



The Whig



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

November 2015

President's Salvo



Gentlemen,

November has been busy with Veteran's Day activities including a parade and services. Compatriots Berger, Auld, Sheppard, and Riediger marched in the Stuart parade while compatriots Irvin, Wise, McKinley, Regan, Chris Wade, and Carl Wade attended other ceremonies in St. Lucie County.

At our November meeting, members present agreed to hold our February meeting in Okeechobee, with an expectation that we will be presenting law enforcement awards to officers of several local agencies as well as the possibility of presenting fire service or EMS awards at that time.

Christmas is coming: we are asking for canned donations at the next two meetings in preparation for our chapter food drive. Please bring non-perishable items only! These goods are donated to local charitable organizations.

The last civic activity for the calendar year will be the awards for Fire Safety and EMS for Martin County.

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Veteran's Day 2015

The St. Lucie River Chapter, SAR, had the honor to participate in several events on Veteran's Day, November 11th.

Stuart held its annual Veteran's Day Parade down Ocean Avenue to Memorial Park. The Grand Marshal was Douglass Stewart, USA (Ret.), a current Palm City resident who served as a First Lieutenant during World War II in campaigns throughout France, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Germany. His company landed on Omaha Beach in Normandy on July 3, 1944. By coincidence, his brother Francis Stewart landed on the same beach on the same day, some 1500 feet away!



Compatriots John Sheppard, Hall Riediger, John Auld, and Chuck Berger

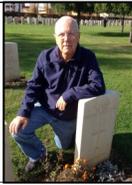
After the parade, a ceremony was held at Memorial Park. The Guest Speaker was SSGT Brian Mast, USA (Ret.). SSGT Mast served over 12 years in the Army, including operations in Afghanistan, where SSGT Mast suffered catastrophic injuries which resulted in the loss of both legs. SSGT Brian Mast received numerous medals for Valor, Merit, and Sacrifice to include the Bronze Star, the Army Commendation Medal, the Purple Heart, and the Defense Meritorious Service Medal.

Chapter compatriots present for the parade were Chuck Berger, John Auld, John Sheppard, and Hall Riediger who marched in the parade, as well as Bill Hammond.

Port St. Lucie held a Veteran's Day Service at Veterans Memorial Park in Port St. Lucie. The annual event included a welcome address by mayor Greg Oravec, a speech from Lieutenant Colonel Alberto Nevarez, a rifle salute from the Jack Ivy Detachment 666, Marine Corps League, and JROTC groups from Treasure Coast High School (Air Force), St. Lucie West Centennial High School (Navy), and Port St. Lucie High School (Army). Compatriot Jack Irvin was the Officer of the Day and arranged for the JROTC units to carry our Colors. Other attendees were Jay Wise and spouse Lindy, Chuck McKinley, and Joe Regan.

Finally, Jetsons held a Veteran's Day event at their store in Ft. Pierce. "The purpose of our event is to honor veterans, to inform veterans about programs available to assist them and for everyone to come out and have a good time," said Susan Harris, community liaison for Jetson's TV & Appliances. Veterans enjoyed free food and live music. Compatriots Jay Wise and spouse Lindy, Jack Irvin, Chris Wade, and Carl Wade with his spouse Judy attended.

President's Salvo



(Continued from page 1)

Please attend the December 12 meeting as Martin County Fire Chief Dan Harshburger will attend as our guest. Our chapter provides these awards for Fire departments and Law enforcement agencies to demonstrate our thanks and appreciation for all that they do to keep us safe. The awards are rotated on an annual cycle through the three counties in our SAR territory.

Our chapter continues to grow and demonstrates our values and appreciation for our forefathers, this Republic, and our Constitution. We have contributed to the Wreaths Across America in Martin and St. Lucie counties this year. The wreaths will be presented on December 12 in Arlington National Cemetery and across the nation. Please continue to help us wherever and whenever you can!

Please pay your \$70 SAR dues NOW.



Sincerely,

John Auld

772-418-3576

jhauld@gmail.com

November Meeting Highlights



At our November 14th meeting, the St. Lucie River Chapter, SAR, was proud to welcome compatriot Jim Alderman, a transfer from the Brevard Chapter. Jim's Patriot is David Alderman, a soldier of the North Carolina militia.

Additionally, Compatriots Steven, Ayden, Devon, and Logan Jordan were introduced by compatriot John Sheppard. Steven and his three sons Ayden, Devon, and Logan were all pinned by wife and mother Cheryl.

The St. Lucie River Chapter also had the honor to present the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal to two deserving parties at the meeting.

The first Bronze Good Citizenship Medal was presented to Lloyd Lasenby, moderator of the Indian River Wood Carvers Club of Vero Beach. This organization carves and presents canes to recipients of the Purple Heart, including service members from World War II to the present day. They have carved and presented more than 150 canes so far. The next presentation of these canes will be at the Seal Museum in Fort Pierce on January 6th. Lloyd announced that compatriot Jim Pippin, who recently joined our chapter, will be awarded a cane at that time. Compatriots Jack Irvin and Chuck McKinley participated in this award. Lloyd's wife Marlene was in attendance.

The second Bronze Good Citizenship Medal was awarded to Joshua Alexander for his military service including two tours in the Iraq War. Hall Riediger presented the award and held a question and answer session with Joshua concerning his military experiences for the benefit of those in attendance. Joshua was accompanied by his son Jason and daughter Megan.

Compatriot Jack Irvin of the Veterans Committee presented the War Service Medal with Vietnam, Korean, and Purple Heart Drapes to compatriot Jim Pippin. Jim is the first in our chapter who received a Purple Heart, and we thanked him for service. Compatriot Jack Irvin, assisted by Chuck McKinley, called up Lloyd Lasenby, as apparently Jack, Lloyd, and Jim served in the same Airborne Unit during the Vietnam Era.

Standing: Jim Pippin, Chuck McKinley, Lloyd Lasenby, and Jack Irvin



Chuck McKinley with Jim Alderman



John Sheppard with Steven, Ayden, Devon, and Logan Jordan



Jack Irvin with Lloyd Lasenby



Hall Riediger with Joshua Alexander



JUST A COMMON SOLDIER

(A Soldier Died Today)

by A. Lawrence Vaincourt

He was getting old and paunchy and his hair was falling fast,
And he sat around the Legion, telling stories of the past.
Of a war that he had fought in and the deeds that he had done,
In his exploits with his buddies; they were heroes, every one.

And tho' sometimes, to his neighbors, his tales became a joke,
All his Legion buddies listened, for they knew whereof he spoke.
But we'll hear his tales no longer for old Bill has passed away,
And the world's a little poorer, for a soldier died today.

He will not be mourned by many, just his children and his wife,
For he lived an ordinary and quite uneventful life.
Held a job and raised a family, quietly going his own way,
And the world won't note his passing, though a soldier died today.

When politicians leave this earth, their bodies lie in state,
While thousands note their passing and proclaim that they were great.
Papers tell their whole life stories, from the time that they were young,
But the passing of a soldier goes unnoticed and unsung.

Is the greatest contribution to the welfare of our land
A guy who breaks his promises and cons his fellow man?
Or the ordinary fellow who, in times of war and strife,
Goes off to serve his Country and offers up his life?

A politician's stipend and the style in which he lives
Are sometimes disproportionate to the service that he gives.
While the ordinary soldier, who offered up his all,
Is paid off with a medal and perhaps, a pension small.

It's so easy to forget them for it was so long ago,
That the old Bills of our Country went to battle, but we know
It was not the politicians, with their compromise and ploys,
Who won for us the freedom that our Country now enjoys.

Should you find yourself in danger, with your enemies at hand,
Would you want a politician with his ever-shifting stand?
Or would you prefer a soldier, who has sworn to defend
His home, his kin and Country and would fight until the end?

He was just a common soldier and his ranks are growing thin,
But his presence should remind us we may need his like again.
For when countries are in conflict, then we find the soldier's part
Is to clean up all the troubles that the politicians start.

If we cannot do him honor while he's here to hear the praise,
Then at least let's give him homage at the ending of his days.
Perhaps just a simple headline in a paper that would say,
Our Country is in mourning, for a soldier died today.

Veteran's Ceremony-St. Lucie Medical Center



A ceremony for honoring veterans was held on November 6th at the St Lucie Medical Center. Compatriots Chuck McKinley and Joe Regan represented the St. Lucie River Chapter, SAR. Present for the ceremony were the Marine Corps Honor Guard, many veterans groups, auxiliaries of the local American Legion Post, local JROTC groups, and a veterans Barber Shop singing group, among others. The JROTC groups carried the many unit flags, placed wreaths, and gave roses to Blue and Gold Star families. The veteran's barber shop group sang all of the service related songs. A short talk by the local veteran support was given in which he described some new transportation vehicles, capable support wheels, and other devices to local VA treatment centers. It was also announced that the dedication of the new State Veterans Home will be after the first of the New Year and before spring. Small United States Flags and programs were given to all and there were cookies and refreshments also.



Chapter Reports: November 2015



Treasurer's Report—

Current Checking Account: \$1865.78
Current Money Market Account: \$6522.23

Membership Committee Report—Our

Chapter has the following number of

members for a total of 80 current members:
67 regular members
3 life members
10 junior members

Program Committee Report—December will be Martin County Fire Safety and EMS awards.

Eagle Scout Committee Report—No activity to report.

Habitat for Humanity Committee Report—No

activity to report.

History Fair Committee Report—No activity to report.

JROTC Committee Report—No activity to report.

Liberty Tree Committee Report—No activity to report.

Veteran's Affairs Committee Report—See articles "Veteran's Day 2015" and "Veteran's Ceremony-St. Lucie Medical Center"

Genealogy Committee—No activity to report.

Color Guard Committee—See article "Veteran's Day 2015".

Americanism Committee—No activity to report.

2016 Membership Dues

2016 dues (\$70) are now past due.

Dues must be paid to the Treasurer by mail or at the December meeting. Please send them in as soon as possible so we are not delaying our report to National.

Note: NSSAR Dues (not FLSSAR or SLRSAR) were raised \$5 at the 125th Annual Congress

Name _____

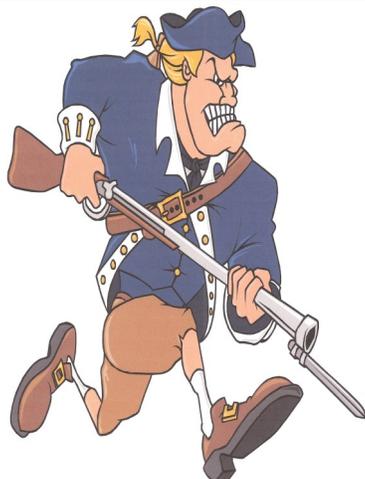
Address _____

Phone Number _____

E-mail _____

Copy or print this page, fill out, include check for \$70, and Mail to:

Compatriot Chris Wade
628 Bent Paddle Lane
Port St. Lucie, FL 34983



SAR News and Notes

-The Fall 2015 issue of *The SAR Magazine* is available to view or download from the NSSAR website or by clicking [here](#). Download to your computer or tablet by clicking the Adobe PDF box.



-New Statue placed on Louisville's Museum Row: News Coverage and Unveiling Ceremony Video. "Sons of Liberty - 1775" stands almost 8-foot tall and weighs almost 800 pounds. It rests upon 19,000 pounds of quarried Kentucky limestone, material specifically requested by the artist James Muir. See the statue and view articles and video of the event at www.sar.org or by clicking [here](#).

-125th Congress - Louisville revisited. To view a video of some memories from the 125th Congress held in Louisville, Kentucky, see the webpage on the NSSAR website or click [here](#).

-Library Now Offering Two New Databases to Members Offsite! The SAR Genealogical Research Library is pleased to announce the availability of two genealogy and Revolutionary War related databases that can be accessed by SAR members from anywhere outside the Library. Read more about these databases on the NSSAR website or by clicking [here](#).

-Outreach Education Website Offers Online Resources & Interactive Sites! Read about this new initiative at www.sar.org or by clicking [here](#).

-“I Learned A Lot About History” at the SAR Colonial Fair. The SAR was delighted to host over 250 students from around the state at the 2nd annual Colonial Fair on Friday, October 23, 2015, in the education gallery at the SAR Headquarters. Read more on the NSSAR website or by clicking [here](#).

Events Calendar

December 12: Regular Meeting, Manero's, Palm City*

December 25: Christmas

January 1: New Year's Day

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

February 13: Regular Meeting, TBD, Okeechobee

March 12: Regular Meeting, Manero's, Palm City*

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

May 14: Regular Meeting, Manero's, Palm City*

May 30: Memorial Day

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

Editor's Note

As our chapter grows, our Veterans outreach and community involvement have expanded. We need to grow our youth and educational footprint as well. Our Color Guard could use a few good men. There are many different ways for one to become involved. *WKH*

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To Visit the Chapter Website, go to:

<http://www.stlucieriverflssarc.org/index.html>



Minutes

November 14, 2015

Call to order: Promptly at 12:00 noon

Invocation: Phil Carr

Pledge to the SAR: Hall Riediger

Pledge of Allegiance:

President John Auld read the poem *Just a Common Soldier* in honor of all veterans.

Minutes of previous meeting: Published in the October issue of the WHIG

Discussion of previous minutes: Jack Irwin stated he thought three cemeteries, two in St. Lucie County (Roslyn and White) and one in Martin County (Forest Hills) were to each receive \$100 donations. After some discussion, a motion was made by Jay Wise and seconded by Jack Irwin to amend the October meeting minutes to include \$100 donations to Wreaths Across America for these three cemeteries. The motion passed unanimously by the membership and the 10 October meeting minutes were approved as amended.

Induction of new members: 2nd VP John Sheppard swore in new members Steve Jordan, Ayden Jordan, Devin Jordan and Logan Jordan. Their rosettes were pinned by wife/ mom Cheryl Jordan.

Members present: John Auld, Hall Riediger, Chris Wade, Chuck McKinley, Jack Irvin, Jim Pippen, Joe Regan, Chuck Berger, Steve Jordan, Ayden Jordan, Devin Jordan, Logan Jordan, Jay Wise, Phil Carr, Steve Trinkle, Jim Alderman and John Sheppard.

Guests present: Cheryl Jordan, Lloyd & Marlene Lasenby, Lindy Wise, Sheila Carr, Joshua Alexander & children Megan & Jason.

Meeting recessed for lunch and after a delicious feast was called back to order

Jack Irvin and Chuck McKinley presented an SAR War Service Medal with Purple Heart to member Jim Pippen.

Jack Irvin and Chuck McKinley also presented two SAR Good Citizenship Medals and certificates; one to Lloyd Lasenby and the other to the Indian River Woodcarvers Association. Jim Pippen is to receive a cane at a ceremony 16 January 2016 at the Seal Museum in Fort Pierce as part of the Purple Hearts Project of the Indian River Woodcarvers Association.

Correspondence: Chris Wade reported the Chapter received a thank you letter from Karen Zook for our \$100 donation to Forest Hills Cemetery Wreaths Across America. Karen is a Gold Star mother as her veteran son is buried in Forest Hills.

Old Business:

John Auld said we are still seeking new officers for the upcoming election April 2016.

The Christmas Parade is to be held in Fort Pierce 6 December 2015. Members are requested to be there 2:30 – 3:00.

Chris Wade will drive the truck that will pull the boat. Hall volunteered to drive the boat.

New Business:

Compatriot Carl Wade is stepping down from duties as Chair of the JROTC committee. A volunteer replacement is needed.

Our 13 February 2016 monthly meeting will be held in Okeechobee and will honor local police..

The sheriff will speak and the Okeechobee Chapter of the DAR should be invited.

A volunteer for Color Guard Commander is needed.

The Nominating Committee is to present their slate of nominees at the 12 March 2016 monthly meeting.

Membership Report: Our Chapter currently has 80 members, including transfer Jim Alderman. There are also currently four applications at National awaiting approval.

Treasurer Report: Chris Wade reported we currently have \$1,865.78 in the checking account and \$6,522.23 in the money market account.

Program: Veteran Joshua Alexander spoke on his experiences while serving in Iraq. He served 6 years which included 2 tours of duty in Iraq. Joshua was an E5 Sergeant in Tests and Measures performing diagnostics on Black Hawk and Snook helicopters. He also was assigned to recovery missions for damaged and destroyed Humvees. Hall Riediger presented Joshua with an SAR Good Citizenship Medal and certificate.

Logan Jordan passed Guy's Duck and collected \$29. The parking lot was filled with ducks when he finished.

The 50/50 took in \$30 and Chuck McKinley won the drawing and \$15.

SAR Recessional: Hall Riediger

Meeting Adjourned 1:48 PM

Your Humble Servant

John Sheppard, Second Vice President

To Visit the Chapter Website, go to:

<http://www.stlucieriverflssarc.org/index.html>



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President's Brigade

Those Compatriots whose extra financial support allows the Chapter to go the extra mile in it's efforts throughout the year. Please, if at all possible, help us out with a little extra.

Gold Medal

Support of \$50 and above

Silver Medal

Support of \$25 and above

Bronze Medal

Support up to \$24