty is a past member and Director of the Miami and Melbourne Kiwanis Clubs. He served as past President of St. Francis Hospital Board of Directors in Miami Beach. Later he became a board member of the Alleghany Health System of the Franciscan Sisters and Chairman of their finance committee.

Monty was a US Navy Veteran and recipient of the Freedom Foundation George Washington Honor Medal. He was a member of the Disabled American Veterans. As a leader in the community, in 2005, he was elected to the Suntree Master Homeowner Board where he served proudly for 12 years.

Monty also held memberships in The Sons of the American Revolution and The Society of Mayflower Descendants. He loved spending time with family and friends, travel to NC., reading his Bible, being outdoors to enjoy the beauty of nature and all God's creatures. He was a lover of history, antique cars and animals, especially his "Bella".

Monty is survived by his wife Meg; daughter Leslie Ladner and her husband Trent Ladner; grandsons Ryan and Alexander Ladner; Justin Kramer and his wife Amanda and their daughters Elise and Olivia; Kensey Wolters and her daughter Emily. A Celebration of Life service will be held at Suntree United Methodist Church at 7400 N. Wickham Rd. Melbourne, Fl. on Thursday, December 22, 2022 at 10 am. His remains will be interred at The National Military Cemetery in Cape Canaveral, Fl.

In lieu of flowers, Monty's wish was for donations to The Endowment Fund, which he helped create, at Suntree United Methodist Church, 7400 N. Wickham Rd., Melbourne, Fl. 32940

Brevard Chapter SAR Eagle Scout Essay Contest Winner

Patrick Kelly



The Battle of Monmouth

Acknowledged as one of the greatest battles of the American Revolutionary War, the Battle of Monmouth took place on June 28, 1778 in Monmouth, New Jersey. Having lasted one full day, The Battle of Monmouth is regarded as the longest battle of the war as well as the last to occur in the northern colonies. It also made famous the actions of a soldier's wife, known today as Molly Pitcher.

How the troops of General George Washington and British Commander Sir Henry Clinton came to meet in Monmouth, New Jersey is a result of the French agreeing to help the Americans. With the French becoming involved, General Clinton was ordered to move his men out of Philadelphia in order to strengthen the New York position. They marched east toward New Jersey from where they would move north. General Washington sent an advance team led by General Charles Lee to engage with the British as he positioned the soldiers under his own command. Both Clinton's and Lee's forces reached Monmouth on June 27 paving the way for the next day's battle.

Charles Lee was General Washington's right-hand man, but proved an ineffective leader at The Battle of Monmouth. Early in the confrontation, General Lee felt that the Continental Army had little chance of winning the battle and decided to retreat. Some of the retreating soldiers encountered General Washington and his troops riding toward the battle. Believing he had a solid battle plan, Washington became furious and dismissed Lee on the spot.

With General Washington now in full command, the Americans held off the British assaults. As darkness moved over the battlefields, the fighting drew to a close. It had been a very hot day and there were a number of casualties due to heatstroke alone. It was reported that General Washington's own horse succumbed! When day broke on June 29, General Washington's troops alone remained on the battlefield. General Clinton had moved his troops north in the middle of the night. Because there was no clear defeat of either army, both sides claimed victory. In fact, in a letter to Congress, George Washington wrote, "We forced the enemy from the field and encamped on their ground." (*History of the American Revolution*)

The conclusion of the battle leaves room for interpretation as does the role of Mary Ludwig Hays. The wife of an artillery private, she is known to the history books as Molly Pitcher. In recorded acts of bravery, Mary provided fresh water to the men on the battlefield during active fighting. In a particular recorded incident, when Mary's husband fell on the battlefield, she swiftly and courageously assumed his place at the cannon. The story has become a legendary tale and is reported along with other details of the fight.

The Battle of Monmouth was a historical turning point in America's war for independence. In the absence of a resounding victory, the inconclusive "draw" of the battle provided optimism and hope for the future in our fight for freedom.

Bibliography

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- Lancaster, Bruce, et al. *History of the American Revolution* . Ibooks, 2003.
- Rust, Randal. "Battle of Monmouth, Summary, Facts, Significance, 1778." *American History Friends of Monmouth Battlefield* , <https://>

Brevard

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BECOME A GUARDS- MEN

We are looking for volunteers to join Brevard Camp of the Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade.

It is preferred to have the same type of uniform or clothing in which your Patriot ancestor would have worn during the Revolution.

Continental Army, Navy, or Marine Uniform, is the traditional dress in a unit, however Militia personnel wore everyday clothes of the era.

Militia clothing consists of:

- Hat round or tricorn
- Shirt
 - White
 - Hunting

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, 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 uniform 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 2023

Calendar of Local Events

February 17-19, 2023 F.S.C.A.R. 92nd Annual State Conference Orlando, FL **Completed**

March 18, 2023 Last Naval Battle VMC

March 25, 2023 246th Anniversary Battle of Thomas Creek. Jacksonville, FL

May 01-08, 2023 All Veterans Reunion Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall Wickham Park, Melbourne, FL. Wreath Presentation May 01, 2023 @ 6:00pm

May 07-08, 2023 Battle of Pensacola, Pensacola FL. May 07th Patriot Grave Marking

May 29, 2023- Memorial Day Services VMC 09:30-10:30 National Cemetery and various locations

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.



January Meeting Events



10 Year Service Award to Brian McWaters



20 Year Service Award to Carl Oehmann



15 Year Service Award to Ray Norman



January Meeting Events (Continued)



Jeff Rogers Induction



Military Service Medal presented to Carl Oehmann



Florida Society Veterans Battalion Certificate presented to Carl Oehmann



Lou Stocks accepting certificate of induction for his grandson



February Meeting Events



10 Year Service Award to Norm Desmaris



Our February speaker was Doug Bisset who talked about the role of women during the Revolutionary War



The Sgt. Joseph Plumb Martin Outstanding Young Member Supporter Medal is presented to Nic Mahoa



Upcoming Community Event

Every May, Vietnam and all Veterans of Brevard hosts their Annual Vietnam and All Veterans Reunion at Wickham Park May 01-07, 2023. On Sunday April 30th, a procession will escort the Vietnam Moving Wall from Eastern Florida State College in Cocoa to Wickham Park in Melbourne. Throughout the week volunteers will be needed to work the Locator Desk to aid in providing locations of specific Veterans whose name is on the wall. This service is to aid relatives, comrades, and friends to help locate their loved-one's memorial on the wall.



VMC Upcoming Tentative Events

March

04 Mar — JROTC Drill Meet in Veterans Memorial Park District Championship (0700-1300)

18 Mar — Commemoration of the Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution 1000-1300 VMC Plaza, Museum and Gray Hall

April

01 Apr — American Legion AUX 344 annual Easter Egg Hunt at Veterans Memorial Park 1300-1500

29 Apr — Brevard Parkinson's Alliance 5K to raise funds to beat Parkinson's. 0700-1200 Veterans Memorial Park, Center and Plaza. 0800 5 K Run with Running Zone and 1000 1K Walk.Stroll for those with Parkinson's. Register on line at secure.runningzone.com.

May

07 May — Back Brevard Heroes Festival to honor First Responders and Veterans, VMC Plaza, Gray Hall and Park 0930- 1400.

20 May — Space Coast Military and Family Appreciation Day and BBQ — On Armed Forces Day 2023, From 1500-1900 at the VMC and Park. Featuring CW Award winning singer Rocky Lynne!!!! "Heroes Come from Small Towns" and "Proud to Be a Soldier: Active duty unit displays, music, food, kids games, many special activities to honor our active duty forces and their families who eat free. Co sponsored by CBRCC MAC, VMC and Military Recruiters.

29 May — Memorial Day Remembrance VMC 0930-1030



JROTC Notes

Jerry Scarpace

The Chapter is currently contacting the ROTC/ JROTC/Sea Cadet organizations in Brevard County to solicit names of members who qualify for the appropriate medals. Each unit will identify their top cadet who meets the highest academic, leadership and patriotic standards.

I will also be soliciting for Chapter volunteers who can present these medals at ceremonies being held at the end of March to the end of April.



Remember our Veterans

Brevard

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2022-2023 Officers

President - Joel Etherton

1st VP - Christopher Ratzel

2nd VP - Jerry Scarpate

Secretary - Brian Jensen

Recording Secretary - Sam Ashdown

Treasurer - Laurence Herman

Member-at-large: Doug Bisset

Member-at-large: Donn Weaver

Committee Chairs:

Registrar - Roger Bonnett

CG Commander - Nic Mihora

Genealogist- Ray Norman

Webmaster- Robbie Carlisle

Parliamentarian - Dale Bottom

Editor/Publisher - Carl Oehmann

ROTC / Youth - Jerry Scarpate

Veteran's Affair—Doug Bisset, Donn Weaver

If you would like to volunteer for a Committee position contact

President Joel Etherton

Website: <http://www.brevardrsar.org>

Email: oehtmann49@gmail.com

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The Brevard Beacon
The Brevard Chapter, FLSAR
Editor, Carl Oehmann
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Indian Harbour Beach, FL 32937