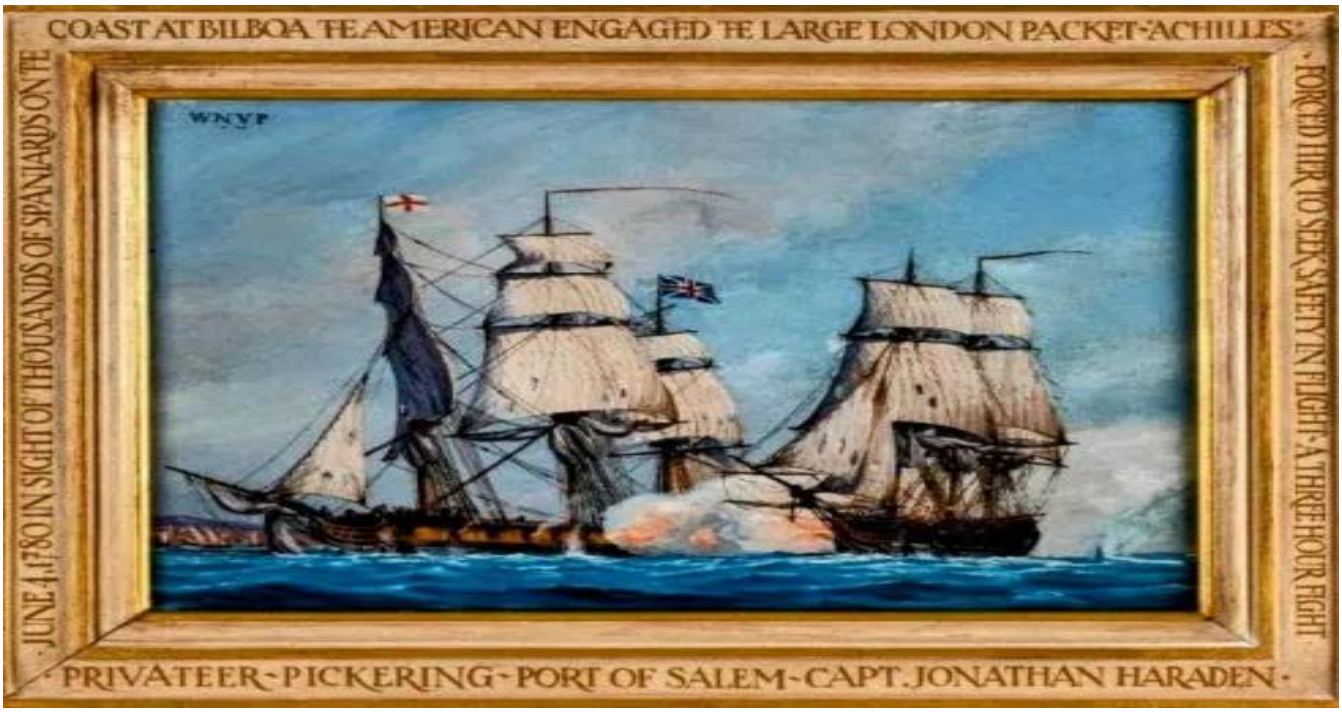
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

# CALOOSA PATRIOT

Volume XX Issue VII *Caloosa Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution Newsletter* August/Sept. 2025

**John L. Maier, Jr., Editor**

# Special Report: Letters of Mark and Reprisal
# The Legal "Pirates" of Our Revolutionary War




*Privateer General Pickering Commanded by Jonathan Haraden attacking British Packet Ship Achilles June 4, 1780*

In the age of wooden ships, sails, and gunpowder, naval warfare was not solely the business of national navies. Private citizens once played an official—and often profitable—role in conflicts at sea through documents known as *Letters of Marque and Reprisal*. These government-issued licenses allowed private ship owners to legally engage in what might otherwise be considered piracy: attacking and capturing enemy ships and cargo.

Although they sound like something out of a swashbuckling adventure tale, *Letters of Marque and Reprisal* were an essential tool of wartime strategy, diplomacy, and economics for centuries—including in early American history.

A *Letter of Marque and Reprisal* is a formal government authorization that allows a private individual or ship to attack, capture, or destroy enemy vessels during wartime. The term "marque" refers to the license to operate beyond one's own borders, while "reprisal" refers to acts of retaliation against enemy property.

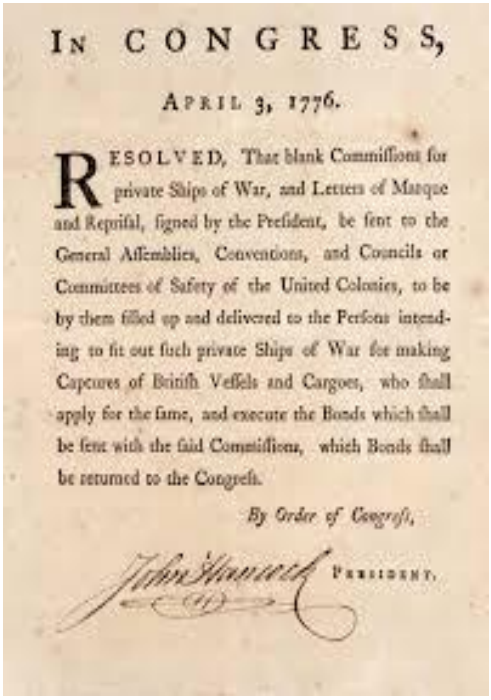
*[Continued on Page 2]*

*[Continued from Page 1]* In the early spring of 1779, as war thundered across the American colonies, a sharp-eyed mariner named Jonathan Haraden left the Massachusetts navy to begin his career as a privateer, commanding the *General Pickering*, a letter of marque ship of 180 tons with 16 6-pounder guns, and a crew of 106. Salt and rebellion both rode heavy on the wind. Haraden was not a soldier. He wasn't a politician. But he was a seaman, and he was ready to fight.

But not in the Continental Army. Instead, Haraden sought another kind of weapon: a piece of paper that turned merchantmen into warriors. A document both feared and revered – a *Letter of Marque and Reprisal.* The Letter bore the seal of Congress and conferred upon Haraden the legal authority to wage war at sea—not as a pirate, but as a privateer. It allowed him to attack British merchant ships, seize their cargo, and bring them before an American admiralty court for prize money. He was now an agent of reprisal, sanctioned by the revolution itself.

During the American Revolutionary War, privateering played a significant role in supplementing the naval power of the young United States. With the Continental Navy relatively small and underfunded, private citizens were granted letters of marque to arm their own vessels and capture British shipping. And now joining the ranks of these daring privateers was Jonathan Haraden.

The General Pickering was a brig of modest size, launched in 1779 and named in honor of Timothy Pickering, a Massachusetts statesman. Despite her relatively small build and light armament, she became one of the most famous privateers of the era thanks to her bold exploits under Haraden's leadership.



IN CONGRESS,

APRIL 3, 1776.

RESOLVED, That blank Commissions for private Ships of War, and Letters of Marque and Reprisal, signed by the President, be sent to the General Assemblies, Conventions, and Councils or Committees of Safety of the United Colonies, to be by them filled up and delivered to the Persons intending to fit out such private Ships of War for making Captures of British Vessels and Cargoes, who shall apply for the same, and execute the Bonds which shall be sent with the said Commissions, which Bonds shall be returned to the Congress.

*By Order of Congress,*

*John Hancock* PRESIDENT.

Jonathan Haraden was a Salem mariner of notable skill and courage. When entrusted with the General Pickering, he demonstrated both seamanship and tactical ingenuity. In June 1780, Haraden and his crew achieved their most celebrated victory, an encounter that secured the vessel's reputation. Off the coast of the Bay of Biscay, the General Pickering engaged the British letter-of-marque ship HMS Achilles. The Achilles was a far larger and better-armed vessel, carrying roughly 43 9- and 18-pounders to Haraden's 16 6-pounders. Despite this imbalance, Haraden chose to fight.

The battle lasted more than three hours. Haraden maneuvered with precision, keeping the General Pickering out of the worst of the enemy's broadsides while maintaining a steady and disciplined fire. Accounts of the battle emphasize the determination of the Salem, Massachusetts crew, who fought with extraordinary perseverance despite being heavily outgunned. Eventually, the Achilles struck her colors, turned tail and withdrew from the action. This victory astonished contemporaries, as it showcased how courage, seamanship, and tactical skill could overcome superior firepower.

The victory at sea brought Jonathan Haraden and the General Pickering lasting fame. The event was widely celebrated in New England newspapers, reinforcing the reputation of Salem as a center of privateering excellence. Moreover, it demonstrated the strategic value of privateers in the war effort: by harassing British trade and capturing valuable prizes, they not only weakened the enemy but also bolstered American morale.

Today, Jonathan Haraden's command of the General Pickering is remembered as one of the most remarkable episodes of American privateering. His victory over the Achilles symbolizes the daring spirit of Revolutionary-era mariners who, with limited resources, struck decisive blows against one of the most powerful navies in the world. Today, Haraden's legacy endures as part of the rich maritime history of early America.

During the Revolutionary War Era, the Continental Congress issued hundreds of letters to help offset Britain's dominant Royal Navy. American privateers were highly effective, capturing or destroying thousands of British ships. These actions not only disrupted British trade but also provided supplies and morale to the patriot cause. When adopted, the United States Constitution explicitly included a provision granting Congress the power to issue letters of marque and reprisal under Article I, Section 8, Clause 11—often called the "War Powers Clause." This power was seen as a critical tool in a young republic with limited naval capacity. Relatively shortly thereafter, with a still-limited U.S. Navy, privateers again played a major role during the War of 1812. Over 500 letters of marque were issued, resulting in the capture of hundreds of British merchant vessels. However, as naval technology advanced, standing navies became more powerful and professionalized, and privateering fell out of favor. In 1856, most Western powers signed the Declaration of Paris, agreeing to abolish privateering. The United States did not sign the treaty, partly to retain the option for future use, though it has not issued a letter of marque since the War of 1812. *[Editor's Note: Please see companion story on Page 18 of this issue.]*

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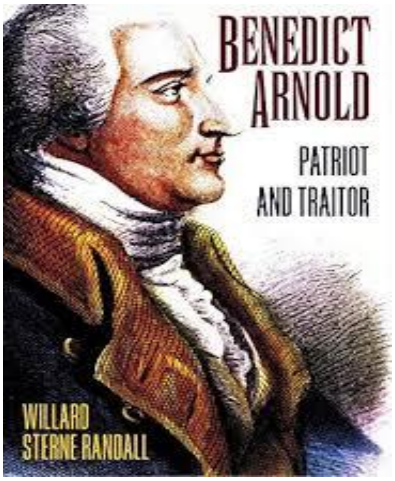




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# Chapter Officers for 2024-2025



Immediate Past President
and Treasurer
Edward “Mike” Buff



President
Jeffrey F. Brunelle



Vice-President
Richard “Rick” Parfitt



Genealogist
Dr. Ronald L. Peck



Secretary and Sergeant-
At-Arms
William “Bill” Jenks



Registrar
Chris Jenner



Member-at-Large
Jonathan Hunt



Chaplain
Rev. Dr. Randy Moody

# A Message From Our President



**Greeting to the Caloosa Chapter and all of our friends,**

**We are about ready to start a new meeting season. It seems like yesterday that I was inducted as the President of the Caloosa Chapter. It's hard to believe there are only three meetings left before the end of my presidency.**

**As a quick note, we now have AV equipment to enhance our presentations. We have a projector, screen, stand, and extension cord. This should make presentations more professional and interesting.**

**I believe the chapter is moving in the right direction and we will continue to strive in that direction. John Maier has volunteered to head the Youth Committee. John will be coordinating the Youth competitions and awards. We will discuss more about this at the October Chapter meeting.**

**Chris Jenner has done a specular job getting the paperwork completed to get new members processed. Chris has completed, submitted, and received approval for 12 new members in the past 12 months, four of which are junior members. Great job Chris.**

**The Excom has come up with a slate of candidates for the 2026 season. If there is a position you are interested in, please let me know.**

**So far the nominees are:**

**President – Rick Parfitt**
**Vice-President – John Maier**
**Secretary – Bill Jenks**
**Treasurer – Jeff Brunelle**
**Chaplin – Rev. Randy Moody**
**Registrar – Chris Jenner**
**Genealogist – Ron Peck**
**Historian – John Maier**
**Sargent at Arms – Tom Gillispie**

**See you at the October 11th meeting.**

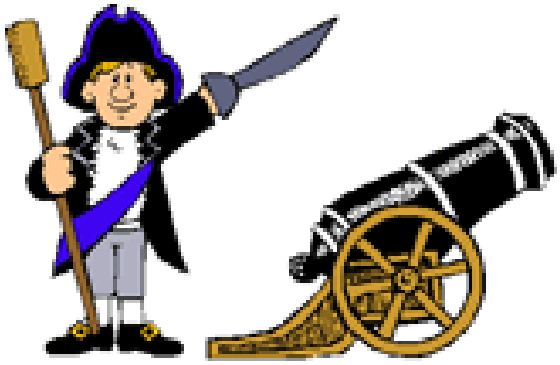
**At Your Service,**

*Jeff*

**Jeffrey Brunelle, President**
**Caloosa Chapter FLSSAR**

# Caloosa Chapter SAR

# Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Hear Ye! October Meeting Notice



## Chapter Meetings Are Held At Famous Daves

## Looking Ahead
## Caloosa Chapter SAR
## 2024-2025 Revised Meeting Schedule

| Chapter Meetings | | ExCom Meetings | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Wednesday Jan. 8, 2025 | CANCELLED | Thursday Jan. 2, 2025 | 11:30 a.m. |
| Saturday, February 8, 2025 | 11:30 a.m. | Tuesday Jan. 28, 2025 | 11:30a.m. |
| Wednesday, March 12, 2025 | 11:30 a.m. | Tuesday Mar. 4, 2025 | 11:30 a.m. |
| Wednesday, April 9, 2025 | 11:30 a.m. | Tuesday Apr. 1, 2025 | 11:30 a.m. |
| Saturday, May 10, 2025 | 11:30 a.m. | Tuesday Apr. 29, 2025 | 11:30a.m. |

**Summer Break: No Chapter Meetings June through September**
**ExCom Meetings Begin Again in September**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Saturday Oct. 11, 2025 | 11:30 a.m. | Tuesday Sept. 30, 2025 | 11:30 a.m. |
| Saturday Nov. 8, 2025 | 11:30 a.m. | Tuesday Oct. 28, 2025 | 11:30 a.m. |
| Wednesday Dec. 10, 2025 | 11:30 a.m. | Tuesday Dec. 2, 2025 | 11:30 a.m. |

**Both Chapter Meetings and ExCom Meetings are held at Famous Dave's BBQ 12148 S. Cleveland Avenue, Ft. Myers FL**

# THE NEXT CALOOSA CHAPTER MEETING WILL BE HELD FOLLOWING THE SUMMER BREAK ON SATURDAY OCTOBER 11, 2025 AT:

# FAMOUS DAVE'S BBQ RESTAURANT




**12148 South Cleveland Ave, Fort Myers, FL 33903**
**(At the Intersection of Cleveland Ave. and Crystal Drive)**

*Dinner Program Will Be Presented By Pamela Fernandez And*
*Our Own Compatriot, Chapter Registrar Chris Jenner*
*Who Will Discuss How The Lee County*
*Genealogical Society Can Help You!*

**Lunch Buffet Menu:**
**St. Louis Style Spareribs, Roast Chicken, Coleslaw, Corn Muffins,**
**Dave's Cheesy Macaroni, and Beverage (Soft Drink or Iced Tea) [Anyone needing a special meal (i. e., Vegetarian, other) let us know]**
**The gathering will begin at 11:30 a.m.**

**Cost for the dinner is $25.00 per person paid at the link below by PayPal or Credit Card**

***Please RSVP to: https://caloosasar.org/our-chapter/meetings/***

**REMEMBER! If you make a reservation, we have to pay for your meal !**

**Our meetings are open to all interested persons, and we particularly welcome Compatriots from other parts of the country who are visiting our area. Please note that wives, friends, and guests are welcome to attend.**

# My Summer 2025 Pilgrimage Back Home To Visit Sites From the Revolutionary War In Upstate New York

By Caloosa SAR Chapter Compatriot James Cameron

This past summer, my wife and I spent several weeks in upstate New York visiting family. Our travels took us to several locations, each having a minor but significant effect on the defeat British forces during the Revolutionary War.



*Massacre following surrender of Fort William Henry*
*August 9, 1757*

As a young boy, somewhere around 1952 or 1953, my Dad and I were on a bus trip with a YMCA group called "Indian Guides" and were headed to the YMCA Camp Chingachgook on Lake George in upstate New York. Several of the men accompanying us were recent combat vets of WWI1 and Korea, and I remember that they told war stories as the bus travelled down the road towards our destination.

As we neared Fort Ann, NY, I learned about the fabled, bloody retreat of British and Colonials from their surrender at nearby Fort William Henry, made famous in the James Fenimore Cooper novel *Last of the Mohicans* (recently made into a full length motion picture starring Daniel Day Lewis). In my mind it was real and recent as the men told us to look at the pond we were passing to see if there was still blood in it. Today such talk would not be viewed very well but it sealed my interest in what really happened in that area.




Our recent trip to Fort Ann and nearby town of Whitehall brought me to the local museum where the events around the claim that Whitehall was the birthplace of the US Navy were detailed. Nearby was a longboat similar to the ones used during the revolution but had been constructed for possible use during the war of 1812. It had been salvaged from river mud and is on display and named the USS Ticonderoga.

Whitehall, New York, is known as the "Birthplace of the U.S. Navy" due to the construction of a fleet of ships there in 1776 by Benedict Arnold for use by the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War. While the U.S. Navy officially traces its lineage to a resolution passed in Philadelphia in 1775, Whitehall's claim stems from the significant naval activity that occurred there during the war.

Here's a more detailed explanation:

- **Construction of the Fleet:**

In 1776, Benedict Arnold oversaw the construction of 16 small ships in Whitehall (then known as Skenesborough) to defend against a British invasion.

- **Battle of Valcour Island:**

These ships were later engaged in the Battle of Valcour Island on Lake Champlain, a strategic victory for the Americans as it delayed the British advance.



*Battle of Valcour Island*
*October 11, 1776*

*[Continued on Page 9]*

*[Continued from Page 8]*

- **Continental Navy:**

Although the ships in Whitehall were built for the Continental Army, not the Continental Navy, the naval operations in Whitehall played a crucial role in the Revolutionary War and contributed to the eventual formation of the U.S Navy.

Another trip took us to Rome, NY where a reconstructed Fort Schuyler stands to honor those who served to hold the British at bay along the Mohawk Valley. I always think of the book *Drums along the Mohawk* by Walter D. Edmonds (also made into a motion picture directed by John Ford) whenever I drive through the peaceful, beautiful valley along that river as we head towards Rome. As an aside, another tidbit I learned along the way was that the New York Cities of Rome, Utica, Syracuse and Carthage (and a few others) were named by the victorious former colonists after famous cities of Roman and Ancient Greek times, because these Americans felt they had defeated the mighty British Empire, much like the Romans.

- **Fort Schuyler:**

Fort Schuyler, also known as Fort Stanwix, played a significant role in the American Revolutionary War, particularly during the Siege of 1777. The fort, garrisoned by Continental forces, served as a key point for blocking British invasion routes from Canada and protecting the Mohawk Valley.



*Reconstructed Fort Schuyler (a/k/a Fort Stanwix) Shown as it was during the Siege of August 2 – 22, 1777*
*Now a National Monument administered by the US Park Service*

Key points about Fort Schuyler in the Revolutionary War:

- **Strategic Importance:**

The fort's location was crucial for controlling a major invasion route into New York from Canada.



- **Siege of 1777:**

The fort was besieged by British forces and their allies in August 1777.

- **Garrison:**

Continental Army troops, including the 3rd New York Regiment, artillery detachments, and local militia, defended the fort.

- **Outcome:**

The Americans successfully defended the fort against the siege, contributing to the larger British defeat at the Battle of Saratoga.

I feel pretty fortunate having grown up in the area I did, with its rich history of the French and Indian War and so much of the American Revolution having taken place within a 100 mile radius. The area has served to stimulate my interest in the people and events which took place in the decades before and after the birth of America. Ever since the age of 6 or 7 when I saw Fort Ann and learned of the massacre outside Fort William Henry, and was told by older kids that there was still blood in the nearby pond, I have been mesmerized by what our patriot ancestors experienced. But enough of my musings. I hope that I've encouraged you to travel, someday, to my home and walk where George Washington, "Mad" Anthony Wayne, Henry Knox, and Benedict Arnold carried out some of the most famous battles of our War for Independence.

# *If You Are Interested . . .*

***BECOME A GENEALOGICAL SLUETH AND SHARPEN YOUR INVESTIGATIVE SKILLS BY JOINING THE LEE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY !!***

For Compatriots who haven't finished their genealogy search and are still curious – or for those who may be working on supplementals, the Lee County Genealogical Society has a lot to offer, and you can join for a bargain. Annual membership cost is only $25 -- and gets you 16 programs, some hybrid and some virtual only. There are recordings of past programs, handouts, and assistance from other genealogists. And a real bonus connection is that our own Registrar, Chris Jenner, is the current Vice-President of the LCGS!



*Chris Jenner, Registrar, Caloosa Chapter SAR, and Vice-President, LCGS*

In addition to the monthly meetings, there are Society-sponsored events including Special Interest Group Meetings, workshops, seminars and meetings of other societies and genealogy-related organizations in Southwest Florida.

The Special Interest Groups provide a forum for LCGS members to share research, ask questions and participate in problem-solving. There is also member-only access to local and exclusive resources as well as a bi-monthly newsletter ("The Scribe") which contains articles of interest to researchers on a variety of current topics, announces future programs, and provides helpful hints on computer-assisted research.

Chris commented: "Time and again, I've benefitted from local experts and fellow researchers, who have guided me past seemingly impossible obstacles to find answers to my questions, and then join with you in the delight of your progress. And I can't stop there. I've gotten a lot of advice from other members on using the most current genealogy software, researching international family lines, as well as utilizing DNR research in my investigations. Joining is easy. The Society maintains a website: https://lcgsfl.org/ which has all the information necessary to apply for membership online, or, in the alternative, you can print the application and send it in with your dues."

And if all this isn't enough, you can get the 'straight poop' from LSGS Officers Pamela Fernandez and Chris Jenner themselves at the next meeting of our Chapter, to be held on Saturday, October 11, 2025 at Famous Daves:

*Dinner Program Will Be Presented By Pamela Fernandez And*
*Our Own Compatriot, Chapter Registrar Chris Jenner*
*Who Will Discuss How The Lee County*
*Genealogical Society Can Help You!*

***Register at: https://caloosasar.org/our-chapter/meetings/***
**Cost for the dinner is $25.00 per person paid at the link above by PayPal or Credit Card**

**Meetings are open to all interested persons, and we particularly welcome Compatriots from other parts of the country who are visiting our area.**

# Compatriots Corner

The purpose of the "Compatriots Corner" page is to follow the mission and goals of the SAR by recounting our patriot ancestor's participation in the War for Independence. I would like everyone to consider writing that story and share it with me. *But fear not - if you need assistance, genealogist Christine Racine, and her husband, award winning author Mark Barie, can help you get your story down on paper. Just let me know. We can help – see page 16 of this issue for more information.* Then, with your permission, the personal account of your own ancestor's participation in the Revolutionary War will be published. Each of our patriot ancestors' contributions combined so that the end result was the birth of the United States of America. So, when you are finished, email them to me (John Maier) at: jmaier@wisclaw.com. What follows is a recounting of the Revolutionary War exploits of the patriot ancestor of mine - your Editor, John Maier.

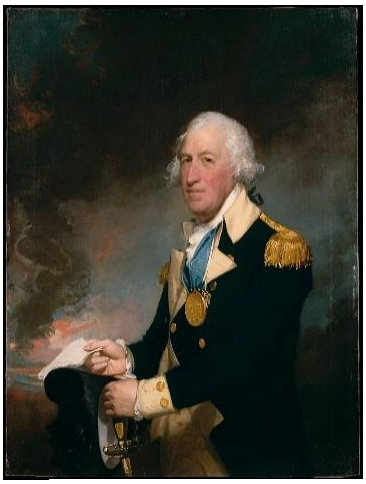
# My Patriot Ancestor: William Thompson, Sr.

By Compatriot John Maier (with Christine Racine and Compatriot Mark Barie)

My patriot is William Thompson, Sr., who served our country as a private in the Charlotte County Militia of New York. Thompson participated in the Battle of Saratoga, a life and death struggle which occurred on two different dates. The Battle of Freeman's Farm took place on September 19, 1777. The Battle of Bemis Heights occurred three weeks later, on October 7.

The battles at Saratoga, American victories both, are credited with convincing the French government to join the Revolutionary War, on the American side. The French were pleasantly surprised and greatly impressed that the upstart American Army managed to inflict a humiliating defeat on the oldest and most experienced army in the world.

And while historians are fond of reciting that fact, they are less inclined to relate the story of the American hero who played a critical role in the victories at Saratoga. His name: Benedict Arnold. The future traitor, in full view of my patriot, distinguished himself in both battles. His performance at the Battle of Bemis is especially impressive when you consider that Arnold and his commanding officer at the time, General Horatio Gates, were bitter enemies.

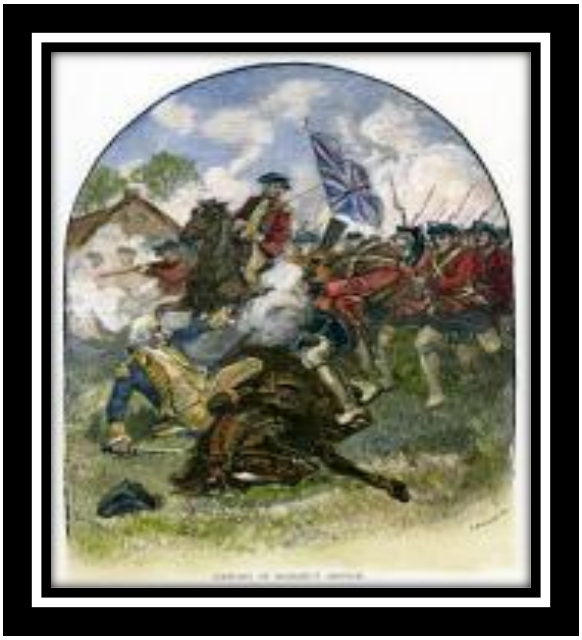


*Major General Horatio Gates*

They disagreed on strategies, tactics, and the disposition of prisoners of war. Arnold wanted British POWs to be treated humanely and then traded for their American counterparts. Gates demanded that the British POWs be imprisoned for the remainder of the war for purely political purposes. The enmity between Gates and Arnold would get worse. At the battle of Freeman's Farm, Arnold distinguished himself, easily earning the admiration and adulation of both his officers and rank and file soldiers, like my patriot. Gates, who never supported an attack to begin with, remained at his headquarters for the entirety of the battle. He "rewarded" Arnold's meritorious service in the field of battle by omitting any reference to the hero in a report he filed with the U. S. Congress.

The ultrasensitive Arnold was shocked. But Gates wasn't finished. Without reason or warning, Gates then took charge of an entire rifle company which, up until that time, had been the responsibility of Benedict Arnold. The clear message to Arnold's colleagues and subordinates was that Arnold had somehow mismanaged his troops. Nothing of the sort took place. When Arnold confronted Gates, Gates stripped Arnold of his command and threatened to have the junior officer thrown in prison. But for the intervention of several members of Congress and most of Gates officers, Arnold might never have participated in the Battle at Bemis Heights. *[Continued on Page 12]*

*[Continued from Page 11]*



*Gen. Arnold wounded at the Battle of Saratoga, Oct. 7, 1777*

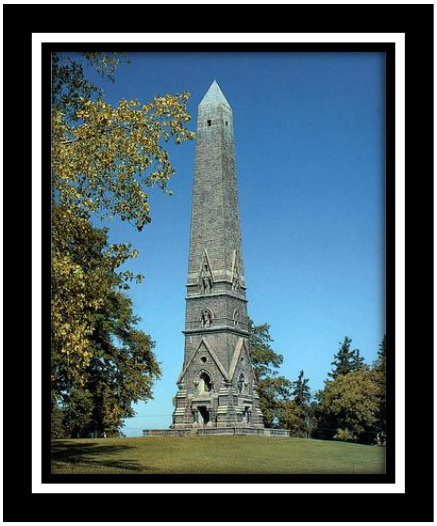
On that day, and still without formal authorization to be on the battlefield at all, Arnold, while rallying his troops, rode into a lethal hailstorm of musket fire. The American soldiers, and most likely my patriot, poured through a gap in the British ranks. The British suddenly in full retreat.

Unfortunately, Arnold was shot in the leg and fell to the ground. His mortally wounded horse fell on Arnold, shattering the man's leg. The same leg that suffered a gunshot wound at the Battle of Quebec, years earlier. It took several soldiers to rescue Arnold and carry him off the field. The doctors in Albany wanted to amputate the leg but Arnold refused. Burgoyne went down to defeat and, with Arnold out of the way, General Gates quickly became the "Hero of Saratoga." There was even talk that Gates should and would replace the Commander in Chief himself, George Washington. Wiser heads prevailed, of course, but the bitter seeds of treason were planted in Benedict Arnold's brain. Arnold was bedridden for weeks and a cripple for months. He never did receive the recognition of Congress or the American people.

A subsequent marriage to 18-year-old Peggy Shippen placed him in the upper echelons of Loyalist society. Months later, the man's slide into treason began in earnest. He was accused of using his military position for personal pecuniary gain. Washington was forced to write a letter of reprimand. Washington then offered Arnold command of the Army's East Wing. Arnold turned it down, requesting Command of the fort at West Point, New York instead. Washington acceded, ignorant of the fact that Arnold had already begun a plot to ally himself with the British. The hero of Saratoga would soon become the most notorious traitor in the history of our country.



*The Boot Memorial stands at the spot where Arnold was shot and lay wounded*



*The Saratoga Monument*

The Saratoga Monument obelisk has four niches, three of which hold statues of American commanders -- Gates, Schuyler, and Col. Daniel Morgan. What about Arnold? The fourth niche is empty, where Arnold's statute would have gone but for his later teachery and conviction for treason.

A more dramatic memorial to Arnold's heroism is the Boot Monument, which shows a boot with spurs and the stars of a major general but does not mention his name. It stands at the spot where Arnold fell, with horse atop his leg, during his heroic charge against the British fortifications. The inscription reads: "In memory of the most brilliant soldier of the Continental Army, who was desperately wounded on this spot, winning for his countrymen the decisive battle of the American Revolution, and for himself the rank of Major General."

And my patriot, William Thompson, lived to see it all.

*[Editor's Note: See related story in this Issue, on Page 21]*

The following Is A Copy Of Caloosa Chapter SAR Secretary Bill Jenks' Letter To All Existing Members (Originally Sent by Email) Giving Notice That It Is Time To Renew Your SAR Membership

**Caloosa Chapter, Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution 2026 Dues Invoice**

Dear Compatriot,

It is time to renew regular membership dues for 2025. The breakdown of dues includes National Society dues $50.00. Florida Society dues $20.00, and Caloosa Chapter dues are $30.00.

Your total dues for 2026 are $100.00, and are payable before November 15, 2025, to:

**Caloosa Chapter, FLSSAR c/o Bill Jenks**
**9084 Windswept Drive**
**Estero, FL 34135**

So that we may update our records, please make any change to your information below and submit with your payment. Make certain we have valid email address for you.

Name:

Address:
City, State, Zip:

Telephone:

Email:

Thank you for your prompt response to this notice. We hope to see you at an upcoming Chapter meeting.

Sincerely, Bill Jenks
Caloosa Chapter Secretary
Email: billjenks.sar@yahoo.com

# Calling for Volunteers to Step Forward and Become Caloosa Chapter Color Guard Members

The Light Horse Harry Lee Camp #15 Color Guard is made up of Caloosa Chapter SAR members who come to meetings and events properly uniformed as either Continental Soldiers or Militiamen or attired as Revolution era clergymen. Our Color Guard is available for participation in community events locally, as well as Regional and National celebrations. We are always looking for additional Color Guard members, according to our current Chapter President, Jeff Brunelle.



*Caloosa Chapter SAR Color Guard Members: Mike Buff, Tom Thompson, and Ron Peck at the Honor Flight Welcome Home Ceremony (April 29, 2023)*

There are typically one or two requests for our Color Guard per month and are most often within driving distance and do not include overnight stays. The Guardsmen who volunteer arrive at the site early enough so that Color Guard Commander Mike Buff is able to run through the plan for what their participation at the event will consist of.

There is no need to be concerned, according to Commander Mike Buff, about complicated marches or ceremonies. "If there is a need for any training," he said, "we provide it, and no one needs to be afraid that they will be unprepared."

There are currently six to eight Caloosa Color Guardsmen who serve, but as with any organization, people come and go so there is a constant need for new recruits. "The personal rewards for volunteering come immediately," said President Brunelle. "The looks on the faces of young and old when they see us in our Revolutionary War attire bring a lot of joy and satisfaction to each of us.

If you are interested in joining the Color Guard, or have questions about it, contact our Caloosa Chapter SAR President Jeff Brunelle at: jfbrunelle55@comcast.net. We need you to help us to carry our mission forward.



*(L to R) Mike Buff, Ron Peck, Andy Petrson and Jeff Brunelle at the Vietnam War 50th Commemoration (March 29, 2024)*



*(L to R) Andy Peterson, Ron Peck, Mike Buff Posting the Colors at the Constitution Week Luncheon (September 21, 2024)*

# Light Horse Harry Lee Camp #15



The Caloosa Chapter Color Guard is named in honor of Henry Lee III, a Virginia patrician (and father of Confederate General Robert E. Lee) who became a captain in a Virginia dragoon detachment at the outbreak of the Revolutionary War. In 1778, he was promoted to Major and given command of a mixed corps of cavalry and infantry known as Lee's Legion. During this period, he earned the sobriquet of "**Light Horse Harry**" for his horsemanship.




This unit became one of the best-known in the Continental Army's history, and in 1780 Lee was given authorization to form a formal Legionary Corps. Many of the best soldiers from other units either volunteered or were specially invited to join its ranks. In 1780, Lee was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and on January 1, 1781, the Legion was re-designated as the 2nd Partisan Corps, organized with 3 troops of horse and 3 troops of infantry. It was assigned to General Nathaniel Greene for service in the southern theater.

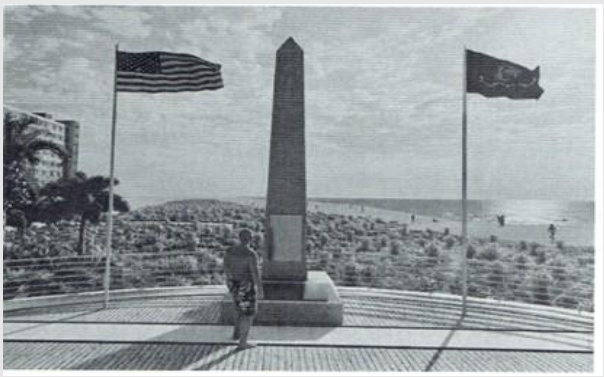


One of his most legendary victories occurred on February 25, 1781 in North Carolina, when he and his force were mistaken for British cavalrymen by Loyalist John Pyle. Lee caught on and rode directly into the midst of the Loyalist ranks and ordered his men to fire. When the smoke had cleared, Lee and his men were seen to have killed or injured most of the enemy militia, while suffering no loss of life of their own. Lee went on to participate in many more Revolutionary War battles and was present at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown. After the War, he served as: (a) a delegate to the Confederation Congress; (b) a three-term governor of Virginia: (c) a Major General, appointed by George Washington to put down the tax protest known as the 'Whiskey Rebellion' in Pennsylvania; and (d) a member of the U.S. House of Representatives representing Virginia.

Compatriot John C. Jones wrote a full biography of Harry Lee III when he served as our Newsletter Editor. If you go to our Caloosa SAR Web Page, you can read it if you "click on" the July 2020 Edition of the SAR Patriot.

## *FLSSAR First Amphibious Assault Landing Memorial (1776 – Battle of Nassau, Bahamas) "250 for the 250th"*

### *ANSWER THE CALL !!!*



The Florida Society has taken the initiative to establish a memorial commemorating the **First Amphibious Assault Landing** of the American Revolution. The memorial will honor the Continental Marines and Sailors that risked their lives to attach and capture two forts from the British and local militia in Nassau.

FLSSAR is working in partnership with the City of Pompano Beach to construct a permanent memorial which will consist of an approximate 20' tall obelisk to honor the marines and sailors that took part in the landing. In addition to capturing the forts and occupying Nassau, the Continental Marines seized badly needed military supplies that had been evacuated from Virginia by order of the English governor. This successful raid represents the first time the Continental Marines had successfully made a marine landing and the first time an American flag was raised over foreign soil. The monument will cost approximately $125,000 and is planned to be completed by March 3, 2026, to mark the 250th anniversary of the raid. Charitable contributions are being sought by FLSSAR to fund the project.

Mail your "250 for the 250th" checks (Payable to FLSSAR) to Committee Secretary Robbie Robinson 20210 Moss Hill Way, Tampa, FL 33747. For more information, email Robinson at: Robbierobinson56@yahoo.com

## A Continuing Offer to You From Christine Racine and Mark Barie Christine Racine and Mark Barie

So, are you having some difficulty getting a "kick-start" on fleshing-out more of the detail on the life of your patriot ancestor? Or do you need help in getting started on taking the information you already have gathered together and putting it down in storybook fashion? We need your stories for the Compatriot Corner section of our monthly newsletter, and now there is a way to help you out with your research and writing. Our Compatriot Mark Barie, an award-winning author, and his wife, Christine Racine, an expert genealogist (both pictured below), have offered to assist any member of our Caloosa Chapter SAR with the research and written summary of your patriot ancestor's biography. These mini biographies will then be published in our monthly newsletter, as space allows. And there is no fee for this service! You can't get a better deal than that! If you are interested, please feel free to contact Compatriot Barie directly at his email address: Authormarkbarie@gmail.com.



## *Caloosa Chapter SAR Announcements*

President Brunelle has announced that: (a) meetings for the balance of the calendar year will be held at Famous Dave's; and (b) awards for the 2024-2025 Chapter's Poster and Brochure Contest will be made at the October Chapter meeting; and (c) nominations for members to serve as Officers for 2026 are being sought, and that any questions should be directed to President Brunelle or Vice-President Parfitt; and (d) volunteers to serve on the Chapter's Color Guard are sorely needed; and (e) Chapter plans are underway for the 2025-2026 school year contests for the Americanism Elementary School Poster Contest, the SAR Middle School Brochure Contest, the Knight High School Essay Contest, and the Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest, and all Chapter Members will soon be receiving additional information on rules, guidelines and deadlines.

# From Florida SAR State President Chris Washler

My fellow Compatriots of the Florida Society,

**As many of you know, and some of you may not know, at the Spring 2024 Board of Management meeting for the Florida Society, the BOM authorized the Florida Society to undertake an effort to build a first-in-the-nation monument to commemorate the very first amphibious assault landing conducted by Continental Marines in 1776.**

On March 3-4, 1776, Continental Marines and Sailors landed in the Bahamas and attacked British forts there to obtain gunpowder and cannons that were desperately needed by Patriots fighting in the Revolutionary War in the 13 colonies. The success of the raid was not only the capture of military stores and gunpowder, but it also forced the British to maintain a presence in the Caribbean, which meant fewer British soldiers and ships could fight for the Crown in the colonies.

The monument that the Florida Society SAR has undertaken will be the first and only monument in the United States that commemorates this significant event in the American Revolution. We've chosen to construct this monument in Pompano Beach because it is the closest logical location in the US to where the actual assault landing took place. The City of Pompano Beach has donated space on their pier which attracts nearly 280,000 visitors annually.
This effort is truly the embodiment of our Society's mission to honor our Revolutionary War Patriots by promoting patriotism, serving our communities, and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our country. It will capture the attention and imagination of people from all over the country for generations to come!

Our committee has been working non-stop to make this monument a reality. There is a website for the memorial (https://link.edgepilot.com/s/2c9a38aa/kOeCRgcwnEizwpRIacG6Ow?u=https://1776landing.org/) where you can see pictures and full information on the monument; there are Facebook and Instagram accounts; and the committee members have been reaching out to compatriots here and around the country plus businesses and individuals throughout the state raising funds to build this monument. They have had great success up to this point, raising over $77,000 in cash and over $84,700 in in-kind contributions.

Gentlemen, as I said in my remarks at the Annual Meeting banquet, NOW is our time as a Society. The state and the entire country have a renewed focus and interest in the American Revolution, and now is the time for the Sons of the American Revolution to lead the way, and the Florida SAR is doing just that with this monument! When we unveil this monument on March 14, 2026, the eyes of the state and the country will turn to the Florida SAR!

We still have a way to go to reach our goal of total funding for this project, and we need your help! To fully fund the monument, the flagpoles, and the two primary plaques that will go on the monument, we need to raise just under another $60,000 in cash donations. Many chapters and compatriots from around the state and the country have already donated – joining the "250th Muster Roll" and the project's "Minuteman Roll." I want to express my sincere thanks to those who have already donated, and my continued thanks to those who may yet donate. We cannot do this without the support of our chapters and our compatriots, AND our friends and family.

Your executive leadership is dedicated to making this monument happen and putting the Florida Society front and center in the minds of everyone as we celebrate America's 250th birthday. To that end, I have asked FLSSAR Sr. Vice President, Jonathan Hunt, to join me in a fundraising challenge for our compatriots. I have committed to matching the first $1,000 to be donated as a result of this challenge, and Jonathan has committed to matching the 2nd $1,000 to be donated. No matter the size of your donation - $20, $50, $250 – it is vital to our effort, and this "challenge" is an opportunity to double your donating power.

***If you choose to donate to this effort, and I sincerely hope that you will, there are three different ways to donate: 1) via Club Express, 2) via Zelle, and 3) by personal check, made to "FLSSAR" and mailed to: FAAM Committee, 20210 Moss Hill Way, Tampa, FL, 33647. Please add "FLSSAR Leadership Challenge" to the memo or notes for any donations that are part of this challenge.***

Compatriots, to have this monument built in time for the planned dedication on March 14, we need to act now. I sincerely hope that each of you and each of your chapters will thoughtfully consider making a donation to help us make this monument to our ancestors a reality. Now is our time as a Society, and now is our chance to lead the way! Please feel free to reach out to me or the Committee if you have any questions about the monument!

Patriotically yours, *Chris Washler,* President Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

# Heroes of the Revolutionary Period: Captain John Paul Jones, "Father of the American Navy"



*"Launching of the Whitehaven Raid" by Charles Waterhouse*
*(National Museum of the Marine Corps)*

Kudos to Author and Historian Andrew A. Zellers-Frederick on the opening paragraph of his article on the Whitehaven Raid carried out by John Paul Jones on April 23, 1778, in which he masterfully summarized the legacy of Jones as follows: "John Paul Jones has earned enduring fame in American history for his sailing and fighting exploits during the American Revolution. His influence on the war, however, went far beyond his alleged immortal words while engaging the HMS Serapis with his vessel, the Bonhomme Richard. For a period in 1778, the mere mention of his name caused terror within the very consciousness of the British Nation. Jones's successful employment of psychological warfare influenced many future commanders. He calculated that as Great Britain became more and more overextended by a global conflict, there would be fewer military resources to defend the home island."

Even prior to the Declaration of Independence in 1776, certain American colonial governments were issuing *Letters of Marque and Reprisal* which authorized private armed vessels to raid the shipping of hostile nations. This practice continued during Revolutionary War period and enabled privateers to supplement the limited power of the 'official' navy. Letters of Marque and Reprisal were issued not only during the Revolutionary War, but also thereafter, and made famous dashing figures like John Paul Jones who took the fight outside the American theatre into British waters – such as the only raid on the British homeland, setting fire to Whitehaven, England in 1778.

But according to most historians, no – Captain Jones was not a pirate, or a privateer. Rather he was a commissioned naval officer who served in the Continental Navy, earning the title "Father of the American Navy." However, due to his aggressive tactics against British ships the British public and government viewed him as a pirate or outlaw, and used the terms to discredit Jones and the American cause, as they did not initially recognize the United States as a sovereign nation.

Captain Jones was born in Scotland on July 6, 1747, under the simple birth name of John Paul. At age 13, he was apprenticed to the British Merchant Marine, and soon went to sea from Whitehaven – the very port he returned to attack approximately 31 years later. His seafaring travels exposed him to the slave trade which repulsed him. In 1773, at age 26, he killed a mutinous sailor in a fight off the Island of Tobago.

Although John Paul was defending himself at the time, he believed he would not receive a fair trial, so he fled to America and added the last name "Jones" to conceal his identity. When the American Revolution broke out, as a Scotsman, Jones had no affection for the Brits, so he readily sided with the colonists and joined the Continental Navy. *[Continued on Page 19]*

*[Continued from Page 18]*
He was commissioned as a first lieutenant on December 7, 1775. Lucky for him, nobody was interested in the details of his past -- the "flames of war" with the British were what the colonists were busy dealing with.




Soon thereafter, he began attacking British ships off the American coast and expanded his operations from there. He was Captain of the USS Providence, sailing up to Nova Scotia engaged all the time in capturing British vessels. Soon after, he took command of the Ranger and set course to France, where his vessel was saluted by the French Admiral Piquet – the first American vessel ever to be recognized by a foreign power.

By 1778, Jones was known as a daring young, transplanted Scotsman who wanted to carry America's struggling war effort to the very shores of Great Britain. He enthusiastically discussed his vision for innovative "fight and run" tactics for the fledgling American navy with anyone and everyone. Soon his ideas began to win the endorsement of influential members of the Continental Congress.

After meeting Jones in France, John Adams recorded this entry in his diary: "This is the most ambitious and intriguing Officer in the American Navy. Jones has Art, and Secrecy, and aspires very high. You see the Character of the Man in his uniform, and that of his officers and Marines, variant from the Uniforms established by Congress. . . Eccentricities and Irregularities are to be expected from him —they are all his Character, they are visible in his Eyes."

Soon, he had been given orders to bring the war effort directly to the shore of the enemy. At 3 a.m. on April 23, 1778, Capt. John Paul Jones led a small detachment of two boats from his ship, the USS Ranger, to raid the shallow port at Whitehaven, England, where, by his own account, 400 British merchant ships were anchored. His plan was to reach the port at midnight when ebb tide would have left the British ships at their most vulnerable and set them ablaze. He wasn't going to stop there either, as he also planned to scale the walls of each of the two forts that guarded the harbor and town, spike the cannons, and do as much damage to the forts as possible before their garrisons and the townspeople were aroused.

Jones and his 30 volunteers had greater difficulty than anticipated rowing to the port and did not arrive until dawn. With the element of surprise soon to be lost, Jones' boat nevertheless successfully took the southern fort, disabling its cannon, but the other boat returned without attempting an attack on the northern fort after the sailors claimed to have been frightened away. To compensate, Jones and his men set fire to the southern fort, which subsequently engulfed the entire town! The consequences of Jone's engagement went much farther than they probably thought at the time. Jones had wanted to bring the war home to the English, and he accomplished this far beyond his wildest hopes. His actions created a panic in the British Isles. As word spread of the raid, troops were dispatched to protect British seaports and coastal towns. Eventually, troops were garrisoned at almost every potential target that the Brits thought might tempt Jones.



At enormous expense, the government constructed coastal batteries in various locations to defend against a Jones attack, and all to no eventual use – no invasion ever came. But for the general populace, their sense of security had forever been shaken. The American upstarts had brought the fight to the British homeland.

News of the raid spread across Britain, and heightened the feelings of dread and panic among the people. All of this wreaked havoc with the economy and strengthened the anti-war position of Edmund Burke and other liberal politicians.

Jones' fame and persona as one of the most daring and successful naval commanders of all time was secured with his epic engagement and subsequent victory over the 44-gun frigate HMS Serapis in September 1779, which has been characterized as one of the most desperate naval battles in history. In the end, what set him apart was the concept of attacking the British homeland, rather than their navy. This set off a psychological shockwave which significantly adversely affected the British will to continue the fight.

# The All Veterans Memorial Monument: Fundraising Is Ongoing!!!




Compatriot, Earl Kennedy, and the Combat Infantrymen's Association, Inc., of which he is a member, have joined to bring a monument dedicated to all veterans, and those presently serving the nation, to Fort Myers. The group named their proposed sculpture the ***All Veterans Memorial Monument*** (the "AVMM"). A site at Centennial Park in Fort Myers has been finalized, work on the sculptures and the bases for the sculptures is ongoing, and construction will commence once the funds necessary have been raised. Fundraising is ongoing, and all donations are 100% deductible under current tax laws. For more information, and to donate, click here to follow link: Home | AVM, Inc.

Or, alternately, click here to follow link: [https://www.avmemorial.org]

# In Memoriam: Our Compatriot Warren W. White
# Husband, Father, Grandfather, Retail Sales Manager, Proud Caloosa SAR Compatriot, And Friend To All



*Warren W. White*
*(1932 – 2025)*

We were saddened to learn that our Compatriot, Warren W. White, age 93, of Fort Myers, Florida, had passed away suddenly at his residence on August 8, 2025. For those of us who have only recently joined the Caloosa Chapter of the FLSSAR, his name might not be familiar. But for those of us who are a little older, and became friends with Warren, he will always be remembered for the pride he had in the fact that he had a Patriot ancestor who assisted in securing our freedom, and for being the type of person that we strive to be.

He was born in McKeesport, Pennsylvania, on February 29, 1932, graduated from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh in 1954, and obtained his Master of Retailing degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1957.

Happily, in 1954 he married his sweetheart, Marjorie ("Marge"), who survives him. Together they were blessed in 1957 with the birth of their daughter, Laura. Warren and his wife, Marge, were married for 71 years, and their family grew to include a wonderful son-in-law, three grandchildren, two step-grandchildren, and three great-granddaughters. In between the year of his marriage and the year his daughter was born, Warren honored his country by serving two years in the US Army, principally in Korea with the I Corps Artillery, from 1954 to 1956.

In addition to being a husband and family man, Warren devoted 39 years of service to Strawbridge & Clothier in Philadelphia and retired as an Executive Vice-President, and General Manager of its Clover division. He was a life member of both the Rising Sun Lodge of #15 Free and Accepted Masons, and Haddonfield Post #38 of the American Legion, and active in many other philanthropic organizations.

Of course, we will remember him best for being our long time SAR Compatriot. Warren's friend, and our Compatriot, Albert Myers, spoke on behalf of our Caloosa Chapter SAR at the memorial service held at Shell Point Retirement Community, expressing our collective pride in having been lucky to have had Warren as a Chapter Member for many years. Albert in fact had drawn up Warren's application for membership and the two had remained good friends. Warren's death will be listed on the National Memorial Service Bulletin in North Carolina during the 2026 National SAR Congress.

# BENEDICT ARNOLD: FROM HERO OF THE CAPTURE OF FORT TICONDEROGA TO VILLAN, TRAITOR AND TURNCOAT



*Benedict Arnold: Portrait by Hart, 1776*

Benedict Arnold was born in Connecticut in 1741 and became a merchant. By 1775, his business was successfully operating ships in the Atlantic. When war broke out between Great Britain and its 13 American colonies, Arnold joined the Continental Army and acting under a commission from the revolutionary government of Massachusetts, he partnered with Ethan Allen and Allen's Green Mountain Boys to capture Fort Ticonderoga. That was in May, 1775. But then what?

Ethan Allen (with whom Arnold had continual disputes) and his men eventually drifted away from Ticonderoga, leaving Arnold to control affairs there until a new commander, Col. Benjamin Hinman, arrived with orders from the Massachusetts Committee directing Arnold to serve under Hinman. Arnold refused, resigned his commission, and went home. On the way home, he learned his wife had died earlier in June, 1775.

The Second Continental Congress authorized an invasion of Quebec, in part on the urging of Arnold, but he was passed over for command. When that expedition failed, he met with George Washington and suggested a second expedition via a different route, through the Maine wilderness. This time, he received a colonel's commission, and on December 31, 1775, Arnold launched an attack in which he was severely wounded. Again, though, the plan failed miserably, and Canada remained in British hands. By late 1776, he had recovered sufficiently to take to the field once again. This time, he played a crucial role in hindering a British invasion from Canada into New York. Arnold had predicted that the Brits would sail an invading force down Lake Champlain and supervised the hasty construction of an American flotilla on that lake to meet the British fleet. On October 11, 1776, the outgunned makeshift American fleet surprised the British near Valcour Island. Arnold fought a defensive and delaying action which caused the British to return to Canada. His performance had rescued the Patriot cause from potential disaster and gave American forces time to prepare New York defenses. Thereafter, Arnold had several significant combat successes, including his performances at the Battle of Ridgefield (where he was wounded in the left leg), the Siege of Fort Stanwix, and attacks on British defenses in the Battles of Saratoga (again severely wounded in the left leg). These injuries put him out of combat for several years.

Despite these successes, he repeatedly claimed that he was not being properly recognized, that he was continually being passed over by the Continental Congress for promotion, and that other officers were being credited for his accomplishments. The pattern of just not getting along with fellow officers persisted. In addition, there were inquiries into his finances, he was investigated for corruption, and it was determined that he was indebted to Congress and had borrowed heavily to maintain a lavish lifestyle.

Arnold then began to mingle with Loyalist sympathizers in Philadelphia and on April 19, 1779 married into a Loyalist family when he wed Peggy Shippen, who was a close friend of British Major John Andre, later head of the British espionage system in New York. With his wife likely facilitating (and actively participating by acting as a go-between) in Arnold's plans to switch sides, the British promised Arnold a large sum for the capture of West Point, a major American stronghold which Washington had given Arnold command of in July of 1780. Luckily for the Americans, the plot was exposed when Andre was captured in September 1780, while crossing between American and British lines, disguised in civilian clothes. Papers found on Andre incriminated Arnold in treason, but Arnold fled to British lines before the Patriots could arrest him. West Point remained in American hands, Andre was hanged as a spy, and Arnold received a commission in the British Army. While commanding British forces, he attacked and captured Richmond, VA, and in another, he burned London, CT to the ground and slaughtered surrendering forces.

After Cornwallis's surrender, Arnold evaded capture and moved to England. Arnold, his wife Peggy, and their children, moved to London in 1781. He later spent some time in New Brunswick, Canada, engaged in land speculation while there, and again established a business doing trade (this time in the West Indies). But disputes, lawsuits, debts, fighting, and bad business dealings followed him wherever he went. He was permanently crippled from his war wounds, suffered from gout, and his health gradually deteriorated. He spent his last years in London, where he died, at age 60, in 1801. Benedict Arnold's name became synonymous with "traitor" soon after his betrayal became public. Benjamin Franklin wrote that "Judas sold only one man, Arnold three millions."

# Education Center and Museum Liberty Tree Campaign

We will all soon celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Is there a more fitting tribute to those who secured the liberties we enjoy than to share their story? Help ensure that the SAR Education Center and Museum is completed in time for the celebration.

The SAR Foundation, Inc. asks you to support the SAR Education Center and Museum through ***The Liberty Tree Campaign.*** While few of us can make a $1,000 gift without pause, you could, budget monthly support of $25 save American's history? Think of it as a utility bill, but instead of water, gas, or cable TV, you will be helping the SAR.

The Liberty Tree Campaign has four levels.

Bronze – A one-time gift of $1,250 (or $25 monthly until total is reached)

Silver- A one-time gift of $2,500 (or $50 monthly until total is reached)

Gold – A one-time gift of $25,000 (or $500 monthly until the total is reached)

Diamond – Please contact the SAR Foundation to arrange for a $250,000 gift




Donors receive a lapel pin like the one pictured above. Donors at the Gold and Diamond Levels will also be recognized with an appropriate naming opportunity in the SAR Education Center and Museum. Call **Phil Bloyd** in the SAR Foundation Office at **(502) 315-1777** to pledge to the Liberty Tree Campaign today! For those who need to hold onto their cash, the Founders Circle allows Compatriots to remember the SAR in their estate. Call Phil Bloyd or email him at pbloyd@sar.org for assistance.

The SAR 1776 Campaign, started in 2015, is also available and recognizes donations in the amount of $1,776 and fractions and multiples thereof. The SAR has a story to tell, and your continued support will allow the SAR to champion our rich heritage for all to appreciate by building The SAR Education Center and Museum.

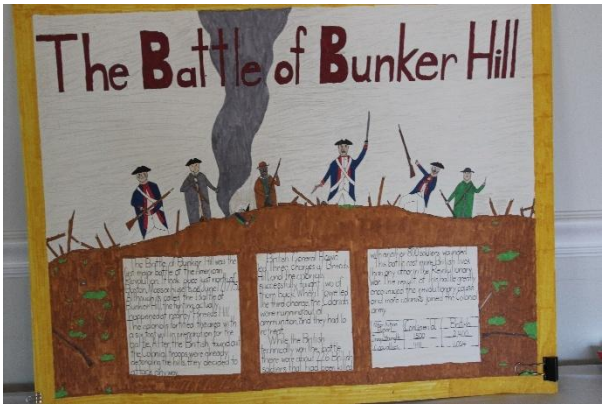
# Get Ready For The 2025 – 2026 School Year SAR Elementary, Middle School and High School Americanism Contests!

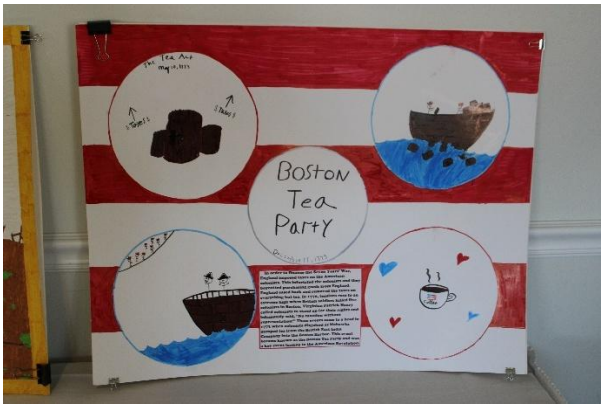
## RULES AND GUIDELINES – ELEMENTARY SCHOOL POSTER CONTEST

The National Society SAR developed the Elementary School Poster Contest to help stimulate interest in and aid the study of American History in the 3rd, 4th or 5th Grade Curriculum (depending on the grade the subject is taught). This Contest also includes; Cub Scouts, Brownies, Children of the American Revolution and other youth organizations recognized by the NSSAR Council of Youth Programs Committee in addition to public, private, parochial, or home schools. Participants from organizations other than schools must be of equivalent age for 3rd, 4th or 5th grade, whichever year that they teach American History in the specific school district. If they teach American History in lower grades at selected schools, an entry may be accepted for the competition at the discretion of the NSSAR Council of Youth Programs. Judging of ALL entries will be on an equal basis regardless of point of origin.

For more information: https://www.sar.org/americanism-elementary-school-poster-contest-2/

Examples of prior submittals:

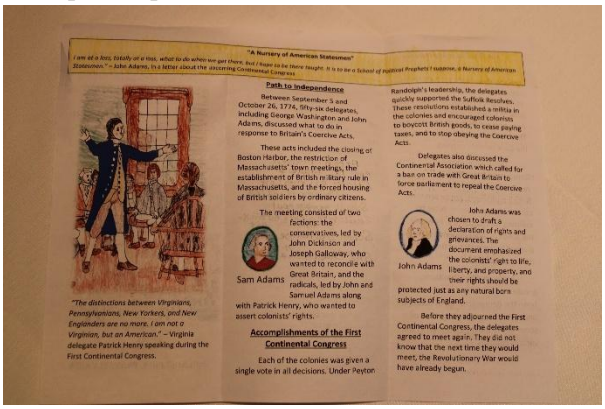


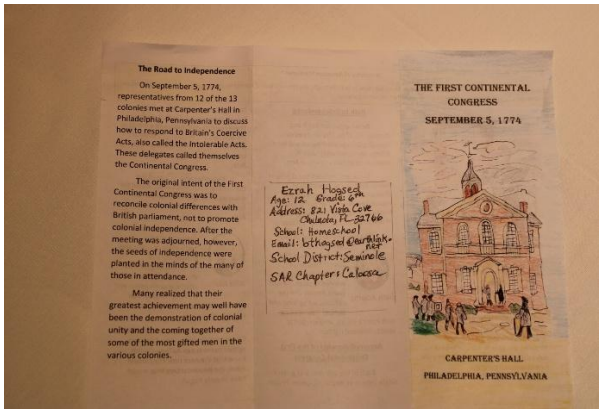




## RULES AND GUIDELINES – SGT. MOSES ADAMS MEMORIAL MIDDLE SCHOOL BROCHURE CONTEST

The SAR Middle School Contest is to create a tri-fold brochure out of a typical 8 ½ x 11" piece of paper. The brochure must conform to the contest theme which is one of the nine foundational documents of the United States which the student selects. The brochure will be judged on Content, Creativity and Correctness. The judging criteria rates highest personally drawn art work and text authored by the student as opposed to 'cut and paste' from books, magazines and the internet. The use of software tools by the student for creating the brochure, and even the art work, is permissible.

For more information: https://www.sar.org/sgt-moses-adams-memorial-middle-school-brochure-contest/
Examples of prior submittals:




*[Continued on Page 24]*

*[Continued from Page 23]*

**RULES AND GUIDELINES – GEORGE S. AND STELLA M. KNIGHT HIGH SCHOOL ESSAY CONTEST**

The SAR Knight High School Essay Contest invites all high school students (9th through 12th grades) interested in the American Revolution to participate by submitting an original 800 – to 1200 – word essay based on an event, person, philosophy or ideal associated with the American Revolution, Declaration of Independence, or the framing of the United States Constitution. The contest is open to all US Citizen and Legal Resident students attending home schools, public, parochial, or private high schools in that same grade range. Each student's essay will be judged based upon its historical accuracy, clarity, organization, grammar and spelling, and documentation. The contest is conducted in three phases: the local chapter, state-level society and national phases. The contest must be entered through an SAR chapter near the student's residence. Only one entry per student is permitted per contest year.

For more information: https://www.sar.org/george-s-stella-m-knight-essay-contest/

**RULES AND GUIDELINES – JOSEPH S. RUMBAUGH HISTORICAL ORATION CONTEST**

The Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest invites all students attending 9th through 12th grades in public, parochial or private schools; or home-school students studying at the same grade levels. The preliminary rounds of the contest begin at the local chapter level; students have the opportunity to advance to the state or national levels where scholarships and cash prizes are awarded. Participants must write an original oration of not less than five minutes, or more than six minutes. The oration must be delivered from memory and without the use of notes or any kind of props. The subject of the oration shall deal with an event, a personality, or a document pertaining to the Revolutionary War with a mention of our nation's 250th anniversary celebration. It is essential that each oration show the relationship it bears to America today. Evidence of historical research and creative presentation are also important. The oration will be judged based upon its composition, delivery, significance, historical accuracy and relevance to our 250th anniversary.

For more information: https://www.sar.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/OrationFlyer202223.pdf

MORE INFORMATION, INCLUDING DEADLINES, PRIZE AMOUNTS, ETC. WILL BE SENT SOON VIA EMAIL!




*Camryn Myers, Reporting for Duty*
*(Our Compatriot Forrest Myers' Grandson)*
*Williamsburg - Summer, 2025*

# If You Are Interested . . .

## FLSSAR Archives Committee

**The Florida Society, Sons of the American Revolution, is recruiting experienced technologists and passionate Compatriots to serve on the FLSSAR Archive Committee.**

Based on the current charter, the Archives Committee serves the following purposes:

- To gather, sort, collate, and index official and other significant documents and artifacts of the Florida Society, and similar materials from individual chapters, compatriots, and related organizations, of significance to the Society.
- To establish and maintain a secure and accessible repository of these documents and artifacts. To publicize to the members of the Society the existence of the Archives, as necessary.
- To store, catalogue, and preserve these materials; to maintain a master catalogue and index.
- To keep its index, catalogue, and the materials in its custody available for reference and study.

If this is something that interests you or you have ideas on how we would ensure the successful implementation of these goals, consider serving on this Committee by reaching out to Committee Chair Steve Hohman (Withlacoochee Chapter) at shohman@withsar.org or by calling 352-738-7838 during regular business hours, Monday through Friday.

## FLSSAR Technology Committee

**The Florida Society, Sons of the American Revolution, is sending out a call for experienced technologists who want to serve on the FLSSAR Technology Committee.** This committee will meet to discuss and implement an updated website for the state, make recommendations for improved communications through email, and help chapters embrace new technologies.

Some skills that could be helpful to this committee include:

- Recent experience in website development using well-known platforms such as Club Express, WordPress, HTML5, etc.
- Recent experience managing an enterprise email and communications platform such as Microsoft 365 or Google Workspace.
- Graphics design experience in platforms such as Adobe Creative Suite or similar platforms.
- Video editing experience in platforms such as Davinci Resolve, Adobe Premiere Pro, or similar software packages.

For more information, contact Committee Chair Steve Hohman (Withlacoochee Chapter) at shohman@withsar.org or by calling 352-738-7838 during regular business hours, Monday through Friday.

## FLSSAR Youth Video Contest Committee

Would you like to serve on what could easily be the best (and easiest) way to connect with Florida's public schools and youth? **The Sons of the American Revolution's newest youth contest, the Youth Video Contest, is looking for Compatriots to serve on the Youth Video Contest Committee.**

All across Florida, school systems publish the success of their Adobe certification programs (which include Premiere Pro), their in-house video production facilities, and even their internal newscasts. Kids these days will record anything and get millions of "clicks" in the process. All we have to do is get them to do what they are already doing and relate it to the American Revolution. No memorization. No writing essays. No checklist of achievements. Just be creative and make it factual, based on references you submit with your entry.

If you want to be a part of the newest youth contest in the SAR, reach out to Committee Chair Steve Hohman (Withlacoochee Chapter) at shohman@withsar.org or by calling 352-738-7838 during regular business hours, Monday through Friday.

# Chapter Web Site

Compatriot Lawrence J. Hughes has now taken over duties as the Caloosa Chapter Webmaster, and the website is available at https://caloosasar.org/. It is also available through a link on the Florida Society web page. (www.flssar.org) where you would click on the "Chapters" tab, then "Caloosa." You may also be interested in visiting the National Society Sons of the American Revolution webpage: www.sar.org which includes a "members only" section and access to the SAR Merchandise Store.

Larry is anxious to hear from you and would be grateful for any suggestions you might have to help him continue the fine tradition established by the prior Webmasters and make the Webpage everything you would like it to be. His email address is: lawrencejhughes@gmail.com.

# Chapter Facebook Page

Many thanks to our Compatriot Albert Myers for keeping our Facebook page up to date with current activities in the last few years. Newsletter Editor John Maier has volunteered to take over these duties. The following link to the page can be entered into your web browser's navigation bar (some recipients of the newsletter may be able to click on the link):

**https://www.facebook.com/CaloosaChapteroftheSAR**

The Caloosa SAR Facebook page strives to provide the most current and timely information and images covering Chapter programs and local happenings. If members have items of interest, John Maier welcomes email submission of photos and information. Send it to jmaier@wisclaw.com.

**Our mission** is to transport local Veterans to Washington, D.C. to visit those memorials dedicated to honor their service and sacrifice. We were established on September 25th, 2013 to bring this program to the Collier and Lee County areas in Southwest Florida. Six short weeks after forming, a remarkably successful inaugural flight (Mission 1) took place on November 9th, 2013. To date we have transported over 1200 WWII, Korean and Vietnam veterans on this deeply emotional and well-deserved trip. Support for these trips is provided by volunteers and is at no cost to the veterans. Top priority is given to our most senior heroes.

## DATE FOR MISSION 29 (FALL 2025): OCTOBER 18, 2025




We would love to hear from you. Please contact us using the information provided below for any questions about signing up, volunteering or anything else.

PO Box 8001
Naples, FL 34101
(239) 777-9295
info@collierhonorflight.org

Next Flight: Mission 29
Has Been Scheduled For October 18, 2025
If You Or Your Vet Are Interested In Being Part Of This Next (Or Future) Missions
As An Honored Participant, Or As A Guardian Or Volunteer
See Our Website And Sign Up Now!

# FLSSAR President Washler Announces Creation Of New "Younger Members Committee" And Seeks Volunteers

Compatriots of the Florida Society,

As you've probably heard me say multiple times already this year, I sincerely believe that the Sons of the American Revolution has a significant opportunity in front of us this year. The attention of the entire country is turning toward America's 250th Anniversary and the American Revolution, and that means that their attention is on US! We have a great opportunity to grow our society with nearly every age group that we serve. But to do that, we are going to have to be willing to go beyond the "tried and true" (or possibly the tired and true) ways that we have always done recruiting and retention of our members.

Our most significant growth potential right now is in the younger age demographics. Men who are still in the prime of their working years and have not yet reached the mid-century mark are showing an increased interest in the Revolutionary and Founding period of our country's history. We need to act now to capitalize on that interest!

To further that goal, I am pleased to announce that I am establishing a Younger Members Committee for the Florida Society. Under Article V of our bylaws, I have the authority to form ad hoc committees, so the Younger Members Committee will only be an ad hoc committee at this point. The Charter of the Committee is modeled on the NSSAR's Younger Members Committee:

**Purpose**: To foster a greater relationship between the Younger Members, the Florida State Society, and respective chapters.

**Members:** There shall be a chairman and at least four committee members appointed by the President of the Florida Society whose terms shall be concurrent with that of the appointing officer. Membership is restricted to members 40 years old or younger with the exception of one advisory member who may be between 40 and 50 years of age.

**Functions:** To bring new, fresh, and innovative ideas for membership involvement that go beyond "traditional" SAR meetings and events. The Committee will help to promote recruitment and retention of younger members by serving as a resource of information on topics relevant to younger members of the Florida Society.

I will be looking to the members of this committee to bring forward fresh new ideas for attracting and retaining SAR compatriots in our younger age brackets. They will likely work closely with the existing Membership Promotion and Retention Committee, but I believe that their work will be complementary to each other and not redundant.

At this point, I have not appointed a chairman of this committee. Nor have I appointed any members. This is where I need your help!

If you are a compatriot who is 40 or younger (or if you know of a compatriot in your chapter who fits this requirement), and you have an interest in serving on this committee, please reach out directly to me. I would like to have this committee up and running before we get to the Fall Board of Managers Meeting, so time is of the essence!

I look forward to an "avalanche" of interest and to seeing what this committee does!
*Chris Washler*
President
**Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution**
(850) 380-1329

Find us at https://link.edgepilot.com/s/fb3904b5/HaK4ScDdHESVE71h7iJQZw?u=http://www.flssar.org/ or on Facebook (Florida Society, Sons of the American Revolution)

# The SAR Mission Statement

The Sons of the American Revolution honors our Revolutionary War patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities, educating, and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our Country.

# The SAR Pledge

We, the descendants of the heroes of the American Revolution who, by their sacrifice, 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.

# Recessional

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