



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

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CHAPTER WEBSITE
www.stpetesar.org

2020 UPDATED CHAPTER MEETING & EVENT CALENDAR

Please mark your calendars

February 15 – President’s Month Meeting
St. Petersburg Yacht Club, 11am

THIS MONTH IN REVOLUTIONARY WAR HISTORY

1776 – Thomas Paine publishes *Common Sense*

1777 – Battle of Princeton (NJ), Second Battle of Trenton (NJ)

1781 – Battle of Cowpens (SC)



Meeting Minutes



Sons of the American Revolution St Petersburg Chapter January 18, 2020

Call to Order: The monthly meeting held at the St. Petersburg Yacht Club was called to order at 11:30 AM by Vice President Mark Foster, and Charles Butler gave the invocation.

Guests: DAR member Kathy Paunov, Mrs. David Soderlund, and Earl Breshears.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the December 2019 meeting were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Peter Ford reported that the chapter has approximately \$8.5 thousand in the bank. All Florida chapters are being assessed a small annual amount to support the hosting of the 2023 NSSAR annual meeting.

Guest Speaker: Don Wyman of the Villages chapter addressed the members on "Christopher Columbus: Hero or Villain?" Columbus had studied the writings of Marco Polo, and was determined to find a sea route to the Far East by sailing west. He made four voyages, but never got further than the West Indies and the tip of Venezuela. He was a master navigator and sailor, but he failed as a governor of the territories he oversaw. He enslaved many of the natives and sought personal wealth while ingratiating himself with Queen Isabella. Vasco da Gama was the first to successfully sail to India by sailing south around Africa, and Magellan was the first to circumnavigate the globe.

Benediction & Recessional

Charles Butler gave the benediction, and Vice President Foster adjourned the meeting at 2:00 PM.

Submitted by Peter Ford, Secretary



Additional Thoughts on Improving the Teaching of American History

The following is an excerpt from a study by David Davenport and Gordon Lloyd underwritten by the Hoover Institution:

“A number of curriculum experts advocate the more promising approach of teaching students using primary documents, not just textbooks. The Ashbrook Center in Ohio has trained and retrained thousands of teachers to use primary documents – not just the Constitution and Declaration, but speeches, letters, and other documents of the time – to recreate events and debates in our history. This engages students more actively than the passive reading of a textbook and invites them to understand history from the perspective of the participants, not just through the political lens of the 21st century. Teachers report both greater excitement and understanding from the use of primary documents as well as the prospect that students can draw their own conclusions.”



Guest speaker Don Wyman and VP Mark Foster

