

# The Pensacola Patriot

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

September 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 hope everyone had a great summer!

I'm going to take this month's President's message to update everyone on a few things. The first is a couple of awards that the chapter won over the summer months (well, we won one and placed really well in the other). At the state level, Pensacola was awarded First Place in the Chapter Challenge contest for mid-sized chapters! The Chapter Challenge contest is a points based contest focused around activities and awards that a chapter does throughout the year. This is the first year in a long time that we have submitted for this, and to have won first place in the mid-sized chapter segment is pretty impressive—especially since we are probably one of the smallest chapters in that category! The other award that we didn't win, but I am impressed with our showing is the National Society's President's Cup and Americanism contests. These are based on the same points system as the state contest. While we didn't even come close to actually winning either of these, we placed impressively well. First off, we were the ONLY Florida chapter to submit in the 41-90 member category! We ended up placing 31st in the Americanism category and 38th in the President General's cup—that is out of 84 submissions! We were ranked 28th in per capita score (average number of points per member). What impresses me the most about this, is that we did this really based on only a very few programs. If we start running just a few more programs, we could actually have a very strong chance at contending for the top spot Nationally! I wanted to highlight all of this because it shows just how strong of a chapter we can have if we have more hands working at some of our projects, and it really bodes well for the future success of the chapter! **(continued on page 2)**

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

During our August meeting, we viewed a short video talking about SAR's America 250 program, and I heard that there was a lot of interest in some of the programs featured there as well as in the America 250 initiative as a whole. We have a lot of opportunities coming up this year that we can really kick-start our efforts to highlight the coming 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. These projects and programs also present a great way to get our chapter out in front of the community!

Speaking of our community involvement... The September meeting is our annual First Responder's dinner. We will be honoring first responders from 5 local area agencies, and Pensacola Fire Chief, Ginny Cranor, will be our featured speaker! You don't want to miss this one! However, we do need to give Calvert's some idea of the number of people to expect, so if you are going to attend, please email me (cwashler@cox.net) or call me to let me know!! I need to give them numbers by next Thursday so they can staff appropriately!

Unfortunately, I will be out of town for this month's meeting so I won't see you all there, but I hope we have great attendance at the 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)

## *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!

### *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!

## *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 have SAR anniversaries in August.

Carl Black—1 year

Chad Nusbaum Jr.—7 years

Desmond Castro—14 years

Donald Fowler—17 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)
Ben Findley	July (transfer)	Thomas Nuzum



## *250 by the 250th*



The 250 by the 250th program is going strong! As of this writing, we are still 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](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.wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/17945](http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/17945)

# Patriot Ancestor Biographies



## Website Re-design

The updated chapter website ([www.pensacolasar.org](http://www.pensacolasar.org)) has officially launched! Go check out the new site and all of the new features, including a members only area. The members only area requires registration on your part, and will have some great information and resources once development of that piece is complete! Below are a couple screen shots of the new look!



## *Upcoming Events*

Sept 18	Chapter Meeting First Responder's Awards *RSVP REQUESTED FOR THIS MEETING*	October 20-21	FLSSAR Fall Board of Managers Meeting Orlando, Florida
October 16	Chapter Meeting Program: TBD	November 20	Chapter Meeting Program TBD



*Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution*

*Pensacola Chapter*

*"Florida's First"*

*Celebrating 125 years*

*1896 - 2021*