The Pensacola Patriot

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

April 2024

Chapter Officers

2023-2024

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

President's Message

I want to start this month's column with a question for all Compatriots… What is your "why?" I'm guessing that probably sounds like a lead-in to the old Abbott and Costello "Who's on First" routine, but it isn't. I want you to think about your "why" for joining the SAR. We all have one or we wouldn't be members. For some, it may just be that you wanted to prove your patriot lineage and you want nothing more than the recognition that you achieved that. For others, it may be the comradery of the monthly meetings. For me, it is a genuine passion for the Mission of our organization and what we stand for.

There is a sense of momentum in this organization, that I'm not sure I have felt since I joined 11 years ago. Part of that momentum comes from the build-up to America's 250th birthday – this is an AMAZING time to be an SAR member because it was our ancestors who made this birthday possible! Another part of the momentum is that I feel like our organization has a renewed sense of purpose. I've seen it at the National Society level, at the State Society level, and I have REALLY seen it here at the Chapter level!

Just since our last newsletter, chapter meeting attendees got to vote on the chapter winners for our Elementary School Poster Contest and the Middle School Brochure contest; we inducted one new member; we had FOUR more members approved; and the chapter participated in the Beulah Elementary Heritage Day. Oh, and did I mention that our Color Guard unit has officially been re-activated? As of this writing, the chapter is now at 59 members – that is the largest we have been since I joined the chapter. (I don't know if it's the largest that we have *ever* been, ***(continued on page 2)***

President's Message (continued from p. 1)

but I have the feeling it's close!)

The month of April is going to be a little slow in comparison to February and March, but that gives us time to prepare for a VERY busy May! On May 10, we once again will host color guard units from around the Southeast for the Battle of Pensacola Commemoration (more on that later in the newsletter) and then the following weekend is the Florida Society Annual meeting. I know that for many of you, the trip down to Orlando for the Annual meeting is a bit daunting, but I really would like to encourage all of you to consider making the trip this year. The NW Region (our region) is the host for this year's annual meeting, so we can definitely use some help in taking care of things for that weekend, but more importantly than that – attending a state or national meeting is a fantastic way to get a whole new perspective on the SAR and what we do. I have no doubt that if you come down to Orlando, you will leave more energized than ever about the SAR and our mission. I would love to see at least 2 or 3 of our members come down to the Annual meeting in Orlando. Who is up for the challenge??

Finally, I want to renew the request I made last month—the chapter has a brand new tent and table cover that we can use to get out in the community and put the SAR in people's minds. We need your help in finding events out in the community where we can utilize these new branding/publicity tools! Help us find those events, please!

I look forward to seeing everyone at the April meeting, and as always, 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

Did You Know?

"Revolutionary War Rarities" is a production of the NSSAR and they are short 10 to 20 minute podcasts. Check it out on Facebook and wherever you listen to podcasts! You can also check them out at fastfunhistory.com or on YouTube!

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)

Involvement Opportunities

Below are just a few of the opportunities for you to get involved with the Chapter and help us live out our Mission!

- Youth Programs
  - Knight Essay Contest
  - Poster Contest
  - History Fair
  - Brochure Contest
- 250 by the 250th—Flag Recognition
- Eagle Scout Program
- America 250 Activities
- Color Guard
- Battle of Pensacola Commemoration
- Newsletter
- Website/Social Media

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

America 250—This month in the American Revolution

On April 3, 1776, privateering was put into place by Congress to assist the war effort on April 3, 1776.

In 1775, Great Britain dominated the seas, blocking Massachusetts's ports and then others, restricting supplies and trade, to put a hurt on the rebel colonies. On October 13, 1775, Congress voted to establish a Continental Navy, by fitting out two sailing vessels. The Navy grew, but nothing like what was needed to take on a world power.

On April 3, 1776, Congress authorized the licensing of privateers, privately owned vessels armed with guns that, during war could attack against the enemy. Congress allowed Continental Navy captains and crews to keep only one-half of the value of its capture, while privateering could be more financial advantageous than Continental Navy service. Continental Navy captains had a hard time recruiting and keeping sailors for that reason. There were more than 50,000 men aboard ships carrying a Letter of Marque as a privateer, and they captured some 300 British ships during the war. As with the Navy, profits would be split with the government, but under different contractual arrangements. Naval power was, as George Washington said, “the pivot upon which everything turned.”

New Compatriots

Please welcome these new Compatriots who joined the Pensacola Chapter in 2024!

Compatriot	***Month Approved:***	***Patriot:***
Christopher Matrone	January	William Kimbrough (Georgia)
David Mitchell	January	Michael Simon (Pennsylvania)
Geoffrey (Geo) Pittman	March	Samuel McGehee (Virginia)
William Moore	March	Nehemiah Davis (New Hampshire)
Scott Calvert	March	John Frierson (South Carolina)
James Hewette	March	Jonas Spangler (Pennsylvania)

Color Guard - Nathan Hale Camp

The Pensacola Chapter'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) is being reactivated!

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.

Member Anniversaries

These are the Pensacola Compatriots who have SAR anniversaries in April.

David Williams—6 years

Chad Nusbaum—9 years

Randy Turner—21 years

If you are interested in being part of this fantastic part of the SAR, all that is required is that you have a uniform and be willing to volunteer when called upon! (Oh, and be willing to have LOTS of kids and adults want their picture taken with you!)

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 will consist of both types of uniforms. For more information on what all goes into a uniform, you can take a look at this manual that was put together by the Georgia Society Color Guard: https://www.robertforsythsar.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/The-Well-Dressed-Guardsman-2024.pdf

It is also worthy of note that while purchasing a brand new uniform can be an expensive endeavor, Compatriot Wesley Odom has let it be known that he has several uniforms for sale and his "prices are very attractive." If you are interested, contact Wesley at 850-497-6167. (I can personally attest to the fantastic quality and workmanship of these uniforms because my militia uniform is one of them!)

FLSSAR Spring BOM/Annual Meeting Details

Date:	May 17-18, 2024
Location:	Embassy Suites Orlando—Lake Buena Vista South 4955 Kyngs Heath Road Kissimmee, Florida
Registration Link:	https://www.flssar.org/Docs/BOM/BOMRegForm.pdf
Hotel Reservations:	https://book.passkey.com/e/50616727

The NW Region is the host region for this meeting!!

Branding the Sons of the American Revolution

Mission Statement:

The Sons of the American Revolution honors our Revolutionary War patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our Country.

"Elevator Pitch":

The Sons of the American Revolution promotes patriotism, serves the community, and inspires and educates the public about the history of the American Revolution.

I encourage each of you to become familiar with our Mission and the Elevator pitch! Use these to talk to others about the SAR and what we do in the community. Just by talking about who we are and what we do, we *will* grow in number as we head toward the 250th!

Beulah Elementary Heritage Day

Ben Findley

What a great experience today sharing with about 200 students at Heritage Day at Beulah Elementary School. My faith in the youth of our great country is restored. There were 8 classes of about 25 students each that rotated to me in a room. I began about 7:00 am, arrived and setup things, and got home about 1 pm.

The students were eager to learn and there were many questions, so each of my 8 presentations about the Declaration of Independence and the S.A.R. lasted about 20-25 minutes for each group. I used our Table Cloth and mounted the Declaration on a rigid board, so students could come up front afterwards and find Jefferson, Franklin, Adams, Hancock, etc. signatures. I mentioned my relative Josiah Bartlett was one of the 56 signors and, of course, most students went to see his signature first. Also, I showed them my eidetic visualization method for learning the 13 colonies and their order of admission to statehood. It was a blessing that each of the 8 classes was able to name all 13 colonies and their order of statehood, as a group. These kiddos were very sharp.

We had a great time, laughed, my wife Karen took photos of all 8 groups, and many asked about joining the S.A.R. So I told them about how I first joined the C.A.R. and then the S.A.R. for my 58 years of patriotic memberships. Some seemed interested, so I may get some follow-up calls and will need your help. One 11 year old told me her Mom talked to her last night and was going to join the D.A.R. and was interested. She said her Mom would help her. So "signing up" (hopefully) just one made the effort pay off. The only real negative (minor & funny) was that one boy asked me "Where did you get your "Pirate" hat." I laughed and told him it was a tricorn colonial hat.

Beulah Elementary Heritage Day Pictures

2024 Battle of Pensacola Commemoration and Galvez Day Celebration

Friday, May 10, 2024

Tentative Schedule of Events:

8:00	Color Guard Muster at Fort George
9:00	SAR Color Guard, Daughters of the American Revolution, and Granaderos y Damas de Galvez begin procession down Palafox to the Galvez Monument
9:15	Ceremony at Galvez Monument
9:45	Procession continues to St. Michael's Cathedral
10:00	Service at St. Michael's
11:00 - 2:00	Lunch
3:00	Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Minuteman Monument in Veterans Memorial Park

If any compatriot would like to help with any of the scheduled events, please reach out to Ben Findley (colbff@gmail.com) or Chris Washler (cwashler@outlook.com). While the SAR is only a portion of what will go on this year, we definitely can use assistance in setting up and running each of the events that we are involved in!!

Upcoming Events

April 15	Chapter Meeting Revolutionary War Rarities
May 10	Battle of Pensacola/Galvez Day Downtown Pensacola and Veterans Memorial Park (9:00—4:00pm)
May 17-18	FLSSAR Annual Meeting Orlando, FL
May 20	Chapter Meeting Program TBD
June 17	Chapter Meeting Program TBD
July 11-15	NSSAR Congress Lancaster, PA

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Florida Society
Pensacola Chapter
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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
250th Anniversary
1776-2026
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