



# The Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

## Fort Lauderdale Chapter Newsletter

**Next Meeting -- Tower Club, in the C & S Building (Parking inside is \$ 2.00 )**

**DATE :** THURSDAY FEBRUARY 11, 1993

**TIME :** SOCIAL - 11:30 am LUNCH - 12:00 Noon

**COST :** \$ 11.00 per PERSON

For RESERVATIONS : Call Wally Floyd's secretary (California Federal)

by **11:00am TUESDAY, Feb. 9th at 566-9705.**

(Reservations can be made until 11am, Wednesday, by calling 564-2813 )

**PROGRAM :** *Dr. William Evans will speak to us on:*

### **" The Dead Sea Scrolls "**

*Our speaker attended Princeton Theological Seminary and did graduate work in Edinburgh, Scotland. For about a year, he participated in studies conducted on the scrolls shortly after they were discovered. He has been a Pastor of Philadelphia and Ft. Lauderdale churches and presently is the Minister of the Church By The Sea. - - This meeting will offer a unique opportunity to learn more about these ancient documents and the often controversial interpretations.*

### **NEWS :**

- + It is with pleasure we announce SAR membership approvals for: Fred Topper and Clifford Weller. These compatriots will be notified and inducted as soon as their certificates are received.
- + Sympathy is extended to the families and friends of our recently departed compatriots: Frederick Snyder, Jr.; Winfield Mayne ; Edward Corson
- + Please give Wally Floyd any Chapter memorabilia you may have so that it can be properly cataloged and mounted for display at appropriate civic and SAR functions.
- + Give President Gib Buckbee, your recommendations of possible SAR Chapter awards for:
  - outstanding patriotic display of the American flag (individuals, organizations, business)
  - law enforcement commendation for distinctive and devoted service in the community
- + A 50/50 drawing has been initiated at the meetings whereby the winner gets 50% of the money collected from \$1 ticket sales. Take a chance !! Help your Treasury, and possibly defray your lunch cost...
- + Call or write the Secretary if you know anyone wanting information about SAR, our Chapter and/or desires a copy of the instructions and worksheet for application.
- + A new directory of Chapter members will be prepared soon. Be sure you have returned the 'Roster Update' form that was sent with the dues notice, and any recent changes.
- + Please note changes and options in reservation deadlines and the modest increase in meal prices.
- + We had good attendance last month, but had to crowd folks a bit to make room for those not making reservations; serving was also delayed. If at the last minute you find you can attend, PLEASE DO, but always try to make reservations by the above deadline when possible.



Hope to see you and your guests at the meeting ..



Please make reservations so adequate seating will be available.

*( Turn sheet over for a bit of history and trivia. )*

## Examples of True Commitment

The representatives of the colonies meeting in Philadelphia at the time of the Revolution mostly were men of means and well educated. Twenty-four were lawyers and jurists, nine farmers and large plantation owners. It has been said that it was a fortunate hour in our nation's history, one of those rare occasions in the lives of men when we had greatness to spare. Not many of us today can quote much from the Declaration of Independence, but a portion of the last paragraph is worth remembering because it had such significance and impact on those who were willing to sign that document....

*"We mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor."*

King George III had denounced all rebels in America as traitors, the punishment for which was hanging. The 56 men placing their names on that pledge knew they were risking everything, and they did, indeed, pay dearly. The names of those that signed the declaration even was kept secret for six months. -- While space doesn't allow the destinies of all fifty-six men to be recounted here, a sampling will certainly illustrate the deep patriotism and commitment they practiced. - - -

**Cartor Braxton** of VA was a wealthy planter and trader. He had all his ships swept from the seas and lost his home and property to pay his debts. He died in rags.

**Thomas Lynch, Jr.** was an aristocrat, with large plantations. After he signed, his health failed from the stress. With his wife, he set out for France to recuperate, and his ship was never heard of again.

**Thomas McKena** of Delaware was so harassed by the enemy that he had to move his family five times in five months. He served in Congress without pay, with his family in poverty and in hiding.

**Thomas Nelson, Jr.** of VA raised \$2 million on his own signature to provision our allies, the French fleet. After the war, he personally paid back the loans, wiping out his entire estate. The government never reimbursed him. -- In the final battle of Yorktown, Nelson urged Washington to fire on his own home, which was occupied by Cornwallis. It was destroyed. He died bankrupt and buried in an unmarked grave.

**Francis Lewis** had his home and everything destroyed and his wife imprisoned. She died within months.

**Richard Stockton** was captured, mistreated, and health broken. He died at 51.

**John Hart** was driven from the bedside of his dying wife. Their 13 children fled in all directions and his fields and mill laid waste. He lived in forests and caves for over a year. After the war his children and property were gone; he died in a few weeks of exhaustion and a broken heart.

**John Hancock**, whose sweeping signature attests to his vanity, was one of the wealthiest men in New England. He stood outside Boston one night and said, "burn Boston, though it makes John Hancock a beggar, if the public good requires it". He, too, lived up to the pledge.

Of the 56, few were long to survive. Five were captured by the British, tortured and died. Twelve had homes sacked, looted, occupied by the enemy or burned. Nine others died in the war from various causes.

So now you know **THE REST OF THE STORY !!** ----- by *Paul Harvey* (a synopsis)