

# The Pensacola Patriot

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

June 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

Summer is here! The summer months are usually the time of year that things slow down for most SAR Chapters, and historically, that holds true for our chapter as well. However, last year, we made the decision to keep our monthly meetings going through the summer months, and surprisingly, we continued to see a good number of members in attendance. With the success of doing that last year, we are going to keep going strong through this summer as well!

To keep everyone interested, we have secured a couple of great speakers for the June and July meetings! At our June meeting, we are going to hear from Col. Ben Findley, USAFR (Ret.). Col. Findley will be talking to us about the Gadsden Flag. Then in July, we are going to have local graphic designer, Joe Vinson, come and talk to us about his "Lost Pensacola" project. This project involved significant research into some of the Pensacola landmarks of the past. Iconic landmarks such as the San Carlos Hotel, the Towers at Cordova Park, and the Pensacola Opera House, and even the John Sunday House feature in his project. While this isn't related to the American Revolution, you definitely won't want to miss this fascinating look at Pensacola's past!

As a reminder: Starting with our June meeting, we are moving back to Calvert's on Scenic Highway for our monthly meetings. There were multiple reasons for this move, but one of the biggest ones is that the past few meetings have shown that Sonny's simply wasn't going to be large enough to host us if our meeting attendance continues to grow! We have worked with Calvert's owner, Scott, to ensure that we will have the separate meeting room for all of our meetings. While I know that parking is not the most convenient at times, this will hopefully be alleviated **(continued on page 2)**

## *President's Message (continued from p. 1)*

by the fact that Monday nights are fairly slow for Calverts so the parking lot simply won't be as busy. This move represented the best shift to allow for future growth of our meetings, as well as having the added benefit of supporting a local business (whose owner I am actively working to recruit into the SAR)!

In addition to our chapter meetings in June and July, this summer also features the Florida Society as the host Society for the 133rd National Congress of the Sons of the American Revolution down in Orlando! From July 14 through the 20th, Orlando will play host to SAR compatriots from all over the country during the National Society's Congress. There is still time to register, so if you would like to see what it's like to get involved with the SAR at the national level, go to [sar.org](http://sar.org) and get registered for Congress!

A little later in the newsletter, I have included a recap and pictures from this year's Battle of Pensacola/Galvez Day celebration. The SAR was represented by Color Guardsmen from four different states here in the Southeast, and this year, we even presented a musket salute at the end of the ceremony.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the June 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](http://www.pensacolasar.org)

Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/PensacolaSAR](http://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 now 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! We are still working our way through the first 30+ nominations that we have received, but we need more nominations!

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](mailto: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](http://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.

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.

## **Member Anniversaries**

These are the Pensacola Compatriots who had SAR anniversaries in May and June

Harry Dillard—1 year

Richard Garner—1 year

Joe Joseph—1 year

Joe Dillard—3 years

William Caron—3 years

Ezra Wallner—4 years

Andrew Cross—8 years

John Blair—9 years

Maksim Blair—9 years

Chris Washler—10 years

## *New Compatriots*

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

| <b><i>Compatriot</i></b> | <b><i>Month Approved:</i></b> | <b><i>Patriot:</i></b>          |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 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](mailto: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!

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

May 8, 2023

On May 8th, the Pensacola Heritage Foundation hosted their annual Galvez Day Celebration, and once again this year, the Sons of the American Revolution presented the Parade of Colors to open the ceremonies. This year, the SAR was represented by chapters from around the Southeast including chapters from Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, and of course Florida. This year's Parade of Colors started at Fort George and saw the SAR Color Guard come down the center of Palafox to the Galvez Monument at Wright Street as the audience watched from the monument.

In addition to the presentation of colors, this year the Florida State Society President, Earl Matthews, brought greetings on behalf of the SAR, and Pensacola Chapter President, Chris Washler, joined NSDAR Honorary Vice-President General, Ginger Poffenberger, in laying the ceremonial wreath during the event.

To top off the festivities, the SAR Color Guard presented a musket salute to end the ceremony.

Plans are already underway for the 2024 event, and we hope to continue to grow our involvement each year!



# *Galvez Day Celebration and Battle of Pensacola Commemoration*

May 8, 2023



# *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

## *Upcoming Events*

June 19 Chapter Meeting  
Program: Gadsden Flag  
Col. Ben Findley, Jr., USAFR (Ret)

July 17 Chapter Meeting  
Program: Lost Pensacola  
Joe Vinson

July 14-20 133rd National Congress  
Orlando, Florida

August 21 Chapter Meeting  
Program: TBD



*Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution*

*Pensacola Chapter*

*"Florida's First"*

*Celebrating 125 years*

*1896 - 2021*