

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

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April 2017

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CHAPTER WEBSITES

www.stpetesar.org
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2017 UPDATED CHAPTER MEETING & EVENT CALENDAR

Please mark your calendars

May 27 – Election of officers, Law Enforcement Award, Knight Essay Award

THIS MONTH IN REVOLUTIONARY WAR HISTORY

1775 – Battles of Lexington and Concord

1777 – Battle of Bound Brook (NJ)

1780 – Siege of Charleston



President's Message



Dear Compatriots,

Thanks to those who could attend the April meeting. I would especially like to thank Bob Rogers for his enlightening presentation on the Mayflower and the events leading up to the voyage. His own forefather had no small part to play during that time and I'm glad to see that Bob is carrying on his legacy by not letting us forget the history behind the Mayflower landing.

Next month we will be recognizing the first-place Knight Essay Award winner as well as presenting our annual Law Enforcement Award. Please make every effort to attend as we will also be electing the Chapter officers for next year.

Our official Chapter website is really coming along. If you haven't had a chance to check it out yet, please do so by visiting: <https://stpetesar.org/> Thanks again to Evan Soileau for doing such a great job overhauling our site.

Due to the scheduling of this year's BOM on May 20th, **we will be pushing back the May luncheon from the 3rd Saturday to the 4th Saturday on May 27th.** As a reminder, Charles Butler has been nominated as the West Central Florida Regional Vice President. I can't tell you how excited I am to see one of our own vying for this key role with the State Society. I look forward to seeing everyone at our May luncheon.

Respectfully submitted,
Alan Craig



Chaplain's Message



As we say goodbye to April and look forward to a warm May and Memorial Day, let us also remember its roots after the War Between the States. In the spring of 1866 the Ladies Memorial Association of Columbus, Georgia passed a resolution to set aside one day annually to memorialized the Confederate war dead. Mary Ann Williams, the association secretary, was directed to pen a letter inviting ladies associations in every Southern state to join them in this observance. The Union GAR eventually adopted the name Memorial Day at their national encampment in 1882.

I shall leave you with a quote from Albert Pike...

What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us; what we have done for others and the world remains and is immortal.

God Bless us and God Bless the USA

David Munson Chestnut
St Petersburg SAR, Color Guard Capt.
St Petersburg SAR, Chaplain

WEBSITE ENHANCEMENTS

Our new webmaster, compatriot Evan Soileau, has done an excellent job of updating and expanding our website, stpetesar.org. Links to various tools at the NSSAR site have been established, allowing for research on ancestors and general SAR information. Newsletters for many meetings over the past several years have also been added. To confirm that your patriot ancestor is recognized on the site, click on "Resources", then "Chapter Ancestors" to find your ancestor.



MEETING MINUTES



Sons of the American Revolution

St Petersburg Chapter

April 22, 2017

Call to Order: The monthly meeting held at the Hangar restaurant in St. Petersburg was called to order at 11:35 AM by President Alan Craig, and the invocation was given by John Stewart.

Guests: Chuck Early, Mark Foster, Suzanne Schiltz, Joana Halstead, and prospective members Michael Black and Andrew Kaleel. Mr. Kaleel's great-grandfather was a charter member of our chapter in 1928.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes for the March 2017 meeting were approved.

Officer Reports & News Items

John Stewart presented the slate of officers for the 2017-2018 year, as selected by the Nominating Committee:

President – Robert Rogers
Vice President – David Chestnut
Treasurer - Ron Hays
Secretary – Peter Ford
Registrar – Will Scott
Chaplain – David Chestnut
Historian – John Stewart

The chapter members will vote at the May meeting.

President Craig mentioned that the Stars and Stripes luncheon hosted by the Clearwater DAR on April 15, 2017 at the Belleair Country Club was a successful fundraiser primarily for local veterans, as it raised over \$8,000. Our chapter is considering a similar fundraising event, with comedy improv as the theme.

Hardy Bryan recognized compatriot Bob Birkenstock's home as the winner of a Flag Award for appropriately displaying the American flag.



Our chapter's monthly meetings will be held at the St. Petersburg Yacht Club, commencing with the September meeting. The price will remain \$20, which includes valet parking.

Program

Compatriot Bob Rogers, a member of the Mayflower Society, gave a very interesting presentation that began with Martin Luther, who founded the Protestant Reformation. The ensuing split from the Catholic Church led to the oppression of Protestants, and inspired them to seek religious freedom in the new world. Of the 107 passengers on the Mayflower only 53 survived the first winter. The Pilgrims developed their own form of self-government, as set forth in the Mayflower Compact.

Benediction & Recessional

John Stewart gave the benediction, and President Craig adjourned the meeting at 1:15 PM.

Submitted by Peter Ford, Secretary

Note: Subsequent to the meeting, the proposed slate of officers was amended as follows, with the approval of the Nominating Committee:

Treasurer - Evan Soileau

Sergeant at Arms – Ron Hays





Compatriot Bob Rogers addressed the chapter on the history leading up to the sailing of the Mayflower and the establishment of the Plymouth Colony and the Mayflower Compact





Compatriot Hardy Bryan presents the Flag Award to compatriot Bob Birkenstock

