The Pensacola Patriot

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

February 2024

Chapter Officers

2023-2024

President	Chris Washler
Vice Pres.	Bill Nobles
Secretary	Bob Canavello
Treasurer	Bill Lies
Registrar	Vacant
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 message shortly after getting home from the funeral of Compatriot Ray Judd, and I have to admit that I am a little at a loss for words this month.

Ray will genuinely be missed by his friends and family, and definitely by the chapter. Ray was a constant figure at SAR meetings since I joined back in 2011. Honestly, I'm not sure if anyone in the chapter had a better attendance record than Ray did! He genuinely loved being in the SAR, and his dedication to helping prospective members research possible Patriot Ancestors was second to none. I always loved hearing Ray tell prospective members, "just give me a copy of your birth certificate, and I can take it from there!" Now seriously…. How many of us can say that if someone just gave us their birth certificate we could trace them back to a Patriot in a few weeks?? I witnessed Ray doing it more than once! (I told my wife late last year that my dream is to be as good of a researcher as Ray when I grow up.) We will miss him, but as with all things, life goes on.

Speaking of things going on… I said last month that I was looking forward to a great 2024 for the chapter, but after just the month of January, I am even more excited about what we have in store this year! The chapter had an entry for the Eagle Scout Essay competition for the first time in several years. We'll be presenting an award to the chapter winner, William Stroupe, at our February meeting. Speaking of Eagle Scouts, I had the honor of presenting an SAR Eagle Scout Recognition certificate at the Court of Honor for the first female Eagle Scout from Troop 451G over in Milton this past weekend. Bailey McDonald is a very sharp young woman and a natural born leader. I am hopeful ***(continued on page 2)***

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that Bailey will decide to enter the Eagle Scout competition next year because I genuinely believe she would have an outstanding chance to end up as the winner at the National level.

In addition to the goings on with our Eagle Scout program, it looks like we may end up with multiple entries for at least the Middle School Brochure contest this year—which would be a first for this chapter! I'm still hopeful that we will have some entries for the Elementary Poster contest as well.

The chapter is already growing this year—for our February meeting, we will hopefully be inducting THREE new members, and I know of at least two more applications that are up at National awaiting approval.

Finally, I want to encourage everyone to come to the NW Region meeting in Bonifay on February 17. I know it's a little bit of a drive, but this is a chance to meet and mingle with other SAR members from across NW Florida and hear more about what's going on in the SAR. Details are included a little later in the newsletter.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the February meeting, and as always, if you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (850) 380-1329

Yours in Patriotism,

Chris

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!

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)

Pensacola SAR on the Internet

Chapter Website: www.pensacolasar.org

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/PensacolaSAR
Instagram: 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)
- Eagle Scout Program (members needed)

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

In Memorium
Compatriot Raymond "Ray" Joseph Judd

Compatriot Ray Judd passed away on Sunday, January 28, 2024. Ray was born in New York City on November 12, 1935 to Clifford and Rose Judd. Ray spent his youth in Manhattan prior to joining the U.S. Navy in February of 1955.

Upon joining the Navy, Ray went through Basic Training in Bainbridge, Maryland, and then attended Communications Tech School in California and Defense Language Institute in Anacostia, Maryland. Throughout his career with the Navy, Ray served in various posts throughout east Asia and the United States, including sailing on 5 different submarines, and several surface ships.

Ray had a long and distinguished career in the Navy, and along the way, met and married the love of his life, Paula, whom he married in October 1973. Ray and Paula both retired from the Navy in June 1984 in a joint ceremony at NAS Pensacola hosted by their two Commanding Officers.

Not to be satisfied with a long career in the Navy, Ray went back to school after retiring and obtained a degree in Elementary Education from UWF, and then taught 5th grade at Edgewater Elementary for the next 13 years!

Ray joined the Sons of the American Revolution in January of 2009 through descent from Gershom Hewitt who was a Lieutenant from Connecticut. Ray became the Pensacola Registrar sometime around 2013, and served in that position for the chapter for the next ten years. For his work with recruiting new members, Ray was awarded the bronze liberty medal by the NSSAR with 3 additional oak leaf clusters. This means that Ray was responsible for the recruitment of at least 40 new compatriots into the SAR! Ray also served as the chapter's unofficial photographer over the years.

Ray will truly be missed by his friends, family, and compatriots. You can read Ray's full obituary online here: https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/pensacola-fl/raymond-judd-11646391

America 250—This month in the American Revolution

On February 27, 1776, the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge took place in North Carolina. Commander Richard Caswell led some 1,000 Patriots against 1,600 Loyalist troops led by Colonel Donal McLeod. The two forces met at Moore's Creek Bridge, near present-day Wilmington. Caswell positioned his troops in the woods on either side of the bridge, awaiting the British with cannons and muskets at the ready. As the British attempted to cross the bridge, the Patriots opened fire and swiftly cut down the British troops.

The British Loyalists quickly surrendered, giving the Patriots a victory and an important morale boost. The victory also aborted British plans to land a force at Brunswick, and ended British authority in North Carolina. Within two months of the American victory, on April 12, 1776, North Carolina became the first colony to vote in favor of independence from Britain.

An interesting side note is that Richard Caswell went on to serve as North Carolina's first and fifth governor.

250 by the 250th

The 250 by the 250th program is going strong! As of this writing, we are still just slightly over 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 and 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 https://pensacolasar.org/250-by-the-250th/.

In addition to nominations, the committee needs assistance in presenting certificates to businesses. Currently, we are mailing all of the residential certificates directly to the recipients, but we are trying to do presentations to businesses in person. If you are interested in helping out with this project, please reach out to either John Matthews (johnmatthews@cox.net) or Chris Washler (cwashler@cox.net) and we will tell you what all is involved!

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 February.

Mark Springfield—2 years

Carl Judson—6 years

Bill Nobles—14 years

Wesley Odom—11 years

NW Region Spring Meeting Details

Date: **February 17, 2024**

Time: **10:00 AM—1:00 PM**

Location: **Holmes County Public Library Jim Dixon Library Annex**
303 North J. Harvey Etheridge Street
Bonifay FL 32425

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)

Patriot Ancestor Biography - Thomas Nuzum

NSSAR Patriot # 257548 (Compatriot Benjamin Findley, Jr.)

Born: Sept. 29, 1706; Dublin, Wexford, Ireland

Left Ireland 1752: Aversion to High Taxes & Requirement to Give Every 10th Stack of Hay to Queen

Died: July 28, 1791; Philadelphia, PA

Buried: Sandy Bank Graveyard, Delaware Co., PA-10 miles South of Pittsburgh, PA

Wife: Elizabeth Dickinson Nuzum; Married 1734 in Ireland; Born: 1710 Died: circa 1775

Children: (1) Richard Thomas Nuzum (Born 1734 in PA & Died 1816 when tree fell on him & his boat in Morgantown, WV) & (2) Elizabeth Nuzum

Occupation: Plantation Owner & Farmer in PA; Stone House, Barn, Blacksmith Shop, Coal House, Weavers Shop on 50+ Acres plus Farmland Acres

AMERICAN REVOLUTION SERVICE:

Pennsylvania Civil Service, Patriotic Service- 1775-1791

Title: **OVERSEER (ADMINISTRATOR) OF THE POOR**, Nether Providence, Chester Co., PA (15 miles SW of Philadelphia, PA)

Duties: Served as an Appointed County Official who had broad responsibilities and duties, such as **administering poor relief to the poor, slaves, and indigent persons**. Duties included providing money, food, medical treatment, and clothing to the needy and being **responsible for all SLAVES and needy persons and appropriate discipline**, acting as **official JUDGE**. As Overseer-Administrator was responsible for public health and social order; was **HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATOR of hospitals and infirmaries for the sick**, insane, orphans, and indigent. Many able-bodied slaves entered military service and the Overseer worked with them in many ways, such as their **Assignment to MILITARY UNITS**. They treated minor ailments, collected various human and fiscal statistics, and maintained records and account books for slaves and the poor. **The Overseer was the only official who could commit a person to any PA ALMSHOUSE (poor house) or WORKHOUSE, establishments providing housing, food, living services, and work for those unable to provide their own**. A Workhouse was a place where hard labor was required of able-bodied paupers, including petty criminals. At times this involved emotional and physical distress of neglected and ill persons and unpleasant discipline of criminals by the Overseer-Administrator-Judge.

Descendants: Lived in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Ohio

SERVICE SOURCES: RECEIPT FOR POOR TAX, 1777, SIGNED THOMAS NUZUM, OVERSEER OF POOR, 4 MAY 1779, COPY IN DOCUMENTATION WITH DAR #424573, OVERSEER OF POOR, 1777.

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!

Upcoming Events

February 17	NW Region Meeting Holmes County Library Bonifay, FL
February 19	Chapter Meeting Eagle Scout Recognition
March 18	Chapter Meeting Tyler McKee—Historical Archaeology
April 15	Chapter Meeting Program TBD

SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution

Pensacola Chapter

"Florida's First"

Celebrating 125 years

1896 - 2021