The Pensacola Patriot

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

January 2024

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

Happy New Year! I sincerely hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season with family and friends. It was kind of quiet around our house this year, but it gave me lots of time for catching up on things!

The 2023 year ended on a high note for sure—we added two new members right before the end of the year, and for the first time in a long time, we received an entry for the Eagle Scout Scholarship competition! With only one entrant, picking our chapter winner was pretty easy, but we will be inviting him to a future chapter meeting (likely February) to receive his medal and certificate from the chapter. In addition to the two new members and the Eagle Scout entrant, we also far exceeded our Wreath Across America goal! Last month I said that we had exceeded our goal of 100 by only one, but apparently there were still more orders to be processed because our final tally for the chapter sponsorship was 116 wreaths! Job well done!

I will say that I am genuinely looking forward to what 2024 has in store for the chapter. We already have I believe two or three new member applications that are pending approval from the National Society, and we have had some interest in our Elementary Poster Contest and the Middle School Brochure contest from a couple of different schools. This would be the first time in many years that Pensacola has put up entries for either of those contests! I am also still hopeful that we can have enough members interested in joining the Color Guard that we can reactivate our camp. We only really need one more compatriot with a uniform and someone to step forward to serve as commander of the unit. Neither job has a large time commitment to it, but the Color Guard is one of the most influential things that the SAR ***(continued on page 2)***

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can do because it is easily the most visible and memorable public facing activity that a chapter can do. The Color Guard is genuinely the "face" of the SAR!

As we head into 2024, we are going to ramp up our America 250 activities. We are going to work on getting more publicity for our 250 by the 250th flag program; We are going to start having an "America 250" section of the newsletter; and I am hopeful that we may be able to start having an "America 250" moment at each of our chapter meetings. And all this is just the start! America's 250th anniversary is an amazing opportunity for the Sons of the American Revolution to step out and truly live our Mission statement! To help our chapter step up and step out into the community during this period, I've asked Compatriot Ben Findley to chair an America 250 committee for the Pensacola chapter. Watch for more to come!!

Speaking of America 250…. Our program for the January meeting is going to be about America 250 and the SAR. I know that we had a video on this back in August, but this presentation will actually be a presentation that I did for the Florida Society during the Fall State BoM. It is a little more customized and goes into more detail on the medals that you can earn as part of the America250 program.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the January 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?

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)

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!

America 250—This month in the American Revolution

In January, 1776, Thomas Paine published what can arguably be called the first ever American "best seller" - *Common Sense.* This 47-page pamphlet came at a time when reconciliation with Great Britain seemed unlikely, and yet independence still seemed unthinkable to many. In simple, yet elegant prose, Thomas Paine, a recent English immigrant, made a passionate case in defense of separation from England. The pamphlet radiated a radical democratic spirit. In plain, unadorned writing, it appealed to the common capacities of all people to evaluate the case for independence. It was a scathing condemnation of the institution of monarchy, which Paine claimed was in fact an affront to God. *Common Sense* seized public opinion, propelling American colonists toward independence.

"We have every opportunity and every encouragement before us, to form the noblest purest constitution on the face of the earth," Paine wrote. "We have it in our power to begin the world over again."

Paine's work managed to "go viral" before there was such a thing, and by the end of the Revolution, there were an estimated half a million copies in circulation!

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 January.

Charles Cather—1 year

Richard Brown—7 years

Ray Judd—15 years

New Compatriots

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

Compatriot	***Month Approved:***	***Patriot:***
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)
Ben Findley	July (transfer)	Thomas Nuzum (Pennsylvania)
Chadwick Rome	November	James Alger (Massachusetts)
David Woodward	December	David Robertson (South Carolina)

Patriot Ancestor Biography - John Waldo, Sr.

NSSAR Patriot # 311903 (Compatriot Sean Andino)

Born: *18 October 1728 - Windham, CT, Died 23 August 1814, Bridgeport, Harrison Co., VA, and is buried in Bridgeport, Harrison Co., VA (now West Virginia).*
Parents: *Edward Waldo, b. 23 April l684, Dunstable, MA and Thankful Dimmock, b. March 1682, Barnstable, MA, d. 13 December 1757, married 28 June 1706, Windham, CT, buried Palmertown Cemetery, Scotland, CT.*
Buried: *Harrison County, VA*
Spouse: *Jemina Abbott, daughter of John Abbott, b 23 March 1729, Stow, MA, died 1815, Bridgeport, Harrison County, VA, married Windham, CT, 14 March 1751.*
Children: *Phipps, Gamaliel, Olive, Ann, Zerviah, John J., Daniel, Jemima, and Jedediah*
The immigrant ancestor of the Waldo family arriving in Ipswich, MA in 1654 was Deacon Cornelius Waldo born ca 1624 in England. John Waldo was the forth generation of Waldos in America. The family moved from Massachusetts to Windham, CT, after 1697 and then to Albany County, NY, after 1762. In 1795, John J. Waldo (son of John and Jemima Abbott Waldo) and family, sold their farm of 200 acres in Hoosick, Otsego County, NY, to Benjamin Walworth for 1000 pounds and moved to Harrison County, VA, bringing his parents with him.
Rev. War Service: *John Waldo had Public Service serving as a member of the New York Committee of Safety and as a Private in the Albany County, NY Militia with Colonel Peter Yates. (DAR Applications #530317 and 731996 and NARA M881, Comp Mil Serv Recs, Roll #776; Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Applicaion File; Pension S-6321.)*

Branding the Sons of the American Revolution

While all compatriots have a pretty good idea of what the Sons of the American Revolution is about, sadly, far too many people out in our community don't understand what we are all about, and many simply don't even know that the SAR exists. The National Society has recognized that the SAR needs to be front and center as the country begins to celebrate our nation's 250th birthday, and to that end, the Mission Statement for the SAR has been revamped, and the NSSAR Branding committee has put out an "elevator pitch" that compatriots can use to tell others about our organization.

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

January 15	Chapter Meeting Program: America 250
February 17	NW Region Meeting Holmes County Library Bonifay, FL
February 19	Chapter Meeting Program TBD
March 18	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