



CALOOSA PATRIOT

Volume IX Issue I

October 2014

Election Day



Statue of George Washington in front of Federal Hall, where he was first inaugurated as President.

Election Day in the United States is set by law for the general elections of public officials and it occurs on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November. For federal offices (President, Vice President, and United States Congress) Election Day occurs only in even-numbered years.

Many state and local government offices are also elected on Election Day as a matter of convenience or cost savings. The first presidential election in

the United States under the new United States Constitution was held from Monday, December 15, 1788 to Saturday, January 10, 1789. In this election, George Washington was unanimously elected to the first of his two terms as president, and John Adams became the first vice-president.

No political parties existed at the time of the 1788-89 presidential election. Candidates were either Federalists, meaning they supported the ratification of the Constitution, or Anti-Federalists, meaning they opposed ratification. Only ten states out of the original thirteen cast electoral votes in this election. North Carolina and Rhode Island were ineligible to participate because they had not yet ratified the United States Constitution. New York failed to appoint its allotment of eight electors because of a deadlock in the state legislature. The total popular

vote was 43,782 which represented less than 1.3% of the population: the 1790 census would count a total population of 3.0 million with a free population of 2.4 million and 600,000 slaves in those states casting electoral votes in the election.

The first session of the first House of Representatives came to order in Federal Hall, New York City on March 4, 1789 with only thirteen members present. The requisite quorum (thirty members out of fifty-nine) was not present until April 1, 1789. On April 6, 1789 the Senate first achieved a quorum and elected John Adams as Senate President and John Langdon as Senate President pro tem. On the same day, the Electoral College ballots were counted and George Washington was unanimously elected President of the United States.

November 4, 2014 marks Election Day this year. While not a presidential election year (years divisible by four) many important offices at the local, state and national levels will be filled by this election. In addition to elected officials, there will be three proposed Florida Constitutional Amendments on the ballot.

The right to vote is one of our most cherished rights under the Constitution. From the Founders, through the many generations of our ancestors to present day Service-Members and veterans, great sacrifices have been made to protect and defend this right. Only by being informed and knowledgeable voters can we ensure that this Republic will successfully meet the challenges of future generations.

From the President



Greetings Compatriots and Friends,

Well, we have had our first Chapter meeting and enjoyed a presentation by members of our Color Guard. Color Guard Commander Randy Moody, Compatriots John Jones and Bob McGuire all wore their uniforms. They gave a presentation on the various uniforms and accessories of the Revolution. They had a PowerPoint program covering various Chapter Color Guard events. They also listed vendors for the various uniform items. The executive committee agreed to purchase a Brown Bess operational musket for use at functions requiring being fired as a salute.

We have set a schedule of meeting events for the upcoming meetings. They are:

November 12 Veterans Recognition with speaker LTC Bill Zacovic, Lee County JROTC Adjutant.

December 10 Election of 2015 Officers, Rumbaugh Contest, Year End Awards, and Bylaws Approval. This is our Annual Meeting and I encourage all members to attend.

2015

January 14 Installation of Officers with FLSSAR Senior Vice President Larry Fehrenbaker.

February 11 Public Service Recognition meeting.

March 14 Saturday meeting for Junior members and those who cannot make midweek luncheons. Program will be about N.A.S.A presented by Compatriot Hal Theiss.

April 8 Brigitte von den Hove-Smith presenting a program on the Hermione project. This is a reproduction of the French vessel that brought the Marquis de Lafayette to America to fight with General George Washington. The Hermione will visit Jacksonville, Miami and Key West in May 2015.

Compatriot John Jones has requested that members attending each meeting RVSP him in addition to Compatriot Russell Radcliffe. His email is john.jones.2009@comcast.net. He needs to get names for name tags and listings on sign-up sheets to collect the luncheon meals.

I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming meetings.

Lee Matson

President Caloosa Chapter FLSSAR

Vice President Southwest Region FLSSAR

From Your Newsletter Editor

Compatriots,

Please give me ongoing comments on how to make additional improvements to your newsletter and submit your items of interest for inclusion in the future issues. My goal is to publish issues monthly between October and May each year. Generally, an issue will be published shortly after each monthly meeting so if you have an item that relates to a particular date or event, please get me the information in sufficient time for me to fit it in. My email address is: rmcguire@slvx.com.

It is a continuing challenge to maintain distribution lists for sending out the Caloosa Patriot. While I will make a special effort to send a paper-copy newsletter to anyone who requests it, these represent a substantial additional cost for printing and mailing. We are trying to put a lot of “content” into each issue with the result being 18 (or more) page newsletters being commonplace. In addition to sending the newsletters to about 80 members each month, we also try to send copies to individuals who have indicated an interest in joining our Chapter along with other “friends” of the Chapter

who we hope to keep in touch with. If you have been missed with past newsletters, I apologize for that error and I continually update my email listings. Back issues are also available on our website: www.caloosasar.org although the most recent issue or two may be delayed in posting.

Chapter newsletters may be considered for recognition by awards made at the state and national levels each year. A workshop was held at the last FLSSAR BOM meeting at which the scoring criteria were given out to Chapter Editors. It may be coincidental that the winner of the Bessent & Fowler Newsletter Award (given by FLSSAR) was the Chapter Editor who is also the chairman of the committee that judges the award. You may notice some changes in future issues of the Caloosa Patriot that are intended to enhance our scoring opportunities. More likely, you will not notice particular changes as we have been doing pretty well anyway. Last year we were tied for fourth place in the State Society.

Bob McGuire

The SAR Foundation, Inc.

The SAR Foundation, Inc. is a 501c3 Kentucky Corporation headquartered in Louisville, KY. Its mission is to support the SAR. Additional information can be found on the website www.sarfoundation.org. On September 25, 2010 the new state-of-the-art Genealogical Research Library was dedicated. Now that the library is complete, the Society is setting on expanding the National Headquarters in Louisville, Kentucky to include a world-class museum experience centered on the American Revolution and its influence on freedom and independence everywhere. As of January 1, 2015, a new campaign will create “The 1776 Society” to move forward with two primary purposes: the creation of the world class SAR museum, and the creation of the new NSSAR endowment fund. Within the 1776 Society will be the “Founders Circle” recognizing benefactors who have provided a NSSAR legacy bequest in their estate plan. Please consider making a gift or bequest to the SAR Foundation.

Chapter Facebook Page



Compatriot Albert Myers keeps our Facebook page up-to-date with current activities. 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/media/set/?set=a.10152396845983338.1073741832.78806383337&type=1> .

The Facebook page provides the most current and timely information and images covering Chapter programs and local happenings. Often there are updates posted by Compatriot Albert before the end of the day of an event. If members have items of interest, he also welcomes email submission of photos and information. Send it to aemyers.net/contact.

New Web Page



Compatriot Robert McGuire has recently developed a new web page for the Chapter and it is now available directly from your browser at www.caloosasar.org or www.caloosasar.com. It is also available through a link on the Florida Society web page. (www.flssar.org) and click on the "Chapters" button, 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.

Caloosa Chapter Officers 2013-2014



Left to right:
FLSSAR At Large Exec. Comm. Member Vic McMurry
Chapter President/SW Region VP Lee Matson
Chaplain General/Color Guard Cmdr Randy Moody
Registrar Bob McGuire
Chapter Vice President Russ Radcliffe
Sgt-at-Arms Wes Morris
Past Trustee Roy Wasson
Secretary/Treasurer/Trustee John Jones
Genealogist/Recording Secretary/Trustee Albert Myers
(Not shown) Historian Hal Theiss

Highlights of September EXCOM Meeting

The Executive Committee (ExCom) of the Caloosa Chapter FLSSAR met on September 30, 2014 at the Perkins Restaurant on Cleveland Ave. in Fort Myers. The following are some highlights of that meeting.

- Compatriot McGuire suggested that the Chapter purchase a Brown Bess operational musket for use at color guard functions and to be fired as a salute when needed. A motion was made by Compatriot Moody and seconded by McGuire to purchase the musket. Initially, the musket will remain in the possession of McGuire until such time as a permanent custodian is selected. Purchase of the musket is from operating funds. The motion passed.
- Two new members are ready for induction (Compatriots Nathan Skupney and Robert Huber) however, neither they nor Compatriot TSgt Andrew Taylor Thorpe are able to attend the October meeting so their inductions will be scheduled for a future date.
- Discussion was held on alternatives to memorialize deceased members. The matter was tabled until the next ExCom meeting.
- Compatriot John Jones who is a member of the FLSSAR Veterans Recognition Committee explained that the policy of the state society is to recognize all veterans with membership in the FLSSAR Battalion whether they have received the War Service Medal or the Military Service Medal. He also explained that the committee is pursuing state-wide efforts to identify members who have received the Purple Heart medal.
- Compatriot Secretary Jones reported that there is one Charter member who is still a member of the Chapter, and that efforts will be made to recognize him at the January 2015 meeting if he can attend that meeting.
- After receiving the report of Compatriot Registrar McGuire, the ExCom agreed to waive FLSSAR and Chapter dues for 2015 for Compatriot TSgt Andrew Taylor Thorpe who is an active duty member of the US Air Force.
- Compatriot Webmaster McGuire reported that the new Chapter website (www.caloosasar.org) is up and running.
- Compatriot Color Guard commander Moody reported that he served in uniform at the DAR Constitution Day luncheon along with Compatriots McGuire and Jones who attended in their new militia uniforms. Also present at the event were several of our members and FLSSAR Senior Vice President Larry Fehrenbaker.
- Corrected copies of revised bylaws and standing rules were presented, and the ExCom approved them by acclamation. They will have final action by the membership at the December annual meeting.
- A proposed budget was presented by Compatriot Treasurer Jones with a surplus amount for 2015. Copies were provided to members for review and action at the next meeting.
- A motion was offered by Compatriot Moody to purchase 500 copies of the SAR publication of “The Declaration of Independence/Constitution of the United States” to be presented to the Social Studies students at East Lee County High School along with a short program by the Chapter about these documents. The motion was passed by acclamation.

The next meeting of the ExCom will be held on November 3rd starting at 4 PM at St. Luke’s Episcopal Church in Fort Myers. Chapter members are always welcome to attend ExCom meetings.

Our Calendar of Events

Helm Club at the Landings Yacht Golf and Tennis Club
4420 Flagship Drive, Fort Myers, FL 33919
(off McGregor Blvd first light South of College Pkwy)



Meetings are held Monthly on the 2nd Wednesday October through May

The gathering will begin at 11:30 a.m. with lunch served at noon.
Cost for the lunch is \$20.00 per person paid at the door.

Since we started meeting at the Helm Club in the Fall of 2013, the kitchen and wait staff have consistently presented delicious meals at our meetings in an attractive and comfortable setting. Meetings are also an opportunity to spend time with an interesting group of men who share a common bond as descendents of patriots of the American Revolution. While a majority of our members reside in Lee County, other parts of Florida and at least 15 other States are represented as well.

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 RSVP for meetings to: Compatriot VP Russell Radcliffe at
russradcliffe@gmail.com, call (239) 949-6620 or mail
20455 Wildcat Run Drive, Estero FL 33928

Please info-copy Compatriot John Jones – john.jones.2009@comcast.net

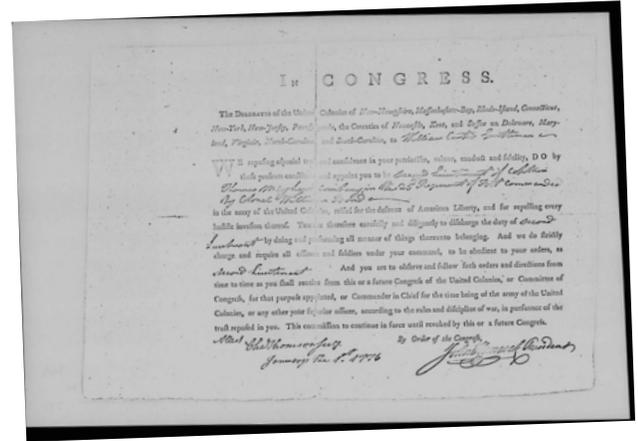
Program Schedule

November 12 th	Veterans Recognition – Speaker LTC Bill Jacovic, Lee County JROTC Adjutant
December 10 th	Election of 2015 Officers, Rumbaugh Contest, Year-end Awards, Bylaws Approval
2015 January 14 th	Installation of Officers with FLSSAR Senior Vice President Larry Fehrenbaker
February 11 th	Public Service Recognition meeting
March 14th	Saturday meeting - Presentation about NASA by Compatriot Hal Theiss
April 8 th	Hermione-Lafayette 2015 Project presentation by Brigitte van den Hove-Smith
May 13 th	Open

New Members Inducted & Approved, Supplementals Approved, and In Memoriam

Compatriot Robert Harry Huber has had his application for membership approved based upon the patriotic service (material aid) of his ancestor Benjamin Crane of New Jersey. Compatriot Huber was unable to attend the last meeting, and so joins the growing list of new members yet to be inducted shown below.

Compatriot Ansel Elmer Moore has had his first supplemental application approved based upon the military service of his ancestor LT William Curtis of Pembroke MA. LT Curtis had his commission in the Continental Army signed by John Hancock who at the time was president of the Continental Congress. Compatriot Moore and his personal genealogist/wife Elizabeth have several more supplemental applications at various stages of completion and review.



It is with great sadness that we note the passing Caloosa Chapter member Compatriot E. Howard Smith who died September 4, 2014 at the age of 91. Compatriot Smith was born and lived in Chicago IL until after he retired and moved to Cape Coral in 1984. In addition to his membership in the Sons of the American Revolution, he was active in the Masonic Lodge and the Araba Shriners.

Other new members whose applications have been approved by the National and State Societies, but are not yet inducted, include:

- TSgt Andrew Taylor Thorpe, USAF – Patriot PVT Nehemiah Adams of Massachusetts
- Joseph T. Lundquist IV – Patriot PVT Anthony Snyder of Pennsylvania
- Joseph T. Lundquist V (Junior Member) – Patriot PVT Anthony Snyder of Pennsylvania
- Nathan Curtis Skupny – Patriot PVT Joseph Kester of Virginia

Chapter Luncheon Happenings

The first meeting of the 2014-2015 season was held on Wednesday October 8th at the Helm Club, Landings Yacht Golf and Tennis Club in Fort Myers. The program opened with the usual ceremonies followed by a welcome and greetings from President Lee Matson.



After a tasty lunch, the program titled *Uniforms of the American Revolution* continued with presentations by color guard commander Randy Moody and guardsmen John Jones and Bob McGuire. Compatriot Moody wore a uniform of a Continental Army officer and he explained various accoutrements such as the gorget, sword, and whistle he had.



Compatriot Jones wore a uniform of the Kentucky militia and carried a replica Kentucky rifle.

Compatriot McGuire wore a uniform that was representative of what his ancestor LT Elias West would have worn as a member of the Connecticut militia. He also had a replica of the Brown Bess musket that was commonly used during the Revolution.



Master-at-Arms Compatriot Wesley Morris attaches another streamer to the Chapter flag, being held by Color Guard commander Compatriot Randy Moody.

One of the awards presented during the meeting was the Liberty Medal, being presented by Chaplain General Compatriot Randy Moody to Genealogist Compatriot Albert Myers.



Lighthouse Harry Lee Camp

The Chapter Color Guard continues to grow in membership and in its involvement in community activities. We participated in the DAR Constitution Week luncheon program at the Colonial Country Club in Fort Myers on Saturday, September 20th. Chaplain General Dr. Rev Randy Moody presented greeting from the National Society Sons of the American Revolution while in the uniform of a Continental Army officer. Compatriots McGuire and Jones participated in militia uniforms, complete with firelocks.



SAR members in attendance at the DAR Constitution Week luncheon Program



FLSSAR Color Guard posting colors at the Fall BOM Banquet

At the BOM Fall meeting in Orlando, Color Guard commander Compatriot Moody along with Compatriots McGuire and Jones participated in uniform in posting the colors at the banquet.

- At the October 8th regular meeting of the Caloosa Chapter, Compatriots Moody, McGuire, and Jones presented a demonstration and information concerning uniforms of the Revolution and sources of obtaining uniform items.
- At the upcoming Pride and Patriotism event at Barbara B Mann Hall on November 6th Compatriot McGuire will be participating in uniform along with President Lee Matson in making presentations to students. On the following day (November 7th) Compatriot McGuire will be participating in militia uniform in a program being conducted at Gulf Middle school as part of an American History class presentation along with JROTC members.
- On November 12th & 13th Color Guard members Randy Moody and John Jones will participate in a Program at East Lee High School Social Studies Classes making a presentation and passing out Declaration of Independence/U.S. Constitution Booklets to all students in those classes.

There are plenty of opportunities to put on a uniform and support the Chapter in community events. I hope that members will consider joining the color guard, and I will be happy to assist if I can. I am sure that other current members of the Lighthouse Harry Lee Camp will answer questions and provide advice as well.

FLSSAR BOM & Annual Meeting



Award presentations at Fall BOM Banquet

The Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution Fall 2014 Board of Management (BOM) meeting was held at the Florida Hotel and Conference Center in Orlando FL on Friday October 3rd and Saturday October 4th. The BOM consists of members who serve by virtue of holding or having held certain positions in the FLSSAR or NSSAR, and others who are appointed by the chapters to serve on the Board.



FLSSAR Parliamentarian Rev Dr Randy Moody participating in BOM Meeting

The BOM serves similar functions for the State Society that the ExCom serves for the Chapter – that is it exercises administrative control of the FLSSAR. In addition to business meetings, the BOM conducts workshops, presents awards, and provides an opportunity for socialization amongst SAR members across the state.

The Fall BOM program included several committee meetings, a report session, and workshops for

Chapter Registrars, Treasurers, and Newsletter Editors. A meeting of the FLSSAR Ladies Auxiliary was held and the program was capped off with the Color Guard presentation of colors, a social, and a banquet. The Southwest Region of FLSSAR was responsible for program and Regional Vice President Compatriot Lee Matson handled registration and Compatriot McGuire handled the hospitality room. Also attending from the Caloosa Chapter were State Color Guard commander Compatriot Randy Moody and Compatriot John Jones.

One of the activities taking place during the banquet is the auctioning of gift baskets that have been assembled by the Ladies Auxiliary members representing the various chapters. This year, the auction raised \$495 which is used for supporting contests conducted by the state society. Caloosa Chapter Auxiliary member Anne McGuire prepared one of the baskets that were auctioned, and she reported that this was the record amount raised by this event.



Caloosa Chapter Gift Basket

BOM meetings, which are held 3 times a year, are a great opportunity to share interests and experiences with other members throughout the state who represent a great variety of professional accomplishments and activities. I would personally encourage Chapter members to attend future meetings either as Chapter delegates or simply as interested individuals as the BOM meetings are always open to all FLSSAR members and spouses are also welcome to attend.

The Official Pledge to the S.A.R.

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.



Compatriot John Jones offering comfort to Mrs. Jeanette Walton, widow of the late Caloosa Chapter Past President Guy Walton, at the DAR Constitution week luncheon.

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.

