



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

PRESIDENT
Robert Rogers
Porsche.bob@outlook.com

VICE PRESIDENT
Mark Foster
markf1045@gmail.com

REGISTRAR
William Scott
wscott2@tampabay.com



WEBMASTER
Evan Soileau
evan@stpetesar.org

SECRETARY & TREASURER
Peter Ford
fordcgi@msn.com

HISTORIAN & CHAPLAIN
John Stewart
1965UVA@gmail.com

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CHAPTER WEBSITE
www.stpetesar.org

2020 UPDATED CHAPTER MEETING & EVENT CALENDAR

Please mark your calendars

March 21 – St. Petersburg Yacht Club, 11am

THIS MONTH IN REVOLUTIONARY WAR HISTORY

1778 – Treaty of Alliance with France

1780 – British forces deployed from New York to Charleston, SC

1782 – British House of Commons votes against further war, recognizing American independence



Board Chairman's Message



Dear Compatriots:

Our February joint meeting with the Caravel Chapter DAR was another extraordinary success. I am pleased to report we were at maximum room capacity for the event celebrating President's month.

Special guest Marcia Oetting of Orlando and John Stewart presented a delightful, in-character reading of letters between Abigail Adams and Thomas Jefferson exchanged throughout their lives. It was consistent with the outstanding quality of the innovative programs and events our chapter is known for sponsoring. It was not only entertaining, but highly educational.

I am especially pleased to report that the Abigail Adams / Thomas Jefferson program has been invited to present for the senior leadership of the Florida Department of Education in Tallahassee, including the Chancellors and other key staff. This is another major achievement for our Chapter and our Education Outreach initiative. Our efforts have produced significant results in establishing our credibility with the Florida Department of Education and earning us the position of providing substantial curriculum and standards input that will have a positive, patriotic impact on millions of Florida public school students over the coming generations.

Once again, in the tradition of our ancestors, this effort proves that the St. Petersburg Chapter doesn't just talk and complain, and forward emails to each other about the lack of emphasis on civics, early American history, the Constitution, and American Patriotism - we are proactively using our expertise to collaborate with the Florida Department of Education to improve our public schools. Our track record over the past year of success is indisputable, and dramatic. Now that we are collaborating with other SAR chapters around the state and with the DAR, our available talent resources are almost unlimited.



Your support and participation in the SAR are extremely important, and you are making a difference in helping make our future generations better citizens. On behalf of the St. Petersburg Chapter Board of Governors and the Tampa Bay SAR Education Initiative, I would like to extend my personal appreciation to all Compatriots for your support, encouragement and participation in this effort. Nothing could be more important for Florida's future.

I would like to encourage each St. Petersburg chapter Compatriot to participate in our success by doing one or more of the following: (a) make a personal commitment to attend every meeting, and whenever possible bring a guest (b) make an effort to identify one friend who could qualify for membership in our chapter and help him join our extraordinary chapter (b) make a generous donation to our chapter and to our Education Initiative; you can do this even if you are mobility restricted and cannot attend meetings (c) consider serving as a chapter officer, where you will have the support of a strong and highly skilled Board of Governors. There is no higher honor than to be an officer in the Sons of The American Revolution, and we welcome your interest.

In closing, I am pleased to report our chapter has reached a major milestone in its history - we have the highest level of enrolled membership since our founding in 1928. This number is not due to natural in-migration; it is attributable to the quality of our Compatriot membership, and the powerful impact of our accomplishments. The St. Petersburg Chapter is definitely *not* a lunch club. We do enjoy our Compatriot fellowship, and we take pride in who we are and what we accomplish, and we take the intent of our Federal Charter seriously: *Patriotism through Education*. It is who we are.

On behalf of the Board of Governors, I look forward to seeing you in March.

Charles Butler



Meeting Minutes



Sons of the American Revolution St Petersburg Chapter February 15, 2020

Call to Order: The monthly meeting held at the St. Petersburg Yacht Club was called to order at 11:35 AM by President Bob Rogers, and John Stewart gave the invocation.

Guests: 29 DAR members joined us in celebrating President's Month.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the January 2020 meeting were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Peter Ford reported that the chapter had filed its state and federal tax returns, and that we had received another donation in memory of compatriot David Chestnut.

Knight Essay Contest: John Stewart reported that this year's winners are:

1st place – Marena Mackling – Northside Christian

2nd place – Megan Li – Admiral Farragut

3rd place – Kamrin Oriol – Admiral Farragut

Guest Speakers: Abigail Adams (Marcia Oetting) and Thomas Jefferson (John Stewart) shared their correspondence beginning in the 1780's when both were in Europe. Their friendship was strained for years starting around 1800 because of political disagreements resulting from John Adams's appointments when Jefferson was his Vice President, and the fact that Jefferson then defeated Adams in the election of 1800.

Benediction & Recessional

John Stewart gave the benediction, and President Rogers adjourned the meeting at 1:30 PM.

Submitted by Peter Ford, Secretary





DAR and SAR members watch the Adams / Jefferson presentation





President Rogers, Marcia Oetting (Abigail Adams) and John Stewart (Thomas Jefferson)

