

The Pensacola Patriot

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

July 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'm sitting here writing this month's column on the morning of July 4th, so even though I know the newsletter won't go out until later this week, I'll still take the opportunity to start my column by wishing everyone a Happy Independence Day!

Obviously, for the Sons of the American Revolution, Independence Day is an extremely special holiday. But did you know that some of our Founding Fathers actually didn't consider July 4th to be the day that should be celebrated? Most notably, John Adams truly believed that July 2nd would be the day that was celebrated because it was on July 2nd that the Continental Congress actually declared its freedom from Great Britain. But it was on July 4 that the Continental Congress approved the Declaration of Independence. And then of course, there is the first public reading of the Declaration on July 8, and the fact that many of the signers were not actually present on July 4 and most members of the Continental Congress didn't even sign until August 2. So my personal solution to all of this is simple.... Let's just declare the entire month of July as Independence Month and celebrate for the entire month!

I am happy to report that our first meeting back over at Calvert's in June was a great success! As we suspected, the parking situation was much better than it was when we were meeting there on Wednesday's, and being back in the "blue room" gave us plenty of room for members. I've been working with the management at Calvert's to ensure our experience over there continues to meet the chapter needs. Our guest speaker last month was Col. Ben Findley who gave a fascinating presentation on the history of the Gadsden Flag and it's role not only in the American Revolution, but its continuing role with our modern Navy. **(continued on page 2)**

President's Message (continued from p. 1)

The July meeting will be another good one! We have as our guest speaker, Joe Vinson. Joe is a local graphic designer who started his career with the Appleyard Agency and was inspired by the late John Appleyard, one of Pensacola's most avid historians. Joe took his love of history, and his talent for graphic design to create an amazing exhibit that highlights many of the iconic landmarks from Pensacola's past. You won't want to miss this presentation!

There are a few other items that I want to call your attention to. The first is that we are still in need of volunteers to help with recruiting events. One that we would very much like to get a date set for is to do a "Who's Your Patriot Ancestor" table at Odd Colony Brewing Company. They have agreed to let us set up a table one evening, but we need some volunteers to commit to helping before we can set a date!

The other is that we need a few people who would like to help run our youth programs this fall. This won't require much of a time commitment beyond being a point of contact for questions and helping to organize any submissions that we receive.

Last, but definitely not least, is a reminder that we need submissions for the 250 by the 250th Flag Recognition program! We have exactly 3 years to complete our goal of 250 presentations, but we can't get there without your help!

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

Yours in Patriotism,

Chris

Pensacola SAR on the Internet

Chapter Website: www.pensacolasar.org

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/PensacolaSAR

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

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 meeting at Calvert's in the Heights (670 Scenic Highway)

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 going strong! As of this writing, we are just shy of 50 nominations, and we definitely need more!

Just a few examples of some of our nominations are Olive Baptist Church (pictured below), 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!

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.wreathscrossamerica.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.

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 the 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 have SAR anniversaries in July.

Robert Dillard—2 years

New Compatriots

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

<i>Compatriot</i>	<i>Month Approved:</i>	<i>Patriot:</i>
David Hillsman	January (transfer)	Humphrey Hardy (North Carolina)
Lonnie Jones	January (transfer)	Multiple!!
Carl Black	February (transfer)	Charles Gary (Virginia)
Charles Cather	February	James Shelburne (Virginia)
Geoffrey Joseph	March	Thaddeus Avery (New York)
Grant Joseph	March	Thaddeus Avery (New York)

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. Submissions can be as simple as a description of where and when your ancestor was born, which of the Colonies they served in, and when they died. Or if you have more information than that, it can be a full biography telling the story of their life.

We will be publishing one biography per month for as long as we have a supply of biographies. (Hint—if you have more than one Patriot ancestor, you can submit them all!)

Writing up your ancestor's biography has the added benefit that you can add their biography to the NSSAR's Patriot Research Service!

Website Re-design

Have you visited our website recently? Did you even know that the Pensacola Chapter *has* a website? If you have visited recently, you've probably noticed that it is looking a little tired and outdated. Our site design is almost 8 years old at this point, and in "internet years" that equates to being very outdated!

The good news is that our site is undergoing a **total** redesign to bring it up-to-date and far more visually appealing. Some new features are being added—including a "members only" section for our chapter members, and an improved photo gallery.

Below are a couple of "sneak peeks" at the new design! We're still working on the final design and content, but we will announce the launch as soon as it is finished (hopefully within the next couple of weeks)!



Upcoming Events

July 14-20

133rd National Congress
Orlando, Florida

August 21

Chapter Meeting
Program: TBD

July 17

Chapter Meeting
Program: Lost Pensacola
Joe Vinson

Sept 18

Chapter Meeting
First Responder's Awards
RSVP REQUESTED FOR THIS MEETING



Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution

Pensacola Chapter

"Florida's First"

Celebrating 125 years

1896 - 2021