



The Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

Fort Lauderdale Chapter Newsletter

Next Meeting – Tower Club, 28th Floor of the Nations Bank Building

1 Financial Tower, SE Third Avenue & Broward Blvd. (Parking inside building is \$ 2.00)

DATE: THURSDAY, JULY 8, 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**, July 6th, at **566-9705**.

PROGRAM : " Sons of the American Revolution "

Our speaker will be Dr. Arthur Chapman, Professor of History at the University of Miami ('pronounced 'Miama' by some), and also State President of the Florida Society of SAR . His subject will deal with the history and other events of the SAR, as well as provide an insight to current activities from the vantage point of his background and position. President Chapman never fails to provide an interesting, informative and entertaining talk, as evidenced by the good attendance at past such opportunities. -- Don't miss this one !

+++ Come !! Bring your friends !! +++

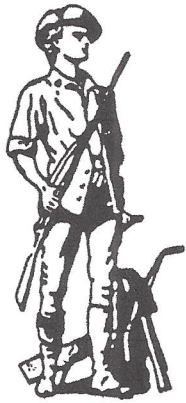
NEWS :

- + At the June meeting, the Chapter presented an SAR commendation to Mr. Mark Waite, of Wilton Manors, in recognition of his patriotic and respectful display and handling of the American flag at his home. - If you know of other persons or businesses who display our flag in an exceptional manner for patriotic purposes, please let one of your Chapter Officers know.
- + The availability of Life memberships was mentioned in the June newsletter, however, it failed to emphasize that this will eliminate the payment of all future SAR National dues, which are currently \$17 per year.
- + A representative of the DAR has informed us that members of our Chapter will be invited to attend their Constitution Day Luncheon Meeting in September. Details will follow, but you can make tentative plans.
- + Several of our Chapter members attended the 103rd Annual Congress in Phoenix on June 12-16. There will be some interesting reports and stories to share at this luncheon meeting.

☞ 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.)



DID YOU KNOW ?



The Mystery of Patrick Ferguson

Born in Scotland in 1744, Patrick Ferguson enlisted in the British army very early and became a specialist in firearms. "Brown Bess," the standard British weapon of the era, was cumbersome and inaccurate. The fourteen-pound piece had an effective range of about eighty yards.

Ferguson developed a light-weight, breech-loading weapon that he hoped would win the world for Britain. It weighed only seven and a half pounds, fired six shots per minute, and had an effective range of three hundred yards—nearly four times that of the "Brown Bess" that took its name from Queen Elizabeth.

Ferguson gave a special demonstration before King George III and made such an impressive showing that he won a royal commission sending him to North America to recruit and train a sharpshooters' corps. Attached to Howe's force, Ferguson's little band of riflemen—far the most deadly in the entire British Army—marched into Pennsylvania in September, 1776.

On September 7 Ferguson and three of his sharpshooters were ranging far ahead of British lines. They heard horses coming and took cover. Soon they spotted two approaching rebels—one mounted on a bay horse and wearing "a remarkable cocked hat." Ferguson had never seen George Washington face to face, but woodcuts and prints of the rebel commander were plentiful.

The British officer signaled his men to prepare to fire—then suddenly reversed his decision. George Washington and his aide trotted casually out of range. Ferguson later wrote that he "could have lodged half of dozen of balls in or about him before he was out my reach." Why didn't he? The nearest he ever came to explaining why he let Washington live was that "it is not pleasant to fire at a man's back." Disregarding the mission for which he had come to America and restrained by factors he himself never made articulate, Patrick Ferguson changed the course of history by holding his fire.