

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

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March 2016

2016 UPDATED CHAPTER MEETING & EVENT CALENDAR

Please mark your calendars

The speakers / themes for our upcoming meetings are:

April 16 – Support for Armed Services & ROTC Awards

May 21 - Chapter Officer Election, Law Enforcement Award, Knight Essay Awards

THIS MONTH IN REVOLUTIONARY WAR HISTORY

1774 – British pass Intolerable Acts, including Boston Port Act

1776 – Battle of Nassau, Bahamas

1781 – Articles of Confederation ratified



President's Message



I was pleased to report at our March meeting that our Chapter had achieved the highest level of membership in more than 30 years, with 52 Compatriots on our roll as registered with the State Society. This is a significant achievement for a number of important reasons.

First, it demonstrates the caliber and character of our fellow members. We are not “sunshine patriots and summertime soldiers...” Our Chapter is what we as members make of it. The fact we are not just growing, we are flourishing is evidence that what we have been doing over the past three years is what our members want, and produces demonstrable results.

Second, we are committed to improving our community, our state and our nation by advancing the cause of American Patriotism. Our Chapter is actively involved in our community, and although we are a non-political not-for-profit charitable organization, we make a significant effort to keep current with elections, candidates and important issues.

Third, The St. Petersburg Chapter is actively supporting a bright future for America through education and leadership development. We are devoted to studying history and understanding why our Founding Fathers made the choices they did, and taking active steps to communicate their ideals to our youth and our community. We value our youth, and recognize the indisputable fact that our future leaders need our support and encouragement. It would not surprise me at all to someday see a member of our C.A.R. as a governor of Florida, or Senator or Representative, or even President.

Through our organization what we are doing as Compatriots is carrying forward the hopes, wishes and highest aspirations of our Founding Fathers for The United States. If by some miracle of science, they could transit time and the grave to walk into one of our meetings at the St. Petersburg Country Club, they would be pleased, and even humbled that 235 years later, their vision is not only alive, but thriving among the Compatriots of the SAR.

Your SAR membership is important to us, and to preserving American ideals. The cause of American Patriotism must be safeguarded and strengthened, one Compatriot at a time. As descendants of proven Revolutionary War patriots, we have a very special responsibility to do just that.

I look forward to seeing you at our April meeting,

In Patriotic Service,
Charles



Chaplain's Message



It is through our faith that we find our joy at this Easter. The following prayer comes to us from the DAR. "O God, who by the joy of Easter has brought new hope to a disordered world; teach us Your children to understand the purpose of the life that You have given us. Help us to work for all that encourages peace and goodwill among men and grant that the spirit of the risen Christ may dwell in our hearts so that we may glorify Your Holy Name. Amen."

Bless us Lord as we are thankful for our own struggles, we gain strength in our faith from them. May we also as members of the SAR always remember the struggles of our patriot ancestors. They most surely prayed for the success of their battle for independence and for the faith in the vision that they would give birth to our great nation.

Blessings to all,

Assistant Chaplain David Chestnut

Registrar's Report



We have several other applications "in the pipeline" but are always interested in new members. If you know of anyone who is a potential member but needs assistance with their application, please let me know.

Respectfully submitted,

Will Scott



Vice President & Treasurer's Report



This has been an extremely busy month. The 85th Annual Florida State Conference for the Children of the American Revolution was held in Tampa in early March and I am pleased to report that the Clear Water Harbor Society did very well in the annual state contests; placing first in two events, second in six events and third in four events. This was in addition to receiving the Gold State Merit Award and the Gold State Standard of Excellence Award. The James McMullen Society also took home the Gold State Merit Award for their efforts this past year. It was most gratifying to see our two CAR beneficiaries do so well at the state level. Clear Water Harbor Society President, Jenna DeMott, was elected as 2nd Vice President of the CAR State Society which means she is on track to become the State President in two years. Also, Vanessa Talbott was elected Senior State Librarian and yours truly as Senior State Curator for a two-year term. It was a wonderful event that also included a trip to the Lowry Park Zoo. It should also be noted that our own David Chestnut was in attendance as part of the Tampa Chapter Color Guard and did a great job presenting the colors for the Awards Banquet.

I also had the privilege of participating in the DAR State Conference in Orlando this month. While there were only a handful of SAR members in attendance, it was an honor representing the St. Petersburg Chapter. You will never see so many DAR ladies gathered in one place at the same time. Their enthusiasm for patriotic service projects is infectious and makes you realize there is so much more we can do to honor our heritage. As Charles has mentioned on several occasions, we are in the "Patriotism" business and we should continue to look for new ways to make an impact.

The new SAR pins are on order and should be arriving soon. I took the liberty of ordering some extras in the event you would still like to purchase one. I am hoping they will be available at our next meeting, but will certainly keep you informed.

Please come to the one of the remaining chapter meetings in April or May to receive your Membership certificate:

5 Years

Patrick Bryant
Richard Schultz
James Scott

10 Years

Jerry Hale
Thomas Hale
Will Scott
Paul Stavros
Richard Townsend

15 Years

Chave Aspinall
William Garvey

20 Years

Thomas Temeyer

25 Years

Bruce Anderson

30 Years

Rolfe Duggar

40 Years

John Thompson
Edward Thomson

All certificates that have not been presented by the May meeting will be sent directly to the home address on file.

We are still tracking favorably against our annual budget and the current balance of the chapter checking account is \$2,385. As always, the chapter financials will be available for your review at the next chapter meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Alan Craig



MONTHLY LUNCHEON – MARCH 19, 2016

Our guest speaker was Compatriot Chris Comstock, who is an investment advisor. He gave a very informative talk on “The Future of America,” addressing topics such as taxes, employment, immigration, the Veterans Administration, and the federal deficit.

Compatriots Mark Allen and Peter Ford received certificates recognizing their military service.

Compatriot John Stewart announced that this year’s winner in the Knight Essay Contest was Henry Walsh, who attends Shorecrest. His essay has been scanned and attached to this newsletter.



Compatriots Peter Ford and Mark Allen receive military service certificates from David Soderlund and Charles Butler.





Compatriot Alan Craig and his daughter Jenna (on his left) attend 85th Annual Florida State Conference for the Children of the American Revolution.





Guest speaker Compatriot Chris Comstock with President Butler.

