The Pensacola Patriot

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

January/February 2025

Chapter Officers

2025-2026

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

President's Message

Hello Compatriots and Friends!

First, I must say that it is my sincere honor and privilege to be elected President of our great Pensacola Chapter SAR. It is a challenge to follow in the footsteps of a fine Chapter and State leader, Chris Washler. And to move us forward toward the very significant celebration of events and activities that commemorate the formation and existence of our country... the 250th Anniversary of the birth of our United States of America. I learned a new term "semiquincentennial."

Thank you for your suggestions, recommendations, and comments in response to my President's Questionnaire I sent you. I have formed some goals based on your feedback and comments. Your answers give me and our Board a good sense of direction, projects, priorities, and expectations for 2025. Your ideas and comments are the genesis for an excellent potential 250th Anniversary Commemoration community project in cooperation with the DAR, the City of Pensacola, and other historical groups. And I have applied for National and State SAR limited financial assistance for this project. And the DAR is in the process of, perhaps, applying for a grant. It is a Time Capsule with input and participation from SAR, DAR, and community members and organizations' input. This legacy for our future compatriots and friends will leave indelible messages about our values of freedom, liberty, independence, and respect for the patriots that helped form our great nation and our principles. This Time Capsule goal is representative of just some of your ideas and suggestions you SAR members gave and your participation is important.

To begin in early January, based on your input and some nice design ideas, we were able to finalize a beautiful and meaningful gold enameled Chapter Coin. My related goal for our Chapter is to ***(Continued on page 2)***

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

present it to our Guest Speakers and to also use this excellent token to help promote patriotic awareness of our fine SAR Chapter and its projects, activities, events, and Mission. It is special that our SAR Mission is intentionally included on our Coin... Patriotism, History, and Education. We have just started a Chapter fundraiser selling this lovely and meaningful 250th coin to help our very special 250th Anniversary Time Capsule Project and other projects, so hope you participate and purchase a coin or two for a great remembrance of this once in a lifetime Semiquincentennial celebration. 250 years since the birth of our country in 1776. These lovely coins can be your legacy that offer a meaningful message and a keepsake that attest to your support for your country, its patriots, and our SAR Mission. Please considering purchasing 250th Chapter Coins... a great gift for $15., for only the price of a pizza. As of this early writing, we already have about half or 28 coins promised, so don't delay and contact me and you can pickup the coins you buy at our February 17 Chapter meeting.

Another goal for 2025 is to have at least four outside informative Guest Speakers for our Chapter meetings and we already have three scheduled through April, including the topics of WW II Propaganda (by the DAR Pensacola Chapter Regent in February), George Washington Fellows Program and others (by the Executive Director NSSAR Foundation in April), and Wreaths Across America (by the Founding Maine Family member in March) and the campaign's origin, etc. There are other possibilities and our Vice President Jeremy is working that.

Another important Goal for 2025 I want to accomplish is to have at least four George Washington Endowment Fund Fellows to represent the commitment of our Chapter toward our country's Founding Father, the leader of the Continental Army to victory in the American Revolutionary War, who played such a very crucial role in shaping our U.S. Constitution and our principles. By contributing toward a Fellow for yourself or your family member, you can also help support our Chapter's SAR Mission and our 250th Anniversary project. You can leave a Legacy for yourself, your family members, our SAR Chapter, and the SAR Mission and projects. When you make a donation to a permanent endowment fund it helps provide annual funding for unfunded and under-funded SAR special projects, like the Time Capsule project. I want to set the direction for accomplishing this worthy goal, so I have already contributed to this Fund and my wife and I are both now Fellows. And we are considering this for our 6 grandkiddos, as our legacy to them. Another Chapter member just today became a Fellow and two others from our Chapter are also considering pledges to offer donations spread throughout the year to become Endowment Fund Fellows. I would hope to get one more commitment for a Fellow before March 31, the end date for our having credit to our Chapter for this Fiscal year. Contact me and I will help you become a Fellow to leave your legacy.

Another goal I have is for our Chapter members to buy or promote others to buy Wreaths for the Wreaths Across America campaign to place Wreaths on patriotic veterans' graves at Pensacola's Barrancas National Cemetery. Sadly last year, we were about 20,000 Wreaths short for placing them on graves of fallen heroes just here in our area. I would like for our Chapter to record at least 40 Wreaths bought and placed on the Cemetery's veterans' graves this year. As of this early date, we already have about 35 Wreaths purchased, so we are well on our way to meeting this goal. But, I want to surpass it, so no veteran's grave is left without a Wreath. Please help and contact Bill Lies our Treasurer to purchase a wreath!

Still another goal is to have our Chapter work with the Veterans Affairs Department of our Pensacola United Way to help needy local veterans through various services, projects, and activities. We have already identified some needy area families to help and projects are just getting underway. If you want to volunteer to work in this area, please contact me and I shall be glad to help you get involved.

Well "Fortune Does Indeed Favor the Bold" and we have bold goals for this year. The above are just some of the goals for 2025 based on your suggestions and comments. But, with your help and PARTICIPATION we can meet and surpass them, for a Win-Win-Win for all involved.

All the Best, Many Blessings, & Continued Success My Fellow Compatriots!

Ben Findley

Pensacola SAR on the Internet

Chapter Website: www.pensacolasar.org

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/PensacolaSAR

Instagram: sarpensacola

Patriot Chest

The Pensacola Chapter has begun to put together a Patriot Chest to use at community events as well as to be used for in-classroom presentations for our local schools. Several compatriots have asked how they can help with the effort to build on what we already have. Below is a list of items that we currently have in the chest, and a list of items that we would like to add. Compatriots who would like to help with this effort can either purchase items from our "wish list" or send a donation to the chapter that is specifically designated for the Patriot Chest. Additionally, we are still looking for a relatively light-weight antique (looking) box or chest to house this all in.

Current Patriot Chest Inventory:

- Powder Horn
- Felt Tricorn hat
- Musket balls with leather pouch
- Flint
- Wooden Bowl
- Small Frying Pan
- Spanish Pieces of Eight
- Pot scrubber
- Horn spoon

Items we would like to add:

- Small Linen Haversack (https://www.townsends.us)
- Replica Flintlock pistols (https://replicaweaponry.com)
- Child's sized Hunting Frock or Revolutionary War Coat (https://www.townsends.us)
- Girls' Colonial Cap (https://www.townsends.us)
- Girls' Hooded Cape (https://www.townsends.us)
- Reproduction Colonial Era Glasses (https://www.townsends.us)
- Betsy Ross Flag
- Colonial Rag Doll
- Colonial Fife
- Wood canteen
- Quill Pen and inkwell
- Lye Soap
- Men's Work Cap (https://www.townsends.us)
- Hair comb made of horn
- Brick of tea
- Tin Cup
- Colonial Lantern

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.

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?

"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!

New Compatriots

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

Compatriot	***Month Approved:***	***Patriot:***

This space looks a little empty… Help us fill this space over the course of the year - talk to your friends, neighbors, and stranger you meet about membership in the SAR!! It's an easy conversation starter - just ask, "Where does your American story begin?"

New Feature Coming - The Genealogy Corner

Okay, so it's technically not a "new" feature to our newsletter, but it is a feature that is returning after several years. Starting with the March edition of the Pensacola Patriot, we will be bringing back the Genealogy Corner feature in every other edition of the Pensacola Patriot. The FLSSAR Registrar, our very own Ray Lantz, has agreed to write a bi-monthly column for the newsletter centering around genealogy research tips and tricks.

Perhaps even more exciting than the fact that Ray will be offering up tips and tricks for more effective research, he has also agreed to answer YOUR questions! Do you have a challenging "brick wall" in your research? Are you trying to figure out how to find out the birth date for an ancestor who was born in the early 1800s? Do you have other questions that you've run into? Send them to us at newsletter@pensacolasar.org, and Ray will try to help answer those questions in one of his columns!

Watch this space next month!!

250 by the 250th

The 250 by the 250th program has blown past the halfway mark!! We are nearing the homestretch as we have recognized nearly 200 individuals or businesses for their patriotic display of the American Flag! However, we definitely still need your help with nominations to reach the 250 mark by July 4, 2026. We have a little over a year left to finish this amazing project! If you are driving by a house and it looks like their flag may qualify for recognition, write down the address and send in the nomination—we will even help you figure out who the homeowner is!! Someone from the committee will do a drive by after dark to ensure the flag is properly lit, and then we can recognize the community member.

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 John Matthews (johnmatthews@cox.net) and he will tell you what all is involved!

Ladies Auxiliary

The Florida Society Ladies Auxiliary is seeking more members from across the state. The Ladies Auxiliary usually helps support the activities of the chapter, and they help put together baskets for fundraising at the State level to help support the SAR's Educational programs. If any of your wives are interested, the Membership form is on the following page, and can be emailed to them as a fillable PDF form.

They can contact Becky Washler at beckybray12@gmail.com.

Veteran's Recognition

The SAR has numerous avenues by which we can recognize and support Veterans. There are three ways in which we have the ability to recognize the service that was rendered to our country by our Compatriot Veterans - membership in the Florida Veterans Battalion, awarding the Military Service Medal, and awarding the War Service Medal.

The Pensacola Chapter is undertaking an effort to ensure that all of our members who served in the Armed Forces get the recognition and thanks that they deserve. A few of our members are already members of the FLSSAR Veterans Battalion, and a few have even received one of the two appropriate medals to recognize their service. However, there are many of our compatriots who served in the military who have not yet joined the Veterans Battalion nor received the appropriate medal. All that is required for all of this is simply to provide the chapter with a copy of your DD-214 and fill out a quick form to register for the Veterans Battalion.

If you are a member of the Pensacola Chapter who has served in the Armed Forces, but has not joined the Veterans Battalion or has not received either the Military Service Medal or the War Service Medal, please reach out to Chapter President, Ben Findley at colbff@gmail.com so that we can ensure that you receive proper recognition for the service that you rendered to our country!

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
- 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!

Member Anniversaries

These are the Pensacola Compatriots who have SAR anniversaries in January and February.

Chris Matrone - 1 year

David Mitchell - 1 year

Charles Cather - 2 years

Mark Springfield - 3 years

Carl Judson - 7 Years

Richard Brown - 8 years

Bill Nobles - 15 years

Wesley Odom - 21 Years

Ben Findley - 59 years

SAR
Annual Awards

Annual Awards

SAR
Officer Nominations

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARDS
For
EXEMPLARY PATRIOTISM
And VETERANS' SERVICE
RECOGNITION AWARD

RECOGNITION AWARD

Color Guard - Nathan Hale Camp

Back in April of this year, after several years of being officially inactive, the Pensacola Chapter's Color Guard (officially known as the Nathan Hale Camp of the Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade) was reactivated! While the camp has not been very active yet, we are working on adding compatriots to the Color Guard unit, and to that end, during the July meeting, the Board of Directors asked the membership to approve a new budget line item for Color Guard Uniforms.

If any compatriot is interested in obtaining a color guard uniform, the chapter has now designated $1,000 annually to provide assistance for those compatriots who are assembling a color guard uniform. Any compatriot is eligible to receive $100 to help purchase their uniform. This $100 contribution toward a uniform is limited to 10 compatriots per year, and only one per compatriot.

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.

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. (Pictures of the various types of uniforms appear on the next page of the newsletter.)

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!)

Color Guard Uniform Requirements

According to the NSSAR Color Guard Handbook, the following are the requirements for Color Guard uniforms:
With respect to the Continental uniform, the basic uniform consists of the following:
· A tricorn hat;
· A blue coat with either a buff, red or white facing and trim;
· White shirt and waistcoat;
· White or buff knee britches or fall-front trousers;
· Buckle shoes;
· A pair of white gloves.

With respect to the Militia uniform, the basic uniform consists of the following:
· A hat – either tricorn or round;
· A hunting shirt;
· A white or checkered shirt;
· Long britches or fall-front trousers;
· Shoes (not necessarily buckle since the long pants leg will cover the buckle area).

In 2016, a uniform based on Scottish attire was approved by the National Color Guard Committee. This type of uniform is considered a militia uniform the basic uniform consists of the following:
· A hat – either tricorn or round;
· A white or checkered shirt with neck stock
· A waistcoat;
· A kilt (may be of a modern pattern since the actual tartans at the time are unknown);
· Knee socks with buckle shoes or knee socks with boot/moccasins

While these are the basics for each uniform, variations will exist, and participation will not be discouraged based on these variations. Another important consideration of the uniform is the type of fabric used in making the uniform and the accessories that accompany the uniform. Due to the time and expense of obtaining a uniform made from natural and more authentic material, many color guard members chose to obtain a less expensive uniform made from modern fabric, most often polyester or gabardine. These uniforms made from modern fabric are acceptable for all events except where the guardsman will fire a musket. For safety reasons, the SAR does not allow guardsmen in modern fabric uniforms to fire a weapon due the danger of melting fabric causing severe burns.

Where to obtain a uniform?

Here is a partial list of uniform vendors provided by the NSSAR Color Guard. Just type the listed name into Google, and it should help you find their website. G. Gedney Godwin, Townsends, and C&D Jarnagin Company have full uniform options for both Continental and Militia style. Other vendors listed may require you to piece together your uniform.

Bethlehem Trading Post • Smiling Fox Forge • Avalon Forge • Barkertown Sutlers • Burnley & Trowbridge Co. • C & D Jarnagin Company, • Cobb Creek - Fine Clothing • Custom Wig Company • Flintlocks, etc • MyFlintlocks, LLC • Ft. Downing Trading Co. • Fort Vause Outfitters • Fugawee • G. Gedney Godwin Online • HB Forge • Black Powder 411 • International Guns • Joe's Leather Works, LLC • Livonia Smithery • Loyalist Arms & Repairs • Military Heritage • Panther Primitives - • Samson Historical • Smoke&FireStore • Spring Valley Lodges • Sutlers of Fort Frederick Market Fair (2022 listing) • The Quartermaster General • Tennessee Valley Muzzleloading • Townsends • Track of the Wolf • Turkey Foot Trading Company • VA Flintlocks • Clearwater Hats • Ye Armes Shoppe

Color Guard Uniform Examples

Standard Militia uniform (pictured is compatriot Randy Turner

Colonial Officer's Uniform

Two examples of Colonial Line uniforms (one with knee britches and the other with full pants)

Ladies Auxiliary
Florida Society
Sons of the American Revolution

All New Membership applications must be mailed to the Registrar:

Kathy Markoe
294 Blackwater Place
Longwood, FL 32750
407-729-6031
daydreamr613@aol.com

Application for Membership

PLEASE PRINT OUT THIS FORM and mail to Kathy Markoe.

Date _____

Name _____

Husband's Name (if applicable) _____

Address + Zip+4 _____

Telephone + Area Code _____

Relationship to SAR Member (if applicable) _____

SAR Member's Name (if applicable) _____

FLSSAR Chapter (if applicable) _____

New Member's Email address _____

NSDAR Chapter (if applicable) _____

Application Fee	$10.00
State Membership Pin (optional)	$10.00
National Membership Pin (optional)	$12.00
Postage and Handling (if ordering Pins)	$ 7.00
Payable to: **LAFLSSAR**	Total Due

For Registrar Use Only:
Date Received Membership Application _____ Check #_____
Date pins mailed to Applicant (if ordered)_____
Registrar Updated Membership Roster Date _____
Date Mailed Copy of Membership Form & Check to Treasurer _____
Date Treasurer Received Membership Form & Check _____

May 17, 2024

2025 Upcoming Events

February 17	Chapter Meeting Dyan Carpenter, Pensacola DAR Regent	May 9	Battle of Pensacola Commemoration/ Galvez Day
March 17	Chapter Meeting Buster Hartford, Wreaths Across America	May 16 - 17	FLSSAR Spring BOM and Annual Meeting Orlando, FL
April 21	Chapter Meeting Phil Boyd, Exec. Director of NSSAR Foundation	June 16	Chapter Meeting Program TBD

SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Florida Society
Pensacola Chapter
"Florida's First"
Est. 1896

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
250th Anniversary
1776-2026
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION