



The Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

Fort Lauderdale Chapter Newsletter



website: www.fortlauderdale.org

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Feb 2024

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Compatriots and Friends,

Let me start with a welcome to our three newest members: Ken and Konnor Williams, and Paul Moore. We began 2024 with 75 members, and we are now at 78 with one reinstatement pending SAR approval. The new member profiles for Ken and Konnor appear on the last page of this newsletter. The profile for Paul will be published in next month's newsletter.

In 2023 we experienced a significant increase in membership (27%), and we also saw an increase in member attendance at our lunch meetings, now averaging 16 or more. For 2024, I hope we can channel some of this increased energy and enthusiasm into more member participation in the planning and implementation of the various functions and programs we carry out throughout the year. I will give three examples.

First. Recently, Mark Snider completed and submitted the annual U.S. Stark Awards Program Report where the Chapter documented 6,109 points earned for its 2023 support and assistance to veterans and veterans support organizations. I also sent out our 2023 Americanism Report which incorporates the veterans support activities and includes all other SAR recognized activities carried out by the Chapter. In this report, we earned 75% of the points qualifying under the Americanism category for SAR community educational outreach, and 100% of the points under the PG Streamer category qualifying for SAR administrative support. In my nearly five years with SAR – the Chapter has never achieved enough points to be recognized under either category for national consideration of the PG Cup award. Congratulations to all who actively contributed to make this happen. As you look through the various tabs used in both reports, you will see program activities that you can be part of in carrying out 2024 activities.

Second. Under our Bylaws, the president may create (and dissolve) ad hoc committees. Some may have a limited purpose after which it is dissolved. Others may have a broader and longer range purpose which may be continued from one year to another. The following are our current Chapter ad hoc committees which will carry over into 2024, many of which are open to participation by active members.

- * 250 Recognition Program - Chuck Adams & Kevin Shurte, Co-Chairmen
- * Liberty Tree Dedication Program - Steve DePaul, Chairman
- * Veterans Support & US Stark Awards Program - Mark Snider, Chairman
- * JROTC / Sea Cadets Awards Program - Joe Motes & Mark Snider, Co-Chairmen
- * Boy Scout Council & Eagle Scout Recognition Program - Chuck Adams, Chairman

- * Youth Program Education Contests & Awards Program - Kevin Shurte, Chairman
- * C.A.R. & DAR Relations - Chuck Adams, Steve DePaul, Joe Motes & Kevin Shurte, no chair

Third. Samuel Nicholas Camp #23 Color Guard – 6 present guardsmen / open to all members. To be a member of the Chapter color guard requires an investment of \$400 to \$500 in colonial militia attire and a willingness to participate in various ceremonies including presentation of colors at Chapter lunch meetings.

Take the opportunity to familiarize yourself with the various categories and activities recognized in the U.S. Stark Awards Program Report and the Americanism Report. Doing so will reacquaint and / or inform you of the major initiatives that SAR supports, recognizes and encourages its members and Chapters to annually engage in. Help us be a better Chapter - volunteer to contribute!

For the most current information on upcoming meetings or for information and links to prior Chapter activity, visit us at www.fortlauderdale.org.

I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Chuck Adams
President, Treasurer and Registrar/Genealogist
Fort Lauderdale Chapter SAR

NEXT MEETING - February 17, 2024

Davie Outback Steak House
2725 South University Dr. Davie, Florida 33328

Future Dates:

- Saturday, 03/16/2024
- Saturday, 04/20/2024
- Saturday, 05/25/2024
- Saturday, 06/15/2024
- Saturday, 07/20/2024

Time: 11:30 AM social gathering; Lunch at noon

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL: 954-345-6276
or e-mail Chuck Adams at: chuckadams1808@gmail.com

**FLSSAR S.E. REGIONAL MEETING SUMMARY
JANUARY 20, 2024**

At the January 20, 2024, meeting we had 34 members, guests and a prospective member present with participation from all three chapters within the S.E. Region. Fort Lauderdale Members & Prospect (21): Chuck Adams ^{ca}, President, Tom Carpenter Jr, James Clark, Jason Clark, Blair Collins, Paul DeBold, Steve DePaul, Ted Duay, Martin Hollick, Eric Knott, James Lohmeyer, John Lohmeyer, Jim McHugh, Tim McLane ^{ca}, Barry Moss, John Sauerwald, Dave Scott, Kevin Shurte ^{ca}, Mark Snider ^{ca}, Pete Stevenson, and prospect, Paul Moore ^{ca}; Miami Members (7): William Wicks, S.E. Regional Vice President, George Wysong, President, Lee Popham, SAR Foundation President, Mathew Bunch, Ben Groff, John Yearwood, and junior member, Johnny Yearwood; West Palm Beach Members (2): Peter Johnston, President, and T.K. Krumenacker; and Guests (4): Craig Danto, Ellen Higginbotham, Lois King, and Christian Nunez-DePaul. The superscript ^{ca} records compatriots attending in colonial attire.

FLSSAR S.E. Regional Vice President, William "Bill" Wicks opened the meeting at 12:20 p.m. Ben Groff gave the Invocation. The Fort Lauderdale Color Guard was asked to advance the colors. Kevin Shurte, lead the color guard composed of Tim McLane, Mark Snider and Paul Moore in the Presentation of Colors. Chuck Adams led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. T.K. Krumenacker led the assembly in the SAR Pledge. Bill Wicks led the assembly in self-introductions.

Chapter reports were given. For Miami, Chapter President George Wysong said that they have 96 members and an active color guard. For Fort Lauderdale, Chapter President Chuck Adams said that they had 75 members. He went on to outline many of the chapters 2023 accomplishments. For West Palm Beach, Chapter President Peter Johnston said that they have over 185 members. He went on to outline the major programs that the chapter typically supports, and he encouraged members from the other chapters to consider attending one of their upcoming lunch meetings.

The 2024 Fort Lauderdale Chapter Officers, present, were inducted by S.E. Regional Vice President, Bill Wicks. The inducted Fort Lauderdale Officers: Chuck Adams, President, Treasurer & Registrar/Genealogist; Steve DePaul, Vice President; Mark Snider, Secretary; Kevin Shurte, Historian; and Tim McLane, Chaplin. Not present, Joe Motes, Editor. Bill Wicks also presented the West Palm Beach Chapter with their 2023 Partners in Patriotism Recognition Certificate.

New Member Inductions. S.E. Regional Vice President, Bill Wicks inducted the recently approved new members present. For Miami, John Yearwood. For Fort Lauderdale, Blair Collins and Eric Knott. Chapter representatives assisting in the presentation: George Wysong & Lee Popham, and Chuck Adams & Ted Duay.

Fort Lauderdale Chapter President, Chuck Adams presented SAR Foundation President, Lee Popham a check totaling \$1,776 for the Chapter's annual contribution to the SAR Education Center and Museum Project. He stated that the Chapter started this initiative in 2023 and it plans to continue its annual donation until at least the 2026 opening of the museum. He said that this year 17 members contributed to the 2024 initiative. Lee Popham provided an overview of the SAR Education Center and Museum Project. He said that construction on the museum component is on schedule for the July 2026 opening of the SAR Museum.

Kevin Shurte presented the 250 Anniversary Recognition Program Report entitled "*The Golden Hill Riot - January 19, 1770*".

After announcements of upcoming events and good of the order announcements, Peter Johnston led the assembly in the SAR Recessional. Ben Groff gave the Benediction.

FLSSAR S.E. Regional Vice President, William "Bill" Wicks adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.



Fort Lauderdale Color Guardsmen - Presentation of Colors from left: Kevin Shurte, Paul Scott, Tim McLane, & Mark Snider.



New Member Inductions from left: Lee Popham, George Wysong, junior member John Yearwood, inductee John Yearwood, inductee Eric Knotts, inductee Blair Collins, Chuck Adams, and Bill Wicks.



Fort Lauderdale Chapter Officer's Induction from left: Chuck Adams, Steve DePaul, Mark Snider, Kevin Shurte, Tim McLane and Bill Wicks.



Fort Lauderdale Chapter Donation of \$1,776 to the SAR Museum Project from left: Chuck Adams and Lee Popham.



250 Anniversary Recognition Program Report: Kevin Shurte.

AMERICA 250
THE FRANCO-AMERICAN ALLIANCE - FEBRUARY 6, 1778

By Kevin Shurte

School children everywhere learn of Lord Cornwallis' surrender at the Battle of Yorktown – a surrender that fundamentally ended the fighting of the American Revolution. Yet this secession of hostilities did not come about solely at the hands of the Continentals, under the command of General George Washington, but resulted from years of cooperation and collaboration between French and American forces against a common foe.

In the aftermath of defeat to the British in the French and Indian War, the French government desperately sought means by which to humiliate and retaliate against its longtime enemy. Early on, the French began infiltrating Colonial America, attempting to gauge the level of societal discontentment with British rule. After open hostilities began between the colonists and British regulars at the Battles of Lexington and Concord, the French immediately commenced to surreptitiously funnel financial aid and military supplies to the American rebels through the Spanish holding company, Roderigue Hortalez and Company. This support proved essential in sustaining the Continentals early in the fight.

Numerous French volunteers also assisted during the opening years of the conflict. Some fought for fame and fortune. Others fought to secure the promise of a new form of government based on liberty and equality. The Marquis de Lafayette is the best-known among those Franco volunteers. A French nobleman, Lafayette arrived in America in 1777 and was appointed the rank of major general in the Continental Army despite his lack of combat experience. Serving with distinction at the Battle of Brandywine on September 11, 1777, Lafayette soon commanded his own division and came to develop a strong and lasting friendship with General George Washington.

While the covert aid France provided was valuable, its overt aid would prove invaluable to the cause of American independence. By 1776, the Continental Congress had established diplomatic relations with France, mostly notably, through the efforts of Benjamin Franklin. As Ambassador to France, Franklin and others sought to gain official recognition from and alliance with France's ruling house of Bourbon. However, the monarchy required assurance that America was worthy of its support. This assurance came on October 17, 1777, following Gates' victory over Burgoyne at Saratoga. After years of supplying the Continental Army through backchannels, on February 6, 1778, France and America signed two treaties in which France officially recognized America as an independent nation, established commerce, and entered a military alliance against Great Britain.

The Franco-American Alliance of 1778 altered the course of America's war for independence. In 1778 and 1779, the French Fleet began pressing the British at Newport, Rhode Island and Savannah, Georgia, respectively. In 1780, approximately 6,000 French troops arrived in Rhode Island under the command of Rochambeau. These French forces combined with Washington's Continentals and completed a 14-week march from Newport, Rhode Island to Yorktown, Virginia where they and the French Fleet snared Cornwallis' army and secured America's liberty.

Most historians agree about the impact the Franco-American Alliance had on the outcome of the American Revolution. France's entry into the conflict not only provided essential aid to the Continental war effort in North America but also sparked the Anglo-French War of 1778 which allied France, Spain, and the Netherlands against a common adversary – Great Britain. The Bourbon War, as it is also called, forced Britain to reconsider its position in the American colonies and reallocate its resources to protect its colonial holdings in the West Indies, India, and the Mediterranean. By forcing Britain to divert finances and manpower away from its war effort in the 13 American colonies, the Franco-American Alliance of 1778 ensured a French and American victory over the British in North America.

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**2023 STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES,
AND CHANGE IN OPERATING ACCOUNT BALANCE**

The following statement reports how 2023 activities, functions and programs were funded through the collection and disbursement of resources allocated to the Chapter's operating account.

Fort Lauderdale Chapter SAR 2023 Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Change in Operating Account Balance	<i>Chapter Proceeds</i>	<i>FLSSAR Grant</i>	<i>Private Donations</i>	Total
Revenues				
Chapter Dues, Fees & Reinstatements, combined	1,815	-	-	1,815
NSSAR & FLSSAR and Chapter Dues	4,411	-	-	4,411
Chapter Member Donations	4,194	-	-	4,194
Corporate & Other Donations	-	2,496	3,954	6,450
Transfers-in from Savings	1,000	-	-	1,000
Total Revenue & Transfers	11,420	2,496	3,954	17,870
Expenditures				
Youth Pograms				
C.A.R Support, includes meals	445	1,013	-	1,458
Boy Scout Council Support	25	75	-	100
JROTC Unit Support	13	37	-	50
JROTC & Sea Cadets Medals & Certificates	21	897	-	918
Subtotal - Youth	504	2,022	-	2,526
Veteran Support Programs				
Wreaths Across America	734	-	204	938
Nininger Home Tangible Property	138	413	-	551
Honor Flights Program Donation	-	-	650	650
Subtotal - Veterans Support	872	413	854	2,139
Community Service Organizations				
Broward Outreach Center	-	-	210	210
Tomorrow's Rainbow (C.A.R. Match)	-	-	250	250
Subtotal - Community Support	-	-	460	460
Public Service Medals, includes meals	11	62	-	73
1776 Education Center & Museum Project	1,776	-	-	1,776
Color Guard Equipment & Support	-	-	326	326
Liberty Tree Dedication Program	-	-	535	535
FLSSAR Ladies Auxilliary	128	-	-	128
SAR Member Medals, Certificates & Supplies	1,802	-	-	1,802
2024 NSSAR & FLSSAR Dues	4,466	-	-	4,466
Other Operating Expense & Adjustments	218	-	-	218
Transfers-out to Savings	2,000	-	-	2,000
Subtotal - Other Exense & Transfers	10,401	62	861	11,324
Total Expense & Transfers	11,777	2,496	2,175	16,449
Change in Operating Account Balance				
Beginning Year	5,469	-	-	5,469
Ending Year	5,112	-	1,779	6,891
Net Change - Increase / (Decrease)	(357)	-	1,779	1,422

2024 FORT LAUDERDALE CHAPTER SAR ADOPTED BUDGET

The Fort Lauderdale Chapter Executive Committee met on February 11, 2024, and adopted the 2024 Chapter Budget as presented below. As a reminder, our Bylaws requires the Executive Committee to prepare, adopt and present the budget by February of each calendar year. Throughout the year we periodically amend the budget to bring actual deposits and receipts in line with the budget.

FORT LAUDERDALE CHAPTER SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION BUDGET COMPARISON January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024					
		2022 ACTUAL	2023 ACTUAL	2024 BUDGET	
				ORIGINAL	AMENDED
SOURCES OF FUNDS					
Year Beginning Checking Balance		5,985	5,469	6,891	6,891
REVENUE					
New Applicant Dues, Fees & Reinstatements		525	455	335	335
Chapter Member Dues & Fees		1,100	1,360	1,560	1,560
FLSSAR & NSSAR Dues & Fees		3,040	4,411	4,410	4,410
Chapter Member Donations		2,459	4,194	2,300	2,300
Corporate & Other Donations		-	3,954	1,500	1,500
FLSSAR Grant Reimbursements		1,696	2,496	2,500	2,500
CD or Bond Investment Proceeds		19,730	-	-	-
Subtotal - Revenue		28,550	16,870	12,605	12,605
Transfers-In from Savings		326	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total Sources		34,860	23,339	20,496	20,496
USES OF FUNDS					
EXPENSE					
Organizational Expense					
State & National Dues & Fees		5,390	4,466	4,410	4,410
Florida Annual Report		123	61	61	61
Bank Fees & Charges		12	73	73	73
Non-Member Programs & Contributions					
Swamp Fox C.A.R. & Compensated Meals		1,200	1,458	750	750
Kids-Helping-Kids Organization (C.A.R. Match)		-	250	250	250
Boy Scout Council & Eagle Scouts		100	100	100	100
Middle School Brochure Contest		-	-	350	350
JROTC Unit Support & SAR Medal Awards		100	785	940	940
FLSSAR Lady Auxiliary		-	128	200	200
Nininger Nursing Home Support		-	551	667	667
Honor Flights of South Florida		-	650	1,000	1,000
Wreaths Across America		150	938	500	500
Liberty Tree Dedication Program		-	535	1,000	1,000
Public Service Awards & Compensated Meals		-	73	100	100
Community Service Organizations Support		-	210	-	-
SAR Foundation - Eductaion Center & Museum		-	1,776	1,776	1,776
Operating Expense & Supplies					
Color Guard Equipment & Support		-	326	800	800
SAR Medals, Certificates & Supplies, excludes non-member		1,591	1,802	1,500	1,500
SAR Magazine Meeting Notice Ad		-	30	30	30
Postage and Other Operating Supplies		36	217	150	150
Compensated Meals, General		94	-	-	-
Website Hosting, Licensing & Apps		326	20	20	20
Subtotal Expense		9,121	14,449	14,677	14,677
Transfers-Out to Savings		20,269	2,000	-	-
Total Uses		29,390	16,449	14,677	14,677
Year Ending Checking Balance		5,469	6,890	5,819	5,819
Savings account opening balances					
		20,250	10,346	1,349	1,349
Deposits & Interest		3	3	2	2
Disbursement (I-Bond Purchases)		(9,600)	(10,000)	-	-
Net Transfers from / (to) checking		(307)	1,000	-	-
Year Ending Savings Balance		10,346	1,349	1,351	1,351
Investments in U.S. Treasury I-Bonds					
Chapter I-Bond Principle Purchases = \$3,500		3,000	500	-	-
Chapter Accrued Interest: \$392.40					
Chapter Cummulative Balance: \$3,892.40					
Trust Estate I-Bond Principle Purchases = \$16,100		6,600	9,500	-	-
Trust Estate Accrued Interest: \$980.32					
Trust Estate Cumulative Balance: \$17,080.32					



SAR MEMBER PROFILE Ken Williams
By Chuck Adams

Q. Ok Ken, can you tell us a little bit about yourself?

A. I was born in Huntington, West Virginia in 1959. Raised in Fort Lauderdale, I have resided in Broward County for the past fifty-six years. Currently, I live in The Town of Davie where I have resided for the past twenty-seven years. I graduated from Barry University with a bachelor's degree in public administration.

Q. What is or was your occupation?

A. I was a firefighter/paramedic. Thirty of my thirty-six years in Fire / Emergency Medical Services were served in Miami-Dade County Fire Rescue (MDFR). I retired in 2018 with the rank of Battalion Chief. In addition, I was a member of FEMA's Urban Search and Rescue Task Force with Florida Task Force 1 (FL-TF1). We responded to natural disasters such as hurricane response and building collapse. In 2011, our team deployed to provide search and rescue efforts in the aftermath of the Haiti earthquake. Also, I served as a rescue diver for thirty years with MDFR.

Q. Can you tell us about some of your recreational interests?

A. I enjoy nature photography. I also enjoy inshore fishing in Everglades National Park and the Florida Bay. In addition, I like camping and hiking.

Q. How about your family?

A. I am currently in a relationship with a wonderful woman. I have two children, one of which is Konnor Williams who is in Paramedic school to become a firefighter / paramedic. He also was recently approved as a member of SAR. My daughter, Emily, just graduated from Broward College and is looking forward to continuing her education.

Q. Who is your Patriot ancestor?

A. My patriot is William Lawson Jr. As a private, he served in 1779 for three months in a North Carolina militia regiment. Subsequently, in 1781, he served another three months in another North Carolina militia regiment. He was granted a pension in 1832. He died in Scott County, Virginia on 30 Jan 1852, age about 89.

Q. Do you plan to contribute to and help with Chapter develop, retain and attract members, or recognize others consistent with SAR programs?

A. Yes. Currently, I am serving as Chapter meeting photographer, and will help in other ways as I can.

Thanks, Ken, for sharing.



SAR MEMBER PROFILE Konnor Williams
By Chuck Adams

Q. Ok Konnor, can you tell us a little bit about yourself?

A. I was born in 2001 in Hollywood, Florida. I am a life-long resident of The Town of Davie where I graduated from Western High School. While in high school, I participated for four years in the JROTC Program.

Q. What is your occupation?

A. I am a full time student at this time. I am a Nationally Registered EMT, and I am currently enrolled in the Paramedic Program at Broward College. My career path is to become a Firefighter / Paramedic.

Q. Can you tell us about some of your recreational interests?

A. Currently, I have no time for much of anything other than classroom work, hospital clinicals, rescue ride time and lab. However, when time permits, I enjoy photography, fishing, and being outdoors. Also, raising and spending time with our Great Pyrenees dog named BAM is a daily pleasure.

Q. How about your family?

A. I am currently engaged to my girlfriend of four years.

Q. Who is your Patriot ancestor?

A. William Lawson Jr., a private who served in the North Carolina militia.

Thanks, Konnor, for sharing.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb 29 to Mar 2, 2024	SAR Spring Leadership, Louisville, KY
Mar 16, 2024	Last Naval Battle Ceremony, Merrit Island, FL
Mar 23, 2024	Battle of Thomas Creek Ceremony, Jacksonville, FL
Apr 13, 2024	Honor Flights of South Florida, FLL International Airport
May 8, 2024	Battle of Pensacola Commemoration, Pensacola, FL
May 17-18, 2024	Spring BOM, Kissimmee, FL
Jun 1, 2024	Honor Flights of South Florida, FLL International Airport
Jul 10-16, 2024	134 th National Congress, Lancaster, PA
Sep 7, 2024	Honor Flights of South Florida, FLL International Airport
Oct 11-12, 2024	Fall BOM, Kissimmee, FL
Oct 26, 2024	Honor Flights of South Florida, FLL International Airport
Dec 17, 2024	Wreaths Across America, Pompano Beach, FL