

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

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November 2017

**CHAPTER WEBSITES**  
[www.stpetesar.org](http://www.stpetesar.org)  
[www.jmcmullencar.org](http://www.jmcmullencar.org)

**2017 UPDATED CHAPTER MEETING & EVENT CALENDAR**  
Please mark your calendars

**December 16** – Wreaths Across America – Bay Pines Memorial Cemetery, 10am.  
**Luncheon to follow – Outback Steakhouse, 4088 Park Street N.**  
(corner of Park Street & Tyrone Blvd.)

**THIS MONTH IN REVOLUTIONARY WAR HISTORY**

**1776** – Battles of Fort Washington (NY) and Fort Lee (NJ)

**1777** – Articles of Confederation adopted by the Second Continental Congress

**1783** – British evacuate New York, marking the end of British rule



## President's Message



Dear Compatriots:

Our chapter held our November meeting at the annual Bay Pines Veterans Day celebration. Several of our members marched in the introductory parade of colors with John Stewart posting the US Flag and I posted our chapter flag. After the Bay Pines Ceremony, several of our members attended a combined luncheon with the DAR hosted by the Caravel Chapter, Iris Mastry, Regent. The Clearwater DAR chapter was also represented by several members including Vanessa Talbot, Regent.

Rear Admiral John Kirby, USN (ret), was the feature speaker at both Bay Pines and our combined luncheon. Admiral Kirby is a military and diplomatic analyst and most recently served as Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs. Kirby appears regularly across all of CNN's programming providing analysis on issues related to the U.S. military, defense, foreign affairs and diplomacy.

Admiral Kirby had a 29-year career with the United States Navy, joining after college and eventually retiring as Rear Admiral in 2015. In 2011, then-Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta appointed Kirby to Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Media Operations. Two years later, after serving as the U.S. Navy's Chief of Information, he was chosen as Pentagon Press Secretary and became the first uniformed officer to hold the position. Following his military career, he returned to government serve as the Spokesperson for the U.S. State Department. Soon after, he was appointed by then-President Obama to take on the role of Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of Public Affairs, a title he held until January, 2017. Admiral Kirby is from St. Petersburg, Florida, and holds a B.A. in History from the University of South Florida, as well as an M.S. in International Relations from Troy State University and an M.A. in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College.

Admiral Kirby talked about the disconnect between the general population and the one percent of Americans who serve in the US military. His grandfather and his father and his three brothers all served. Because there is no requirement for either public or military service, this has resulted in a high percentage of our population that having no connection to anyone serving in the military. Without a connection to military service there is a lack of understanding that isn't healthy. Admiral Kirby suggested that a few families provide the core of our military, his family being a good example of that phenomenon. The divide causes apathy toward the brave service



provided by our patriotic people serving in our volunteer military. This indifference has also led to underfunding our military. Admiral Kirby suggested that perhaps a return to a requirement for some form of universal public service similar to the Israeli model would be helpful.

I presented Johnnie Clark's autographed book "Guns Up" to Admiral Kirby. Additionally, I recommended it to the audience as a good place to learn about a young Marine's combat experience and to have a better appreciation for the audacious bravery of our military who keep us free!

After conferring with several members, I have decided that our next chapter meeting will be at the Bay Pines Wreaths Across America ceremony on December 16. Please arrive by 10:00 in the cemetery section. Our guest luncheon speaker will be Ren Cushing of the Mayflower Society, who will speak on colonial life from the Mayflower landing through 1775.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Rogers

### **VP / Chaplain's Message**



On November 4, 2017 the Boca Ciega Chapter of the National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution met at the Feather Sound Country Club to celebrate their 70th Anniversary.

I attended the meeting in revolutionary uniform to present a decree of congratulations on this important event from Robert Folk, President of Florida State Society, Sons of the American Revolution. A copy of the decree is included below.

Respectfully submitted,

David Chestnut



*The National Society  
of the  
Sons of the American Revolution*



*GREETINGS and SALUTATIONS*

*BOCA CIEGA CHAPTER*

*National Society Daughters of the American Revolution:*

*Whereas, on this day, November 3, 2017, the Boca Ciega Chapter DAR celebrates seventy years of distinguished service, and exemplary devotion to the cause of advancing American Patriotism;*  
*Whereas, the Boca Ciega Chapter DAR has reverently honored the memory, and patriotic spirit of shared lineal ancestors who fought, suffered, sacrificed, and died in darkness in order to achieve the light of American Independence;*  
*Whereas, through the decades, the Boca Ciega Chapter DAR has generously shared its collective expertise, encouragement, and resources with the Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution, and the West Central Region in numerous vital initiatives, and worthy collaborations;*  
*Therefore, On This Celebratory Day, and At This Place of Honor,*  
*The Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution and the West Central Region hereby extend our most sincere congratulations for completing seventy years of outstanding service.*

*AND FURTHERMORE,*

*On behalf of the Florida Society and the West Central Region, Sons of the American Revolution, we hereby recognize and acknowledge the Boca Ciega Chapter's distinguished record of advancing American Patriotism, and its devotion to historic preservation, research, and education.*  
*Please accept our most sincere congratulations on this joyous day, and our heartfelt appreciation for all you have done to support the FLSSAR. In Patriotic Service,*

**ROBERT FOLK, President, Florida State Society Sons of the American Revolution**

**PATRICK NIEMANN, Senior Vice President, Florida State Society Sons of the American Revolution**

**CHARLES BUTLER, Regional Vice President, Florida State Society Sons of the American Revolution**

*Attested this day,*

**NOVEMBER 3, 2017**

**BOARD OF MANAGEMENT MEETING  
Kissimmee, Florida**

**Presented by David Munson Chestnut, Vice President, St Petersburg Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution**



## Registrar's Report



If you know anyone who may be interested in becoming a member please have them get in touch with me to assist them with their application.

Respectfully submitted,

Will Scott

## Meeting Minutes



Sons of the American Revolution  
St Petersburg Chapter

November 11 2017

The monthly meeting was held jointly at the Seminole Lake Country Club with our hosts, the Caravel Chapter, DAR. Regent Iris Mastry presided over the meeting. The luncheon followed Veterans Day observances at the Bay Pines VA Medical Center, which were attended by several chapter members.

The guest speaker at the luncheon was Rear Admiral John Kirby, USN (ret). Admiral Kirby is a St. Petersburg native, and is interested in joining our chapter.

Respectfully submitted,

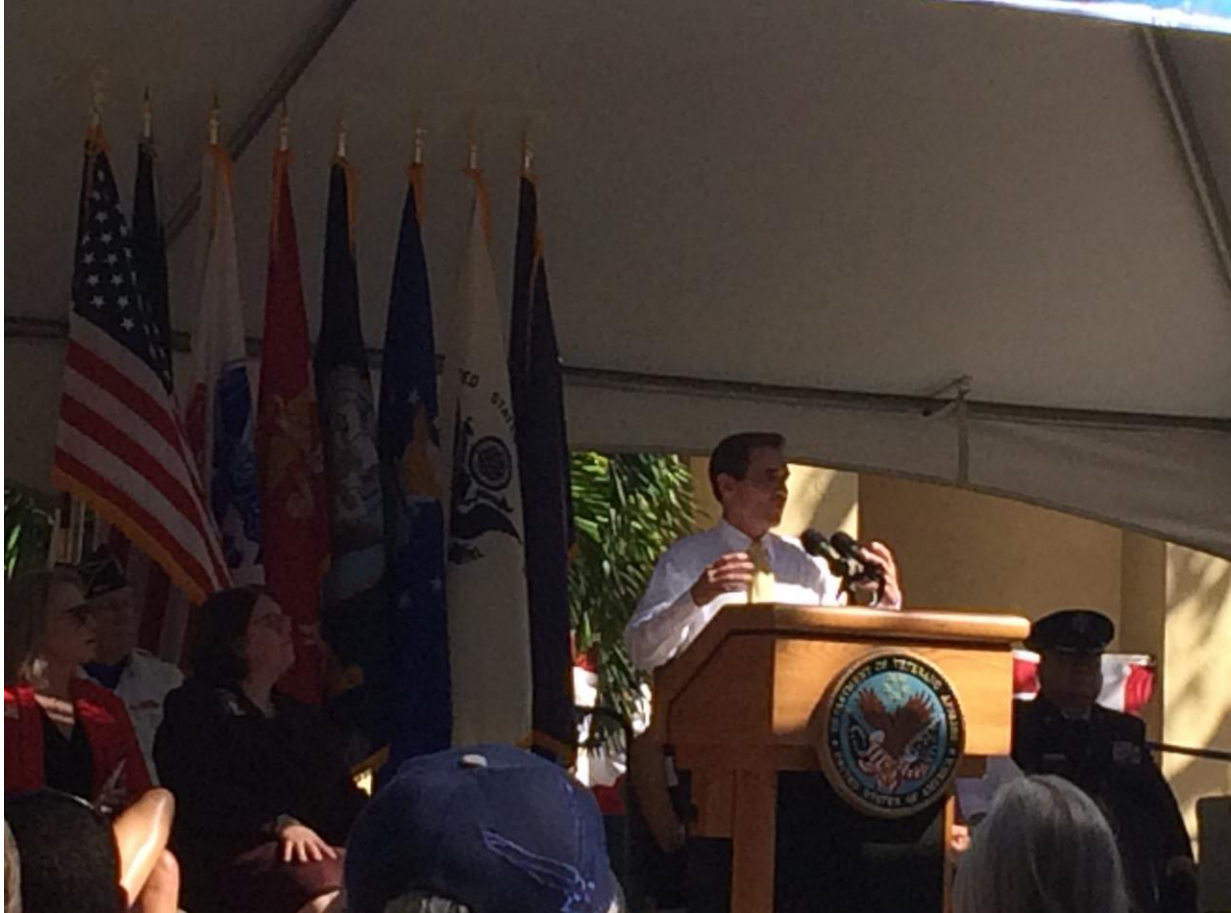
Peter Ford, Secretary





Compatriot Chestnut with Boca Ciega DAR members





Admiral John Kirby addresses guests at the Bay Pines Veterans Day ceremonies

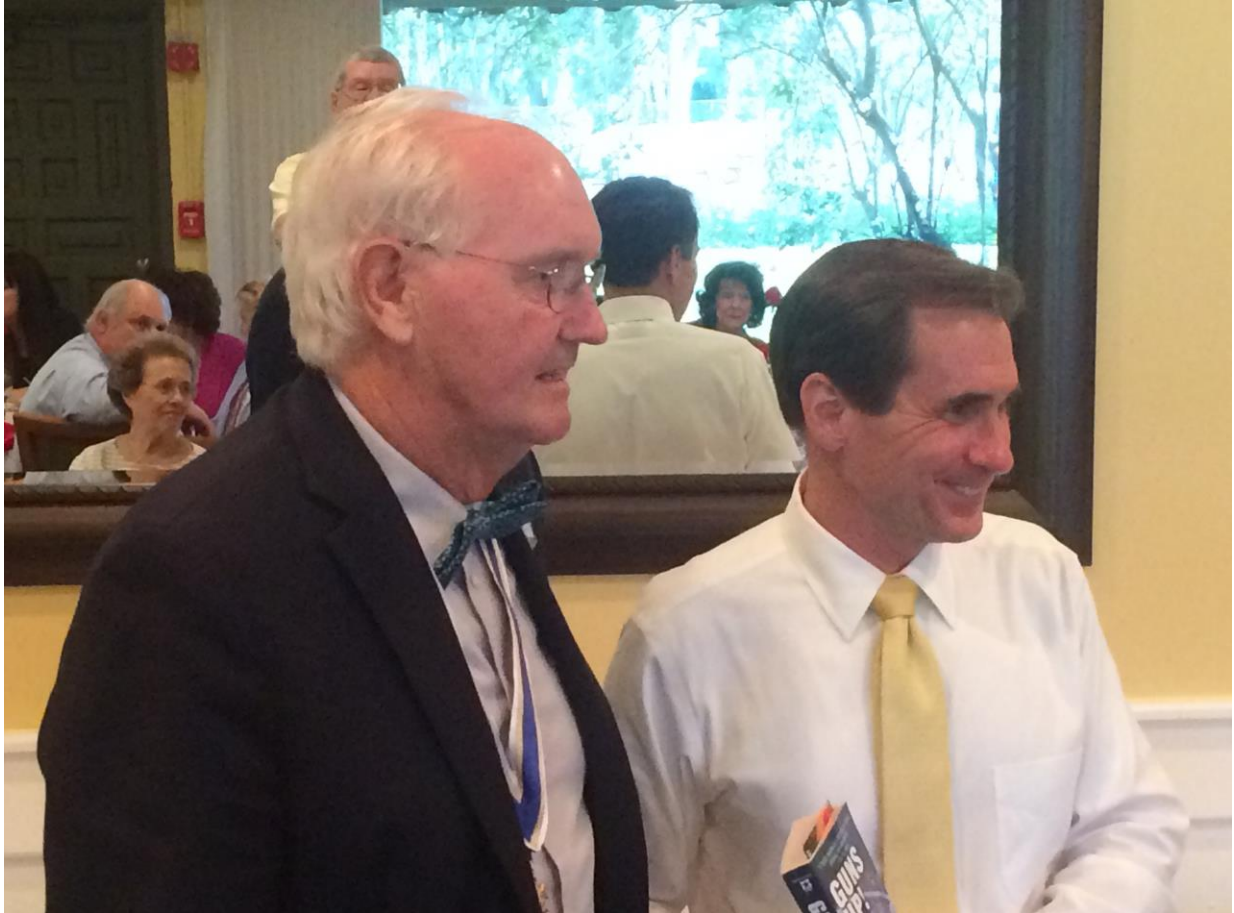




Compatriots Stewart, Soileau and Rogers present colors at Bay Pines







Chapter President Rogers and Admiral Kirby at joint DAR SAR luncheon

