

The Pensacola Patriot

Pensacola Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution
Chartered March 14, 1896

February/March 2023

Chapter Officers

2023-2024

President	Chris Washler
Vice Pres.	Bill Nobles
Secretary	Bob Canavello
Treasurer	Bill Lies
Registrar	Ray Judd
Genealogist	Carl Judson
Chaplain	John Matthews
Sergeant-at-Arms	Jeremy Findley
Historian	Chris Washler
Member-at-large	John Matthews



President's Message

I'll start this month's message off with a bit of an explanation. You may have noticed that the date on the newsletter is February/March 2023. This issue started as the February issue, but as articles continued to be added, it became obvious that we weren't going to meet an end of the month deadline for publishing it. So, an editorial decision was made to combine the February and March issues. What this means going forward is that newsletters will come out at the beginning of each month rather than the end, so our next issue after this will be the April issue. It's not much of a change, but I wanted everyone to be aware of the change.

This issue has some great features in it. We have our first Patriot Biography to be published. Admittedly, I am biased since Adam Link is my original Patriot Ancestor. I hope you enjoy the biography and hopefully it inspires you to submit one for your Patriot! We also have articles on Wreaths Across America, our Flag Recognition program, and the effort to re-activate our Color Guard Unit. That last article is of special interest to me. Those who have been members of the chapter for a while know that it has been a mission of mine for several years to reactivate our color guard unit. The SAR Color Guard is one of the best publicity tools for any chapter, and it is time for our chapter to get back out there in the public eye!

Our January meeting saw the introduction of one new member who transferred in from Alabama and the induction of another brand new compatriot. Carl Black has officially joined our chapter coming from the Galvez Chapter in Alabama. Carl has attended meetings for the past couple of months, and we finally got his transfer processed through! In addition, we inducted Charles Cather as our newest compatriot. Charles is the descendant of James Shelburne.

I encourage all of you to come to our March meeting on the 20th. At that meeting, Joe Epley will join us to talk about the Battle of Kings Mountain and the Overmountain Men. Joe is from Greenville, South Carolina. Joe has held many hats over his adult life, including a long career as a public relations executive, a Green Beret, a television journalist and a novelist. **(continued on page 2)**

President's Message (continued from p. 1)

It's my sincere hope that we will have a fantastic turn out for Joe's presentation!

I look forward to seeing everyone at the March meeting! If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (850) 380-1329

Yours in Patriotism,

Chris



Committee Members Needed

We are in need of committee members for the following committees. The time commitments aren't huge, and you would be helping to put the SAR out in front of our community.

- Youth Programs (Knight Essay Contest, Poster Contest, History Fair, etc) (Chair and members)
- 250 by the 250th—Flag Recognition (Members needed)
- Standing Awards Committee (members needed)
- Eagle Scout Program (members needed)

Please contact any member of the Executive Board if you are interested in helping with these projects!

Chapter Meetings

Meeting Date: The chapter meeting is on the **Third Monday of the Month.**

Meeting Location: We are now meeting at Sonny's on 9th Avenue (6702 N. 9th Avenue).

Pensacola SAR on the Internet

Chapter Website: www.pensacolasar.org

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/PensacolaSAR

Instagram: [sarpensacola](https://www.instagram.com/sarpensacola)

Did You Know?

Did you know that the National Society Sons of the American Revolution (NSSAR) has a podcast?

"Revolutionary War Rarities" is a production of the NSSAR and they are short 10 minute podcasts that discuss little known facts about the Revolution. Check it out on Facebook and wherever you listen to podcasts!



250 by the 250th



The 250 by the 250th program is a special twist that our chapter is putting on the Flag Certificate program that the SAR has run for years. With our version of the program, we have a goal to recognize 250 individuals, businesses, or organizations for their exemplary display of the American flag between now and the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 2026.

Any residence, business, or organization is eligible to be recognized so long as the flag display is not being used for advertising purposes. All flags must be properly displayed as set forth in Public Law 94-344, Section 8d of United States Code Title 4, Chapter 1.

So far, we have had just over 30 nominations! Since not all nominees have had their certificates presented, we have not published the full list as of yet. Just a few examples of some of our nominations are Olive Baptist Church, Pensacola Yacht Club, multiple homes out at Perdido Bay Country Club, Pensacola Police Department, the City of Pensacola (City Hall specifically). And these are just a few!

We will be taking nominations from now until July 1, 2026, and anyone (even non-compatriots) can nominate an individual, business, or organization. Presentations will be done on a rolling basis, and can be scheduled at any time that is convenient for the recipient. If a compatriot wants to be part of the presentation, please just let the committee know! Compatriot John Matthews has agreed to take over as chair of the committee, and a new nomination form has been published to simplify the nomination process.

Nominations can be emailed to flags@pensacolasar.org or through the form on the chapter website at <http://pensacolasar.org/index.php/events/250by250th>. As soon as we are caught up on our awards, we will publish the full list of awardees on our website and on Facebook so you will have a convenient place to go see who all we have presented awards to!

Wreaths Across America 2023

It's never too early to start sponsoring wreaths for the 2023 Wreaths Across America program! This year's wreath laying event is on **December 16 at Barrancas National Cemetery**, and the national theme this year is "Serve and Succeed."

The Pensacola Chapter has been supporting Wreaths Across America for nearly 10 years now, and every year our compatriots and friends sponsor at least 50 wreaths. This year, we have set a goal to sponsor at least 100 wreaths for Barrancas!

The price for sponsoring a wreath has gone up slightly this year due to rising costs. Individual wreaths can be sponsored for \$17, or you can do multiples at the same time if you wish! As a reminder, for each wreath sponsored on our chapter site, the chapter receives \$5 back.

Wreaths can be sponsored here: www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org/pages/17945

Color Guard - Nathan Hale Camp

Efforts are underway to reactivate Pensacola's Color Guard unit, the Nathan Hale Camp (this is the name that our unit is known by as part of the Florida Society's Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade).

The Color Guard is one of the most visible and effective public relations tools available to the SAR. Every time an SAR Color Guard makes a public appearance, the members are fulfilling all three objectives of the SAR - Historical, Patriotic, and Educational. Just a few examples of where our Color Guard can make public appearances include sporting events (maybe even a Blue Wahoos game?), new citizen swearing in ceremonies, City or County Government meetings, historical events such as the Galvez Day event, and even ceremonies for the re-internment of POW/MIAs who have been identified by the Army Casualty Office.

The requirements for reactivation of our camp are relatively easy, and with the recent growth of our chapter, we should easily be able to achieve these! A Color Guard unit can consist of a minimum of 3 members, but the ideal minimum is 4. One compatriot is designated as the Commander of the unit.

While the chapter provides all of the necessary flags, poles, and stands for use by the Color Guard, individual compatriots are responsible for obtaining their uniform. There are typically two types of uniforms - Continental or Militia. The Continental uniform is the most recognizable as it is the uniform identified with the soldiers of the regular army during the Revolution. The militia uniform has no specific set requirements because this is what would have been worn by the average citizen when he was called to militia duty. Each Color Guardsman can choose which type of uniform they would like to wear, and the Nathan Hale Camp, once reactivated, will likely consist of both types of uniforms.

Page 6 of this month's newsletter has more details about the uniform requirements and places to obtain them. This information will also be available at the March meeting.

Member

Anniversaries

These are the Pensacola Compatriots who had SAR anniversaries in February and March

Mark Springfield - 1 year

Jeremy Findley - 1 year

Carl Judson - 5 years

Grant Landry - 5 years

Jeffrey Massey - 5 years

Martin Griswold - 6 years

Bill Nobles - 13 years

Wesley Odom - 19 years

David Hillsman - 23 years

New Compatriots

Please welcome these new Compatriots who have joined the Pensacola Chapter in 2023!

Compatriot

David Hillsman

Lonnie Jones

Carl Black

Charles Cather

Month Approved:

January (transfer)

January (transfer)

February (transfer)

February

Patriot:

Humphrey Hardy (North Carolina)

Multiple!!

Charles Gary (Virginia)

James Shelburne (Virginia)

Patriot Ancestor Biographies

We want to highlight your Patriot ancestor!!

This is a new feature for the newsletter where we would like to highlight the Patriot ancestors of our compatriots. If you would like to see your ancestor's story told, send the biography to patriotbio@pensacolasar.org. Biographies can be longer narratives such as the one below, or simply a short summary of the facts of their life and service in the Revolution—it is completely up to you! Writing up your ancestor's biography has the added benefit that you can add their biography to the NSSAR's Patriot Research Service!

Adam Link



Adam Link was born on 14 November 1760, one of the many children of Jacob Link. The Link family spent much of Adam's childhood in the Pennsylvania frontier in an area that was then Westmorland County but later became Washington County, Pennsylvania. Adam's statement in his pension application claims that Native American's murdered his father in 1780. A biographical sketch in the history of Ashland County, Ohio, puts his father's death much earlier, but the year recounted by Adam Link is more likely accurate since he places his father's death after his service in the Pennsylvania militia.

The exact date that Adam Link joined the Pennsylvania militia is somewhat in question. In his deposition for his pension, Link places the date as 1 June 1777, but Pennsylvania law at that time did not require militia service until the age of 18. It is possible that either Link was incorrectly recalling the year or that in that region, they were adhering to the Virginia laws, which placed the age of service at 17. Link served six months until December 1777 under Captain Williamson at Fort Dement. According to his pension depositions, Link served a total of three separate tours for a total of 18 months of service. His second tour was at an outpost known as Shepherd's Fort, and his final tour in 1779 was at a garrison at Wheeling, Virginia. After Adam returned from this final tour, in the summer of 1780, Native Americans attacked the family farm, and his father was killed. Adam and his older brother spent the rest of their young adulthood supporting his mother and sisters.

After the war, possibly in 1789, Adam married a distant relative, Elizabeth Link. The couple moved from Washington County to Ohio in 1820. Link was initially granted a pension in 1834, but due to claims by a lawyer who was later determined to be a fraud, the pension office stopped Link's pension, and it was not until 1851 that Link was finally granted the pension that was due. By this time, Adam was living in Ashland County, Ohio.

In 1864, Reverend E.B. Hillard undertook to write a book about the last living Revolutionary War veterans in the United States. Among those men was Adam Link. Link's photograph was taken as part of this effort, and even though Link died before Hillard could meet and interview him, Adam was memorialized in Hillard's book, "The Last Men of the Revolution."

At the time of his death on 15 August 1864, Adam Link was living with his son-in-law, Horatio Markley, in Crawford County, Ohio, near the village of Sulphur Springs. Link is now buried in Union Cemetery near Bucyrus.

Color Guard Uniform Requirements

According to the NSSAR Color Guard Handbook, the following are the requirements for Color Guard uniforms:

With respect to the Continental uniform, the basic uniform consists of the following:

- A tricorne hat;
- A blue coat with either a buff, red or white facing and trim;
- White shirt and waistcoat;
- White or buff knee britches or fall-front trousers;
- Buckle shoes;
- A pair of white gloves.

With respect to the Militia uniform, the basic uniform consists of the following:

- A hat – either tricorne or round;
- A hunting shirt;
- A white or checkered shirt;
- Long britches or fall-front trousers;
- Shoes (not necessarily buckle since the long pants leg will cover the buckle area).

In 2016, a uniform based on Scottish attire was approved by the National Color Guard Committee. This type of uniform is considered a militia uniform the basic uniform consists of the following:

- A hat – either tricorne or round;
- A white or checkered shirt with neck stock
- A waistcoat;
- A kilt (may be of a modern pattern since the actual tartans at the time are unknown);
- Knee socks with buckle shoes or knee socks with boot/moccasins

While these are the basics for each uniform, variations will exist, and participation will not be discouraged based on these variations. Another important consideration of the uniform is the type of fabric used in making the uniform and the accessories that accompany the uniform. Due to the time and expense of obtaining a uniform made from natural and more authentic material, many color guard members chose to obtain a less expensive uniform made from modern fabric, most often polyester or gabardine. These uniforms made from modern fabric are acceptable for all events except where the guardsman will fire a musket. For safety reasons, the SAR does not allow guardsmen in modern fabric uniforms to fire a weapon due the danger of melting fabric causing severe burns.

Where to obtain a uniform?

Here is a partial list of uniform vendors provided by the NSSAR Color Guard. Just type the listed name into Google, and it should help you find their website. G. Gedney Godwin, Townsends, and C&D Jarnagin Company have full uniform options for both Continental and Militia style. Other vendors listed may require you to piece together your uniform.

Bethlehem Trading Post • Smiling Fox Forge • Avalon Forge • Barkertown Sutlers • Burnley & Trowbridge Co. • C & D Jarnagin Company, • Cobb Creek - Fine Clothing • Custom Wig Company • Flintlocks, etc • MyFlintlocks, LLC • Ft. Downing Trading Co. • Fort Vause Outfitters • Fugawee • G. Gedney Godwin Online • HB Forge • Black Powder 411 • International Guns • Joe's Leather Works, LLC • Livonia Smithery • Loyalist Arms & Repairs • Military Heritage • Panther Primitives - • Samson Historical • Smoke&FireStore • Spring Valley Lodges • Sutlers of Fort Frederick Market Fair (2022 listing) • The Quartermaster General • Tennessee Valley Muzzleloading • Townsends • Track of the Wolf • Turkey Foot Trading Company • VA Flintlocks • Clearwater Hats • Ye Armes Shoppe

Galvez Day Celebration
and
Battle of Pensacola Commemoration

The Pensacola Chapter
Florida Society
Sons of the American Revolution
Invites your group to the

**2023 Battle of Pensacola Commemoration and
Galvez Day Celebration**

Monday, May 8, 2023 in downtown Pensacola, Florida.

On **May 8**, the Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard will once again present the opening procession for the Galvez Day Celebration sponsored by the **Pensacola Heritage Foundation**.

The Color Guard will muster at 09:30 AM (Central) at Fort George (501 N. Palafox Street) and march down Palafox Street to one of the largest General Bernardo de Galvez monuments in the United States as the opening ceremony of Pensacola's Galvez Day celebration.

All participating Color Guard Units will receive a **BATTLE OF PENSACOLA FLAG STREAMER**.

To Register, visit www.pensacolasar.org, and go to Battle of Pensacola Commemoration under the Events and Programs menu.

Upcoming Events

March 20

Chapter Meeting
Program: Joe Epley
Battle of Kings Mountain

May 8

Battle of Pensacola Commemoration
10:30 am at the Galvez Monument

April 17

Chapter Meeting
Program: FLSSAR President
Matt Matthews

~~May 15~~

~~Chapter Meeting (CANCELLED)~~

May 19-20

FLSSAR Spring BOM
Orlando, FL



Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution

Pensacola Chapter

"Florida's First"

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