



The Whig



The monthly newsletter and source of information for the
St. Lucie River Chapter,
Florida Society, Sons of the American Revolution

March 2015

President's Salvo



Gentlemen,

Our next meetings will be on April 11 and May 9 at Manero's. The latter will be the last meeting of the year. On May 1-2, the FLSSAR annual meeting will be held at the Florida Hotel in Orlando. All are welcome.

At the March meeting, we voted to amend the SAR by-laws and Constitution. These items are being prepared for publication and will be emailed to all members.

If you missed it, on Saturday, March 28 the Liberty Tree was dedicated at the Fort Pierce Women's Club on 29th Street. St. Lucie County Commission Chair Paula Lewis attended and provided us a proclamation. Fort Pierce Mayor Linda Hudson was called away to meet President Obama's arrival at the airport, but the City's proclamation was presented. Congressman Murphy was with the President, but was

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Judge Mark Klingensmith



The St. Lucie River Chapter, SAR was honored and thankful to have Fourth District Court of Appeal Judge Mark Klingensmith, a member of our chapter, address the attendees of the March 11th chapter meeting. Judge Klingensmith's topic was the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution, particularly issues related to search of persons and property. Mark outlined how the judicial interpretations are evolving with societal and technological changes.

For instance, could police use a listening device (without warrant) to listen to a drug dealer's phone conversation from a glass phone booth? Can a police dog be sent to walk around a house to sniff out drugs that may be in the house? In both of these cases, appeals courts have thrown out the prosecution verdicts on the Fourth Amendment interpretation of illegal search. "A person's home is his/her castle."

Clearly, in the 225 years since the original Bill of Rights was passed by Congress, methods of communication have greatly changed. No longer does it take four days for express mail by horse to deliver a letter from Philadelphia up the Post Road to Boston. Now a text message gets there in one nanosecond (sometimes). We learned that the Justices today must struggle to interpret how the original Bill of Rights apply to current conditions which were never anticipated by the Founding Fathers.



From left to right: Chapter President John Auld, Guest Speaker Judge Mark Klingensmith, and Chapter Secretary Tom Gilmore

To Visit the Chapter Website, go to:
<http://www.stlucieriverflssarc.org/index.html>

First Liberty Tree Dedicated in St. Lucie County



On March 28th, the St. Lucie River Chapter, SAR dedicated the first Liberty Tree in St.

Lucie County, on the grounds of the Women's Club of Fort Pierce located at 2408 South 29th Street. There are now a total of 36 Liberty Trees in 22 counties throughout the state of Florida.



Our chapter committee, led by Director at Large Jay Wise, Joe Regan, and Chuck McKinley chose the Women's Club location as the first location for two reasons; to honor the Women's Club 100th anniversary of service to their community, and to recognize their support of various veterans' activities in the area. We wish to express our special thanks to the Women's Club President Elizabeth Bowen, who along with her husband Dr. Bob Bowen MD and son Garrett, have been so helpful throughout this project. As our Florida SAR charter for the State Liberty Tree program suggests involving political and civic organizations, we welcomed involving the local DAR Chapter, which also recently celebrated 100 years of service, the St. Lucie County Commission, the City of Fort Pierce, JROTC members from Fort Pierce Central High School, the Fort Pierce Women's Committee on Domestic Violence, and the Buxton Funeral Home of Okeechobee.



Special guests included St. Lucie County Commission Chair Paula Lewis, Candace Walls representing Congressman Patrick Murphy's office, Florida SAR President Steve Williams, and DAR Regent Karen Evens and Vice Regent Karon Drew of the Cora Stickney Harper Chapter.

Compatriot Jack Irvin supplied the audio system and assisted Compatriot Jay Wise with the Posting of the Colors. Compatriot Bruce Herchenroder gave the invocation and the Benediction.

Following the Invocation, a Call to Arms, the Presentation of Colors, the Pledge of Allegiance, and the singing of the *National Anthem* and *America the Beautiful* by Gwen McLeod, a moment of silence was observed. Compatriot Hall Riediger, Florida SAR Secretary and St. Lucie River Chapter Director at Large, then gave a well received presentation about the history of the Liberty Tree. (For a detailed history of the Liberty Tree, readers may review the October 2014 edition of *The Whig*).



St. Lucie County Commission Chair Paula Lewis presented a proclamation which was received by Hall Riediger. A Proclamation from the City of Fort Pierce was presented by DAR Regent Karen Evens and Vice Regent Karon Drew, on behalf of Mayor Linda Hudson, and was received by St. Lucie River Chapter President John Auld, who then ceremoniously unveiled the marker for the Liberty Tree.

Matt Buxton from Okeechobee, who donated the new marker, gave a review of his participation in the process, which started with his previous donation of a similar marker at the Veterans Park in Okeechobee, and his desire to recognize his own family's as well as his community's veterans who serve our Great Nation.



Elizabeth Bowen, President of the Fort Pierce Women's club, gave a speech about the organization and her desire to inform the local community of the values of Liberty.



Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Commissioner Paula Lewis, Women's Club President Elizabeth Bowen, and the DAR Regent Karen Evens and

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Habitat for Humanity



On March 28, 2015 St. Lucie Habitat for Humanity dedicated a home for the Devon Fray family at 202 SW Dillon Court in Port St. Lucie. Compatriot Joe Leinbach presented the family with a Constitution booklet, an SAR flag presentation booklet, a new American flag, and a flag bracket from the SAR. Devon is a single father with a 20 year old daughter, Lamoy, and a 15 year old son, Kyle. Devon is a devoted Habitat volunteer who plans to continue volunteering so that he can help others that are working on their Habitat sweat equity.

Compatriot Joe Leinbach with Devon Fray and Kyle Fray



JROTC Awards



On March 26, 2015, the St. Lucie River Chapter, SAR was proud to attend the Port St. Lucie High School JROTC Awards Ceremony hosted by JROTC Senior Instructor Major Richard Thompson, USA Retired. The 10:30 am ceremony was held in the high school's auditorium.

Compatriot Carl Wade, Chapter JROTC Committee Chairman, presented the SAR Bronze ROTC Medal and Certificate to Cadet 1LT Tyler Roberts.

Joining Chairman Wade in attendance were Chapter President John Auld and Compatriot Jack Irvin. *Chapter President John Auld, JROTC Committee Chairman Carl Wade, and Cadet 1LT Tyler Roberts*



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Vice Regent Karon Drew for their participation. A certificate of Appreciation was also prepared for Mayor Linda Hudson, who was unavoidably called away by the local arrival of the President of the United States.

Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to Dr. Robert E Bowen, M.D. and son Garrett E Bowen for their assistance in planting the Liberty Tree, to Ft Pierce Central High School Army JROTC cadets Anthony Marinier, Mateo Rubiuo, Crosel Cabrera, and Paige Calvia for participating in the color guard, to Lindy Wise for her support of our chapter throughout the process, and to Doretha Hair-Truesdale who read the Thomas Paine Liberty Tree Poem with fervor to the audience.

After the Benediction, Florida SAR President Steve Williams gave some final words of thanks to the attendees.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, refreshments were provided by the All We Leap Charitable Agency to Prevent Domestic Violence. Their leader, Gwen McLeod, was the wonderful lady who sang at the opening of the ceremony.

As State Liberty Tree Program co-chair, I wish to thank my fellow co-chairs Compatriot Jay Wise, who donated the National Flag to the Women's Club used in the ceremony, and Joe Regan for their invaluable assistance in making



this ceremony a success. Other chapter participants will be given Certificates of Appreciation for their service at our next chapter meeting in April.

Chuck McKinley

Last Naval Battle Ceremony



Compatriots Hall Riediger and Chuck McKinley

On March 7, 2015, Compatriots Hall Riediger and Chuck McKinley proudly attended the 8th annual Celebration of the Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution at the Veterans Park in Merritt Island, Florida. We had the honor of carrying our Chapters' American Flag as well as the Chapter SAR flag to lead the parade. The ceremony was conducted by Compatriot Ben DuBose of the Brevard SAR Chapter. As Compatriot Riediger was the Senior Officer of the Florida SAR present, he gave a discussion on the history of the ceremony. The ceremony is always attended by several SAR chapters throughout the State. Other organizations represented were the Coast Guard Auxiliary, a CAR Chapter, several DAR chapters from around the state, Union and Confederate Civil War organizations, and two Sea Cadet groups.

Two significant highlights during the ceremony were a presentation of the Last Naval Battle history by a Regent of a DAR/CAR chapter, and a special speaker, a Daytona-Ormond Beach Compatriot dressed like George Washington, with his wife dressed as Martha Washington. Washington's life was depicted from the start to finish of the

Revolutionary War, through his Presidency, and interwoven was the history of Captain John Barry and the "Alliance" during and after the Revolutionary War.

We wish to thank Compatriot Jay Wise for personally preparing our colors for display at this event by cleaning and ironing them, Ours was the only chapter present with their colors on display.



Chapter Reports: March 2015

Treasurer's Report—

Current Checking Account: \$2068.82
 Current Money Market Account: \$6199.88

Membership Committee Report—Our Chapter has the following number of members for a total of 65 current members:

- 55 regular members
- 3 life members
- 7 junior members

There are 7 prospective members whose applications are being compiled and will be submitted shortly.

Program Committee Report—No report

Eagle Scout Committee Report—No activity to report

Habitat for Humanity Committee Report—See article "Habitat for Humanity"

History Fair Committee Report—No activity to report

JROTC Committee Report—See article "JROTC Awards" for recent awards

Liberty Tree Committee Report—See article "First Liberty Tree Dedicated in St. Lucie County"

Veteran's Affairs Committee Report—No report

Genealogy Committee—No report

Color Guard Committee—No report

Americanism Committee—No report.

The Battle of Okeechobee

On March 1st, Compatriots Jay Wise, Jack Irvin, Joe Regan, Bill Hammond, and Chuck McKinley attended the reenactment of the Battle of Okeechobee, the largest battle of the Second Seminole War, which took place on Christmas Day, 1837. The event was held at the Okeechobee Battlefield Historic State Park in Okeechobee.

Compatriots Irvin and McKinley donned Revolutionary militia attire and looked out of place as compared to the post-war period military uniforms worn by the group of battle reenactors. The chapter was invited to participate in the event as a result of our visit to Okeechobee for the Okeechobee DAR's 20th anniversary on February 7th. Regent Su George invited us to sit in their tent, which was beneficial as many of the DAR ladies present wore colonial attire. Our mission was to represent the Chapter in the community, as well as foster recruitment of new members.

We were given an introduction to the Battlefield Marker that was moved from a local roadside to the State Park. The DAR tent presented the story of what was done to achieve their goal of moving the marker; apparently the prior location was often surrounded by garbage cans. There were several vendors selling various products including Native American and post-Revolutionary War items, but also flags of different eras as well as an excellent food concession.



Left to right: Okeechobee DAR Regent Su George, Compatriots Chuck McKinley, Jay Wise, Joe Regan, Bill Hammond, and Jack Irvin, Okeechobee DAR Treasurer Betsy Cheney



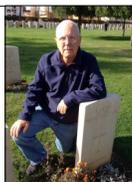
The Seminole Tribe of Florida was a proud participant in the reenactment, and provided reenactors as well as horses for the event. A member of the Seminole Tribe addressed the assembled crowd prior to the activities. Participants wore period attire during the reenactment. The Seminoles wore colorful Native American clothing and war paint markings. It was interesting to see the difference in the type of soldier's uniform worn, which was mostly changed from the period of our Patriots. For example, most of our Patriots wore tri-corner hats, while the soldiers of this period wore an oversized leather cap that could be used for feeding their horses and carrying water. Uniforms also the elimination of drop front pants and ruffled shirts. It was an interesting, informative experience.

We look forward to many more exciting days in Okeechobee in the future.

Compatriot Jay Wise admires the uniform of a reenactor representing the U.S. Soldier of 1837.



President's
Salvo



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represented by Candace Walls. We greatly appreciate the granite marker gift of Matt Buxton from Okeechobee and the efforts of Elizabeth Bowen of the Women's Club to provide the site for the tree. Much credit goes to Chuck McKinley, Joe Regan, and the tree nurturer, Jay Wise, to make this a wonderful event.

Sincerely,

John Auld
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sarjhauld@gmail.com

SAR News and Notes

-National SAR Library to Showcase Lunar Bible Exhibit. One of only twelve flight-certified Lunar Bibles in existence will be on display at the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) Genealogical Research Library beginning on Monday, March 9th, 2015. The Lunar Bible was carried to the surface of the Moon by the Apollo 14 astronauts in 1971. Read more about the Lunar Bible on the NSSAR website at www.sar.org or click [here](#).

-SAR Branding Committee Issues First Report. The SAR Branding Committee has issued a report that should be of interest to members of the SAR. Its mission is to develop strategies and deploy initiatives that will elevate SAR's recognition around the country and strengthen perceived value of membership, with the specific goals of engaging member participation, increasing membership, improving

retention, enticing visitation to the SAR Library and The SAR Center, and broadening SAR's donor base.

Read the Branding Committee's report on the NSSAR website or view it by clicking [here](#).

-Spring 2015 edition of *The Florida Patriot* available. View current and past editions of *The Florida Patriot* by visiting the Florida SAR website at www.flssar.org or view the current Spring 2015 edition by clicking [here](#).

-SAR Flag Certificate—The Flag Certificate, authorized in 1987, is presented to individuals, companies and government agencies that fly the United States flag for patriotic purposes only. It is not to be given to any commercial enterprise that obviously flies it for advertising purposes.

Events Calendar

April 11: Regular Meeting, Manero's, Palm City *

May 1-2: Spring 2015 BOM/Annual Meeting, Orlando.
Host Region is the East Central.

May 9: Regular Meeting, Manero's, Palm City *

May 25: Memorial Day

June 14: Flag Day

June 26-July 1: 125th Annual Congress, Louisville, Kentucky

July 4: Independence Day

September 25-26: Fall Leadership Meeting, NSSAR Headquarters, Louisville, Kentucky

* Regular meetings start at 11:30 am unless noted.

Editor's Note

As Okeechobee County is now officially served by the St. Lucie River Chapter, SAR, the chapter's presence in the county has increased, as evidenced by various articles appearing in *The Whig* in recent months. WKH

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Minutes

March 14, 2015

Call to order: 12:05 PM

Invocation: Phil Carr

Pledge of Allegiance: Dan Olin

Pledge to the SAR: John Sheppard

"We, descendants of the heroes of the American Revolution, who, by their sacrifices, established the United States of America, reaffirm our faith in the principles of Liberty and our Constitutional Republic, and solemnly pledge ourselves to defend them against every foe."

Minutes of previous meeting: in WHIG, February.

Motion to approve: Phil Carr Seconded: Hall Riediger

Motion carried

Members Present: Chuck McKinley, John Auld, John Sheppard, Chris Wade, Hall Riediger, Bruce Hershenroder, Tom Gilmore, Jay Wise, Dan Olin, Joe Leinbach, Joe Regan, Phil Carr, John Auld, Mark Klingensmith, Mason Pratt

Guests: Bobbie Hoffmann (DAR), Barbara Stokel (DAR), Susan Auld, Judy Martin, Sheila Carr, Martin Vollmer (other SAR chapter), Jean Vollmer

Meeting recessed for lunch.

Reopened meeting by calling everyone back to order.

Award Presentations:

Jay Wise received an NSSAR Military Veterans Corps Certificate of Patriotism for his service in WW2, and Chris Wade received an NSSAR Military Veterans Corps Certificate of Patriotism for his Vietnam Service.

We wish to thank Bobbie Hoffman, DAR Chapter President, for assisting in getting four new SAR chapter members sworn in. Bobbie, in this packet you will find four SAR Finder Forms giving you credit.

And we greatly appreciate Barbara Stokel's counsel and financial contribution so her four grandsons became chapter members. Mrs. Stokel, in this packet you will find copies of your grandsons' certificates and record copy applications, and our letter of thanks and appreciation. For many generations now we have passed down our love of country and our respect and gratitude for the sacrifices of our patriot ancestors.

Please keep passing it on.

Correspondence: none

Unfinished Business: Second reading of revised Constitution and By Laws. Motion to waive reading by Jay Wise, seconded by John Sheppard. The motion to approve passed and the revised Constitution and By Laws are in effect.

Committee Reports: All are published in the WHIG.

Officer Reports: Treasurer Report.

Program:

It is my distinct pleasure to welcome a long-standing member of the SAR, The Honorable Judge Mark Klingensmith. Mark W. Klingensmith is a judge of the Fourth District Court of Appeal in Florida. Governor Rick Scott appointed him on June 27, 2013. In 2014, he successfully ran for retention of winning a six-year term that expires in 2021. Mark is a Florida Law School graduate. From 1986 to 2011 he practiced law with the firm of Sonnebom, Rutter, Cooney, and Klingensmith. Prior to being appointed by Governor Scott to the 19th Judicial Circuit Court in 2011, he served as a Sewall's Point Commissioner and Mayor. As a former Boy Scout, Mark continues to serve as the Treasure Coast District Chairman of the Gulf Stream Council, Boy Scouts of America. I have asked Mark to talk about the "shifting sands" in the judicial interpretations of the Constitution and Bill of Rights.

50/50 drawing winner is Joe Regan for \$16.

Guy's Duck amount: \$17

Next meeting date: April 11, 2015.

Announcements: Chuck McKinley advised that the Liberty Tree official dedication ceremony will be Saturday, March 29, at 10 AM at 2408 South 29th Street, Fort Pierce. We expect a good crowd. Please wear your Continental Uniform if available.

Benediction: Phil Carr

SAR Recessional:

"Until we meet again, let us remember our obligations to our forefathers, who gave us our Constitution, the Bill of Rights and independent Supreme Court and a Nation of Free men."

Adjourned 1:48 PM

Yours, Tom Gilmore, Secretary

To Visit the Chapter Website, go to:**<http://www.stlucieriverflssarc.org/index.html>**



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Florida Society, Sons of the American Revolution
Thomas N. Gilmore, Secretary
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President's Brigade

Gold Medal

Oscar Kraehenbuehl

John Auld

Carl Wade

Jay Wise

Silver Medal

Hall Riediger

Bronze Medal

Sheila Carr