

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

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CHAPTER WEBSITES
www.stpetesar.org
www.jmcmullencar.org

2017 UPDATED CHAPTER MEETING & EVENT CALENDAR
Please mark your calendars

November 11 – Veterans Day celebration with Caravel DAR (**note date change**)

THIS MONTH IN REVOLUTIONARY WAR HISTORY

1774 – Petition of Grievances sent to King George III

1776 – Battles of Valcour Island (Lake Champlain, NY) and White Plains (NY)

1777 – Battles of Germantown (PA), Saratoga (NY) and Red Bank (NJ)

1780 – Battle of Kings Mountain (SC)

1781 – British surrender at Yorktown (VA)



President's Message



Dear Compatriots:

We held our first meeting at the St. Petersburg Yacht Club October 21. It is a fine venue for our meetings, with good food and service, cooperative staff and ample parking. Compatriot Jerry Halsted gave a rousing presentation on his Patriot ancestor Colonel John Sevier and the battle of Kings Mountain.

I was honored to award Alan Craig the President's award for Meritorious Service, which the president is allowed to present once each year. This is our award for outstanding service to recognize the effort and results achieved that move our chapter goals of increased membership, respect for our flag and dedication to education about our Constitution and our founding fathers.

There were many people who contributed to our Chapter being awarded the 1st place Americanism Award in the small chapter category. In recognition of that, our chapter SAR flag banner now includes the red 1st place ribbon. The last time our chapter won this award was in 1990. Essentially, SAR national has guidelines that recognize the balanced activities and results they we achieved last year. Everyone contributed to the effort, so hearty congratulations to everyone.

For our November meeting we have a very special day planned thanks to the Caravel DAR. The Veterans Day Celebration at Bay Pines has been part of our schedule each year and I have attached the plan for the Bay Pines Event in this email. After the Bay Pines event we have been invited to a very special Luncheon hosted by the Caravel DAR. **Because a number of our chapter members are planning to attend both the Bay Pines Event and the following luncheon at the Seminole Lake Country Club, I have decided to cancel our regularly scheduled November 18th meeting. Therefore our regular November meeting will be centered on the Bay Pines VA celebration and the following luncheon hosted by the Caravel DAR.** I urge you to attend both the Bay Pines Event and the Caravel DAR Luncheon. It will be a very special day indeed.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Rogers



VP / Chaplain's Message



SAR.

This past July I had the pleasure of visiting Louisville, Kentucky which of course included a visit to the Sons of the American Revolution headquarters and library. Exploring this large library is something that cannot be done in one visit. I did locate the five volume set of “The Munson Record,” which members of my family donated to the library a few years ago. I was able to see the area that will be designated for the new museum. It will house many works of art and artifacts owned by the

The main reason for going to Louisville was the semiannual reunion of the Thomas Munson Foundation. This year they have been celebrating the 380th anniversary of Thomas Munson coming to the new world in 1637. He was one of the founders of the Hartford colony which became Connecticut. At the TMF banquet, I had the honor to present the colors in my Revolutionary War uniform of the 1st Virginia Regiment. My flag was gratefully borrowed from the DAR chapter in New Albany, Indiana.

Among the many places of interest to visit in the area is the Scribner House in New Albany, Indiana which is the home of the DAR in the area. The local DAR chapter has lovingly restored the building and now opens it for tours. The home was built by Joel, Nathaniel and Abner Scribner on the banks of the Ohio River. They founded New Albany when they arrived here on flatboat from Pennsylvania in the early nineteenth century.

Another place of interest is historic Locust Grove set on fifty-five rolling acres on the Kentucky side of the Ohio River and is a must see. Built in the 1790s by William and Lucy Croghan, it was home to their family and Lucy's brother, Revolutionary War hero General George Rogers Clark. Clark founded the town of Louisville, captured the Northwest Territory from the British in 1779, and lived here during the last years of his life.

I highly recommend a visit to the Louisville area as it has so much to see and do.

Respectfully submitted,

David Chestnut



Registrar's Report



We have several prospective members working on their applications. Currently our chapter has no completed applications being reviewed by the National Society. 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

October 21, 2017

Call to Order: The monthly meeting held at the St. Petersburg Yacht Club was called to order at 11:30 AM by President Robert Rogers, and the invocation was given by Chaplain David Chestnut.

Guests: Iris Mastry, Regent Caravel Chapter DAR; Sherry Brock, Boca Ciega Chapter DAR; DAR member Linda Soileau; prospective members Mark Foster and Ray Blacklidge; and Jonna Halstead.

Officer Reports & News Items

Alan Craig received a Certificate of Distinguished Service in recognition of his accomplishments last year as chapter president.

Admiral John Kirby (USN, ret.) is interested in joining our chapter. After a distinguished military career, he served as a Pentagon and State Department spokesman. He will be a guest speaker on November 11 at the Caravel Chapter DAR luncheon. Our chapter members are invited to attend, and details are included in an email to all members.



Presentations

David Chestnut gave an interesting talk about his mother, who was born in England, then met and married her husband during WWII. After the war and moving to America, she became a citizen and proudly voted in every election.

Charles Butler, Regional VP, updated the chapter on the work of the State Society's first strategic planning committee, on which he serves with John Stewart. Florida is the fastest growing state society, but nationally SAR is concerned about member dropout rates, which are highest among younger members and those who have been members for less than three years. The committee is striving to address this issue.

Jerry Halstead gave a very informative presentation on the battle of King's Mountain (SC), the site of which he recently visited. Maps of the routes taken by the patriots and the actual battlefield, prepared by the National Park Service, were distributed to all attendees. An ancestor of Jerry's, Colonel John Sevier, was one of the six commanders of the victorious patriot forces at the battle.

Swearing in of Officers and new members

SAR Regional VP Charles Butler presided over the installation of the chapter's officers for the 2017-2018 year, as elected by the chapter membership:

President – Robert Rogers
Vice President & Chaplain – David Chestnut
Treasurer - Evan Soileau
Secretary – Peter Ford
Registrar – Will Scott
Historian – John Stewart

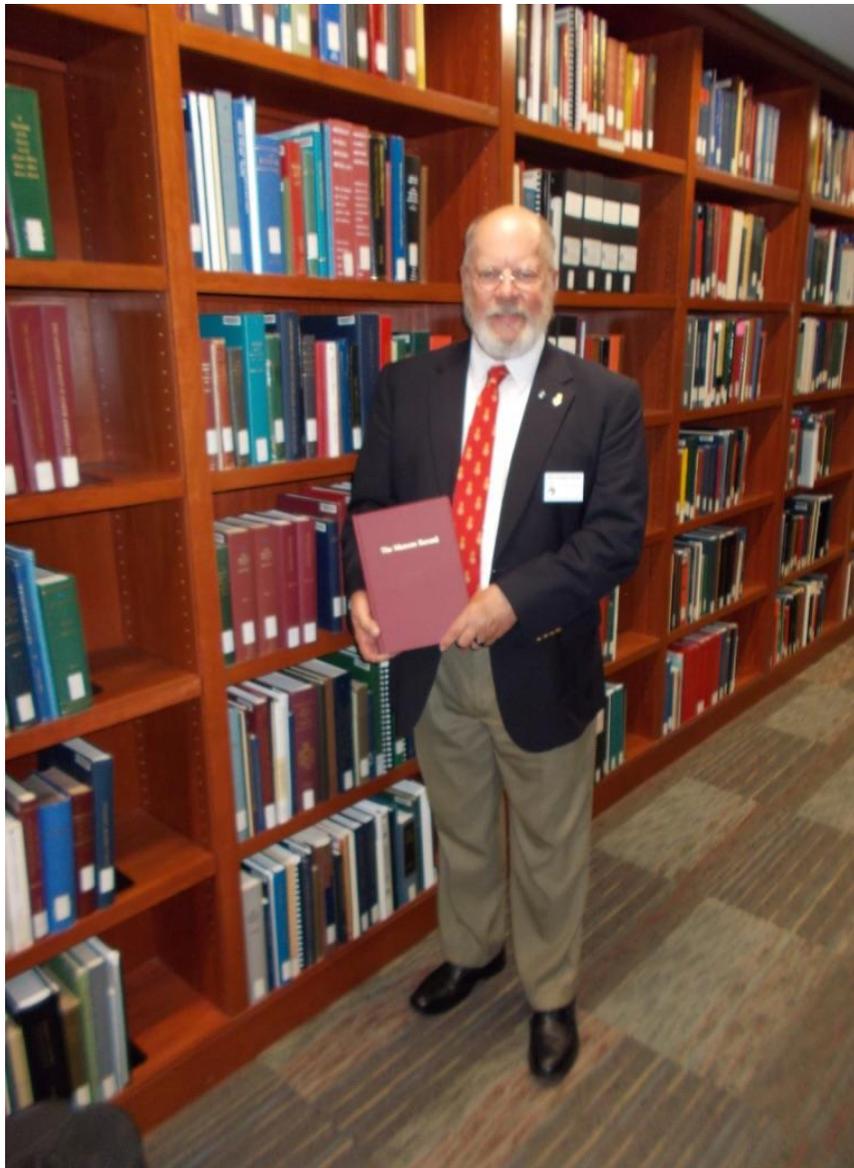
New member Mike Black was also inducted into the chapter.

Benediction & Recessional

David Chestnut gave the benediction, and President Rogers adjourned the meeting at 1:25 PM.

Submitted by Peter Ford, Secretary





Compatriot Chestnut with the Munson (Family) Record
At the SAR National HQ Library in Louisville, KY





President Rogers with new member Mike Black





SAR Regional VP Charles Butler inducts officers Rogers, Chestnut, Soileau, and Ford



NOVEMBER 11th

SPECIAL VETERAN'S DAY

EVENTS

EVENT #1 - Bay Pines Veteran's Day Celebration @ 10:00 AM

SPEAKERS: Pentagon Spokesman & CNN Analyst, Rear Admiral John Kirby, USN (ret)

LOCATION: C.W. Bill Young VA Medical Center Courtyard (Between Buildings 2 & 37)

ADDRESS: 10000 Bay Pines Blvd, Bay Pines, FL 33744

TIME: Bay Pines Celebration @ 10:00AM

COST: Free!

RSVP: Not Required.

EVENT #2 - Joint Meeting ~ Caravel DAR Luncheon with Rear Admiral John Kirby, USN (ret) @ 12:30 PM

SPEAKERS: Pentagon Spokesman & CNN Analyst, Rear Admiral John Kirby, USN (ret)

MEAL: Chicken Marsala OR Beef Tips; with rolls, tea, coffee, salad, & dessert.

LOCATION: Seminole Lake Country Club

ADDRESS: 6100 Augusta Blvd, Seminole, FL 33777

DATE: Saturday, November 11, 2017

TIME: Special Luncheon @ 12:30PM

COST: \$28

RSVP DEADLINE: **October 31st**

PLEASE send your RSVP to our events team at RSVP@stpetesar.org!



Specify your meal choice: Chicken Marsala, or Beef Tips; meal includes rolls, tea, coffee, salad, desert. Cash bar is also available.

The event will be \$28 dollars per person and must be mailed to our treasurer ASAP (make checks payable to 'St. Petersburg SAR Chapter'):

VETERAN'S DAY GUEST SPEAKER

Rear Admiral John Kirby, USN (ret), is a CNN military and diplomatic analyst and most recently served as Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs. Kirby appears regularly on The Situation Room with Wolf Blitzer and across all of CNN's programming providing analysis on issues related to the U.S. military, defense, foreign affairs and diplomacy.

Prior to joining CNN, 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, Kirby was chosen as Pentagon Press Secretary and became the first uniformed officer to hold the position. Following his military career, Kirby returned to government to 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 the end of the Obama administration.

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.



