

The St. Petersburg Chapter
Florida Society
Sons of the American Revolution
CHARTERED 1928

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December 2016

CHAPTER WEBSITES
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2017 UPDATED CHAPTER MEETING & EVENT CALENDAR

Please mark your calendars

January 21 - Coast Guard Presentation

February 18 – Presidents’ Month – Washington & Lincoln Birthdays

March 18 – Educational History Fair, Scholarship Award

THIS MONTH IN REVOLUTIONARY WAR HISTORY

1773 – Boston Tea Party

1776 – Battle of Trenton

1777 – Continental Army winters at Valley Forge



There are no officer reports this month due to the holidays. I have reprinted the Wreaths Across America Proclamation, in which our chapter participated.

**National Society of the
Sons of the American Revolution
Proclamation
17 December 2016**

Morrill Worcester was a 12-year-old paperboy for the Bangor Daily News when he won a trip to Washington, D.C. His first trip was to Arlington National Cemetery and it made an impression on him that he would never forget. In 1992, the Worcester Wreath Company, which he owns, found themselves with a surplus of wreaths nearing the end of the holiday season. He remembered his experience at Arlington. With that experience, he had an opportunity to honor our country's veterans. With the help of Maine Senator Olympia Snowe, arrangements were made for him to place the wreaths in an older section of the cemetery that had been receiving fewer visitors with each passing year. Throughout his life and successful career, his good fortune was due, in large part, to the values of this nation and the veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. Thus began the legacy of placing wreaths at the graves of our veterans.

As we pause in the midst of this holiday season and reflect, please take a moment to think back on things that are important in our lives today. We must reflect on our families and friends, and our country. We must continue to honor our current military veterans and those veterans who have already served. We must continue to thank our veterans for their service that allows us to enjoy the freedoms we have today.

The members of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution are descendants of our first veterans, who fought for our War for American Independence from Britain. We celebrate and honor those brave men and women, who have given the upmost measure of devotion and sacrifice so that we can live free. We have had many foreign threats to our country and we have always called on our military to protect us. They have always responded no matter where the threats were from.

At National Cemeteries across this great this country, ***Wreaths across America*** ceremonies are just a small token to say ***thank you*** to those brave men and women, and to remember those who gave their lives to preserve our freedoms and liberties. When you place a wreath for a relative or a friend, remember those other veterans who are buried in our cemeteries across this country who no longer have anyone to visit their graves or who remembers them.

The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution proudly participates in this program by honoring our veterans who have passed away. We say ***thank you*** to all of our veterans and to those participating in the program today. May God continue to bless America.



J. Michael Tomme, Sr. President General, 2016-2017



MEETING MINUTES



**Sons of the American Revolution
St Petersburg Chapter
December 17, 2016**

Call to Order: The monthly meeting held at the O'Bistro restaurant in St. Petersburg was called to order at 1:35 PM by President Alan Craig, and the invocation was given by John Stewart.

Guests: Prospective member Mike Black and DAR members Vanessa Talbott and Cathy Paunov.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes for the November 2016 meeting were approved.

Program

President Craig and several compatriots attended the Wreaths Across America ceremonies at Bay Pines veterans cemetery prior to the meeting. In addition to the laying of wreaths on each grave, representatives of each service branch laid wreaths at the monument.

Veronika McGinn and her father Mike gave an update on the activities of the James McMullen Society, C.A.R., which included visits to several historical sites around Florida. Our chapter presented a check representing our support of C.A.R.

Benediction & Recessional

John Stewart gave the benediction, and President Craig adjourned the meeting at 3:00 PM

Submitted by Peter Ford, Secretary





Compatriot John Stewart with our chapter's wreath at Bay Pines Veterans Cemetery





SAR, DAR, and CAR members at Bay Pines Veterans Cemetery





Honor Guard and service veteran at Bay Pines Veterans Monument





Wreaths placed by service veterans at the Bay Pines Veterans Monument

