The Pensacola Patriot

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

August 2016

Chapter Officers

2015-2017

President	Chris Washler
1st VP	Vacant
2nd VP	Bill Nobles
Secretary	Bob Canavello
Treasurer	David Matthews
Depty Treas.	Bill Lies
Registrar	Ray Judd
Chaplain	John Matthews
Sergeant-at-Arms	Randy Turner
Historian	Vacant
Member-at-large	Ray Lantz

President's Message

It's hard to believe that the summer is already coming to an end! Summer vacations are over, the kids are headed back to school and we are preparing for our annual end of summer picnic! Once again this year, we will not be having a traditional chapter meeting in September. Instead, we will be holding a family picnic out at the Blue Angel Navy Recreation Area on September 24th. Check out the flyer later in the newsletter for more details, but all members and their families are invited. If you would like to bring along a prospective member and his family, please feel free to do so! The one thing that we are asking is that you let us know you're coming so we can make sure we have enough food for everyone.

At our August meeting, we held elections for our officers for the rest of this program year. (For those who may not know, the SAR "program year" typically runs May through April.) We were admittedly a little late on the elections this year due to the other events going on earlier in the year. This year's officers are: President – Chris Washler, 2nd Vice President – Bill Nobles, Secretary – Bob Canavello, Treasurer – David Matthews, Registrar – Ray Judd, Sergeant at Arms – Randy Turner, Member at large – Ray Lantz. Additionally, John Matthews has agreed to stay on as our Chaplain, and Bill Lies will be serving as our Deputy Treasurer.

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President's Message (continued from p. 1)

Since I first joined the SAR, I've fallen in love with all that our organization represents, and it's genuinely an honor to be chapter President. I want to take a moment to thank Bill Lies for his service as President of the Pensacola Chapter. He stepped up at a time when the chapter needed him and did a fantastic job of leading the chapter. Most of our current board members have been serving in their respective positions for more than one term already (some for several!), and I am proud to have them on board for this year as we continue to build and improve our SAR Chapter!

As we head into the rest of this year, I really have one goal for the chapter – Growth! Growth in our membership; growth in our programming and community involvement and growth in our excitement! We started this year with 33 compatriots, and we currently stand at 37. My goal is that we grow to 45 compatriots by the end of my term in April. To that end, I am going to announce a Chapter Membership Challenge at our October meeting. I am still working out all of the details, so you will have to be sure to come to the October meeting to hear all about it.

Membership growth only works if we have something to offer our compatriots. This year, we will be working to bring in speakers for each of our meetings or finding engaging video presentations. If there's something that you would like to see brought to the chapter, please let one of our board members know and we will see if we can make it happen! Our chapter already does several projects that you may or may not know about – Eagle Scout Awards, First Responders Awards, JROTC Recognition Awards, Wreaths Across America, Good Citizenship Awards to elementary students, and our Battle of Pensacola Commemoration. But there is so many more programs that the chapter could participate in if we have interest! The NSSAR has a wide variety of youth educational programs and contests that we can be involved in to pass on our love of our country's founding to a new generation. The NSSAR also encourages chapters to present recognition certificates to individuals and businesses who properly display the American Flag out in front of their home or business. There are numerous community involvement projects that are out there for us to be involved in. All of this is possible – IF we have an interest! So my request to all compatriots is simple – if you would be interested in working on or chairing a committee for a project, please let me know. We obviously can't do it all, but I do want to see us ramp up our projects to make sure our members have something to do.

Finally – growth in our excitement. My hope is that as we grow in numbers and quality programs and projects, more of our compatriots will become engaged with the chapter and more active. I want our chapter to become a presence not only in our community, but also within the State Society. We are Florida's oldest Sons of the American Revolution chapter, and my goal is for our compatriots, our community and our State Society to look at our chapter and proudly say, "There's Florida's First!"

If you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to email me at cwashler@cox.net or to call me at 380-1329.

Yours in Patriotism,

Chris

Request for Member Information

One on-going project for the website is to have a complete listing of the Patriot Ancestors for all of our members. To that end, we are asking each member to send us the following information on your patriot:

- the patriot's name, and
- their rank and other service information.

The information can be sent to Compatriot Washler at: cwashler@cox.net.

Genealogy Research Corner

By Ray Lantz, FLSSAR Registrar and Pensacola Chapter Executive Committee Member

Just a reminder that if you would like assistance in your genealogy research, you can submit a request to Ray Lantz.

Should anyone desire to take advantage of this chapter benefit, please send an email to rclantz@cox.net with your name and NSSAR Member # and the specific information required for the type query being submitted.

Our Patriot Ancestors

Do you have a biographical sketch of your patriot ancestor? Would you like to write one? If so, we want to publish it!! What's a biographical sketch, you ask? Nothing more than a short story or outline of your patriot ancestor's life. In future newsletters, we would like to highlight our members' ancestors by publishing whatever information you care to share about their life. There is no minimum length, but we do ask that the biographies be no more than 500 words in length.

These can also be submitted to the national Society, and if we have 20% of our members submit a biography to the national project, the chapter receives a streamer at the National Congress. (Right now, that's just 8 compatriots submitting biographies!) Email yours today to patriotbio@pensacolasar.org!

In Memoriam
Alvin Bellamy

It's with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of our long-time compatriot, Alvin Bellamy. Alvin joined the Pensacola Sons of the American Revolution on September 10, 2003, and Alvin was an active member of the chapter for nearly 13 years. Alvin served the chapter in a number of functions including being the chapter's unofficial photographer, and most recently, serving as Chapter Historian.

Alvin passed away on June 25th of this year after a hard-fought battle with cancer. We will all miss Alvin, and we keep Oscar and his family in our thoughts and prayers.

SAR Color Guard

Have you ever considered joining the SAR Color Guard? Members of the Color Guard are some of the most visible community ambassadors that the SAR has. They represent our organization at community events ranging from new citizen swearing in ceremonies to school functions and everything in between. If you've ever considered the idea, now is your chance! The more members we have in the unit, the easier the time commitment is for everyone.

Anyone interested in helping to re-activate the Pensacola SAR Color Guard unit, please email colorguard@pensacolasar.org. We will hopefully be having an organization meeting very soon!

Wreaths Across America

Once again this year, the Pensacola Chapter of the Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution is proud to be part of this effort. Our chapter solicits sponsorships for wreaths to be laid at Barrancas National Cemetery, onboard Naval Air Station Pensacola. Then on December 17, 2016, our chapter members will be on hand at Barrancas to assist in the massive effort to place wreaths on each of the more than 3,500 graves.

Proceeds place a wreath at Barrancas National Cemetery and help support Wreaths Across America's fundraising partners, educational and veteran's services outreach. *Please note that **all** sponsorships are sent directly to the location and no wreaths are sent to the individuals purchasing sponsorships.*

If you would like to help the Pensacola SAR sponsor a wreath for one of our fallen U.S. veterans, please visit the chapter website and click on "Special Events" to the right of the page.

Watch for more information about the event on December 17th as we get closer to the date!

Pensacola Chapter

The Florida Society

End of Summer Picnic

September 24nd

11:00 a.m. til 3:00 p.m. or so

At

Blue Angel Navy Recreation Area

2100 Bronson Road, Pensacola, FL
(possible nominal parking fee at the gate)

The Chapter will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, chips, potato salad, coleslaw, beverages, condiments and miscellaneous BBQ paraphernalia and utensils. Please bring your favorite eats as well (if you'll share).

Please R.S.V.P. by September 10th
to cwashler@cox.net or 380-1329 (leave message)
so we know how much to bring.

The Pensacola Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution

Request the pleasure of your company

At a Benefit Luncheon Honoring

The 225* Anniversary of the Bill of Rights & 229* Anniversary of the Constitution of the United States

Saturday, September 17, 2016

Veranda of Pensacola

6983 Pine Forest Rd

Pensacola, FL 32526

Check-in and Seating at 12:00pm

Call to Order at 12:30pm

Guest Speaker: Dr. Jocelyn Evans of UWF

Special Presentation to the Pensacola Heritage Foundation: Jim Green, President

New Member Induction

Lunch at 1:30pm

Menu:

Burgundy Sirloin
Or
Chicken Marsala
All meals are served with
Shrimp Pasta Salad, Duchess Potatoes, Green Bean Almandine
&
Chocolate Raspberry Mousse
Tea, Water, and Coffee

$25.00 per person

R.S.V.P. to Maryann Wyrick Esenwein

4349 Lorraine Ct, Gulf Breeze, FL 32563

352-978-3447 or maryann.wyrick@gmail.com

Payment must be received by September 10, 2016

Make check payable to Pensacola Chapter NSDAR Include Meal Choice with check

All proceeds will benefit the Pensacola Heritage Foundation's Bernardo de Galvez Monument Project

Upcoming Events

September 17	Pensacola DAR Constitution Day Luncheon
September 24	Annual Chapter Picnic
October 11	Chapter Meeting (Program TBA)

Pensacola Sons of the American Revolution on the Internet

Chapter Website: www.pensacolasar.org

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/PensacolaSAR