



The Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution



Fort Lauderdale Chapter Newsletter

website: www.fortlauderdale.org

Facebook page: Fort Lauderdale Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

JUNE 2023

Fort Lauderdale Chapter chartered December 8, 1966

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Compatriots and Friends,

As reported last month, all of our new member applications that were in the NSSAR pipeline have been approved. I am working aggressively with three prospects to submit their applications later this month or in early July – Jim McHugh, Peter DeWick and Lincoln Pero. I also recently received a couple of referrals that look promising if the prospects follow through to the next step.

The Chapter Color Guard is considered formed on May 19, 2023. That date was the first day of the 2023 Spring BOM at which Compatriot Kevin Shurte attended in militia attire and participated with the Florida Sons of Liberty Brigades' presentation of colors. The Color Guard Committee, that I chair, still needs to select the name of our "Camp" and finalize administrative and operational procedures. The Chapter compatriots that have purchased militia attire are: Tom Carpenter Jr, Steve De Paul, Mark Snider, Kevin Shurte, and Tim McLane. I will join their ranks shortly and Rick Kidder and Ed Sisson both intend to get involved. If there are other Chapter members that wish to participate - let me know.

I can also announce that Joe Motes has stepped down as Chapter Historian. Joe Motes will continue as Chapter Editor of the Newsletter and Facebook Page. I have appointed Kevin Shurte to serve as the Acting Historian as we work through the formal approval process. Kevin will contribute an article to appear in future newsletters that recognizes the "250th Anniversary Recognition Program" and describes a particular Revolutionary War Era event that occurred in the month of our publication between the years of 1764 to 1783. A brief summation will be provided at each Chapter meeting.

Last month, I announced that Joe Motes is planning a move to the Jacksonville area and expects to leave us by the end of this summer. A "Help Wanted" article was published in the May 2023 Newsletter describing the many duties that Joe performs. We still need a Chairman of the JROTC/Sea Cadet Awards Program. The person will administer the program and coordinate with other members to represent the Chapter and present awards typically occurring between the months of April and June. If you have an interest or just want more information – let me know.

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 and Registrar/Genealogist
Fort Lauderdale Chapter SAR

IN MEMORIUM

Compatriot Manson "Earl" Higginbotham, age 88, of Cooper City, Florida passed away on Tuesday, June 6, 2023, at Memorial Hospital West in Pembroke Pines, Florida. He was born on February 15, 1935, in Woodbine, Georgia.

He served in the United States Armed Forces from 1953 to 1975 retiring at the rank of Sergeant, First Class. For nine and one-half years he served with the United States Marine Corp and then he transferred to the United States Army. Upon enlistment, he started his military career serving in Korea. Later he served three tours of duty in Vietnam. He received numerous decorations for his service. Following his military career served as a Police Officer with North Miami Beach Police Department, where he not only was a patrol officer but also was their helicopter pilot retiring in 1989.

Earl was active in his community and a life-long philanthropist. He was a Past Master of North Shore Masonic Lodge, member of West Broward Masonic Lodge, a 33 Degree Scottish Rite Mason Valley of Miami, Past Potentate of Mahi Shine Temple, a DeMolay Chapter Dad, IORG Advisor, Jobs Daughters Associate Bethel Guardian, a member of the American Legion Post 321, member of the Sons of the American Revolution and Mr. Cooper City 2018.

He is survived by his wife of nearly 44 years Ellen Higginbotham and their daughter Danielle Higginbotham (Dominic Haywood). He is also survived by son Manson Scott Higginbotham (Cara Higginbotham), daughter Sherly Carey (Bill Carey), his brother Milton Wallace Higginbotham II (Peggy Higginbotham), grandson Finley Haywood, granddaughter Tanya Singer (Trevor Hoffman) and great grand children Ajay and Riley, and an unmeasurable amount of friends.

A funeral service for Manson will be held Saturday, June 17, 2023, from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at 4366 - Forest Lawn Funeral Home, 2401 Southwest 64th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33317.

For his complete obituary, see [Manson Higginbotham Obituary - Fort Lauderdale, FL \(dignitymemorial.com\)](http://www.dignitymemorial.com)

NEXT MEETING - JUNE 17, 2023

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

Future Dates:

Saturday, 07/29/2023
Saturday, 09/16/2023
Saturday, 10/21/2023
Saturday, 11/18/2023

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

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

2023 SPRING BOARD OF MANAGEMENT (BOM) MEETING

By Chuck Adams with assistance from Kevin Shurte

The Florida Society Spring BOM was held May 19-20, 2023. I attended along with Steve De Paul and Kevin Shurte. I enjoyed going and will definitely go again. Here is a brief overview.

The first day (May 19th) consisted of several informational sessions and concluded with the Awards Banquet. On the second day (May 20th), the spring business and annual meetings of the Florida Society were held, and the day concluded with the Installation of Officers Banquet. This conference was considered a national event because President General C. Bruce Pickette was in attendance along with other national officers. Both banquets were opened with the presentation of colors by the Florida Colored Guard. Our Chapter member in period attire, Kevin Shurte, was invited to carry in the State Flag at both banquets. At the Awards Banquet, the Chapter was awarded second place for mid-size chapters in the 2022 Chapter Challenge. At the Installation Banquet, the Chapter contributed a basket to the Florida Ladies Auxiliary for their raffle. This is one of their standard fundraisers. They use the proceeds to grant cash awards and scholarships in the various youth programs that they participate in at the State level. Ironically, Steve De Paul won our basket of Jameson Wiskey and 1792 Bourbon.

The informational sessions held on May 19th included separate presentations on the importance of maintaining relations with the local C.A.R and the DAR. Participation with the C.A.R. can help chapters recruit C.A.R. male youth members to join the SAR as a junior member. For the DAR, developing relations with the local chapters to both participate in or cosponsor events was suggested. Again, the emphasis was on soliciting their membership for referrals of sons or grandsons who may wish to join the SAR. The Veterans Affairs session was cancelled but one of the State committee members held an informal discussion. Through this gentleman, he put me in contact with the Chairman of the NSSAR Veteran's Committee. Several days and multiple e-mails later resulted in the approval of Mark Snider as Representative and me as Deputy Representative to the volunteer's support committee (CDCE/VAVS) for the Broward VA Outpatient Clinic.

On May 19th a separate annual meeting was conducted by the Society of the War of 1812 in the State of Florida. It was interesting to learn that you do not need a direct line ancestor who fought in this war in order to join this lineage society.

As an example, your connection can be through a great...grand uncle as opposed to a great... grandfather.

On May 20th the Florida Society held its annual Spring Youth Awards Luncheon recognizing outstanding achievement among Florida youth. Kevin Shurte attended for our Chapter and provided this summary. "Following the opening ceremonies led by outgoing FLSSAR president Earl "Matt" Mathews, the FLSSAR and the Ladies' Auxiliary presented various trophies, achievement certificates, and cash awards in the amounts of \$1000, \$500, and \$200 to this year's winners of the Eagle Scout, Knight Essay, Historical Oration, and Enhanced JROTC contests. Officials also announced that the winner of the JROTC state award will be presented with the national award at this summer's NSSAR Congress being held in Orlando. Winners of the Elementary School Poster and Middle School Brochure contests were also announced after having been voted on the previous day by attending FLSSAR delegates."

At the May 20th business meetings, the primary outcome was the nomination and election of officers which are now posted on www.FLSSAR.org.

Some key takeaways:

Anyone volunteering to work on youth programs such as the C.A.R., Boy Scouts, etc. and the Color Guard are to take the online NSSAR Youth Protection Training course. Your certificate of approval is good for two years. A copy is to be e-mailed to the Florida Secretary of State and the Chapter President.

Going forward, newly approved Chapter members who provide a copy of their DD-214 will receive a medal and certificate for military or war time service from the Florida Society. A brief application transmitting the DD-214 to the Society's Committee Chairman of Veterans Affairs is all that is required.

A proposal will be considered at the 133rd Congress to raise national annual dues from \$35 to \$50. There has not been a national dues increase for 15 years. NSSAR has been running at breakeven or in deficit for some years as nationwide membership non-renewals run at about the same rate as new members added. Prior to Covid, NSSAR had about a 3% growth rate but now growth is flat or declining. The increase in fees will not only fix the budget deficiency but allow for the funding of some other initiatives. On approval, the change will take effect immediately upon the July 20, 2023 close of the congress.



Kevin Shurte during the BOM.



250 ANNIVERSARY RECOGNITION

By Chuck Adams

The following paraphrases SAR rules and guidelines on its 250 Anniversary of the American Revolution Recognition Program. *The recognition program is designed to encourage and recognize those compatriots, chapters and societies that participate in local, state, national and international events which publicly educate, and recognize, honor, and celebrate the events and heroes of the period surrounding the American Revolution. Participation involves the planning and execution of these events, as well as attendance. The celebration of any event's 250th anniversary where said event related directly to acts of resistance to British attempts to coerce the residents in America: from the first Parliamentary Acts protested after the conclusion of the French and Indian Wars, through the armed struggle of the American War for Independence, to the ratification of the Treaty of Paris by the Continental Congress. This, therefore, will cover any public celebrations in the anniversary period from 2014 to 2033, or in the historic context, events occurring between 1764 to 1783.*

The Battle of Bunker Hill

Our next Chapter lunch meeting being held on June 17th has “250” significance. The Battle of Bunker Hill was fought 248 years ago on June 17, 1775. As hostilities with the British were ramping up, it occurred during the siege of Boston at Charlestown overlooking the Boston Harbor. British General Thomas Gage was in control of Boston and was attempting to secure Boston Harbor as a port of entry for troops, armaments and supplies. Leading up to the battle, at least 1,000 colonial troops commanded by Colonel Warren Prescott had occupied and fortified Breed’s Hill which is immediately adjacent to Bunker Hill. The entire site comprising the two hills is now collectively referred to as Bunker Hill. The objective of the Americans was to deny the British unopposed control of Boston Harbor which was vulnerable to artillery fire from Bunker-Breed Hills as well as Dorchester Heights on the southeast side of Boston. The British launched throughout the day and early evening three frontal assaults taking significant casualties estimated at 1,000 compared to 450 Americans. The colonial troops had run out of ammunition during the third assault and exercised an orderly retreat giving the British a tactical victory. At the conclusion of the engagement, the continental troops lost General Joseph Warren who was not in command and was fighting as a volunteer. At the time, he was an important patriot and leader in the Sons of Liberty. Through their frontal assaults, the British had suffered the loss of numerous commissioned officers estimated at 89. For the Americans, the battle was significant since it proved to the British the worth and resolve of the colonial militias. While a tactical victory, it was not a strategic win. The British delayed and put on hold their plans to fortify Dorchester Heights. When General George Washington arrived some two weeks later to take command of the Continental Army, he realized its significance. Once he was able to assemble sufficient arms and artillery, he took the undefended Dorchester Heights in March 1776. This then forced the British to abandon Boston since without unopposed control of the harbor it no longer had strategic importance. The British would next take up positions in and around New York City and its harbor – but that is another story.

Sources: [Battle of Bunker Hill - Wikipedia](#); and [Battle of Bunker Hill | Facts, Map, Summary, & Significance | Britannica](#)

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING SUMMARY—
MAY 13, 2023**

At our May 13, 2023, meeting we had 18 members and 9 guests. **Members (18):** Chuck Adams, President & Registrar/Genealogist; Steve De Paul, Vice President; Pete Stevenson, Acting Secretary; Joe Motes, Treasurer & Historian/Editor; Tim McLane, Acting Chaplain; Robert C. Bowling; R. Collier Bowling Jr; Tom Carpenter Jr; Paul DeBold; Ted Duay; Martin Hollick; Rick Kidder Jr; Allen Manning; Scott Moore; Barry Moss; Tom Shepherd; Kevin Shurte; and Michael Spear. **Prospective Members / Guests (9):** Jim McHugh, Prospect; Lincoln Pero, Prospect; Ronna Adams; Michele Manning; Serena Mesa; Katy Peterson, C.A.R.; Kyle Peterson, C.A.R.; Mary Margaret Langford, C.A.R.; and Colleen Langford C.A.R.

Chuck Adams gave the report on membership. He welcomed Jim McHugh and Lincoln Pero as new prospects and indicated that he was also working with Gary Van Sciver who was unable to attend. He said that year-to-date our membership has increased from 59 to 72 with an additional transfer-in of Ronald Goodale pending SAR approval. He said that the May 2023 Newsletter formalized the announcement by Joe Motes of his plan to move to Jacksonville by the end of this summer. The newsletter contains a "Help Wanted" article describing the various duties that Joe performs and asks members to consider volunteering to assume some of the responsibilities.

In the absence of Mark Snider, Peter Stevenson reported on the Executive Committee's zoom meeting held on May 8, 2023. With all members present, the resignation of Jim Lohmeyer as Chaplin was accepted. A **Motion** was made by Chuck Adams and seconded by Tom Shepherd appointing Tim McLane to serve as Chaplin during the 2023 unexpired term of Jim Lohmeyer, subject to the final approval of the general membership at its scheduled meeting of May 13, 2023. Unanimously approved.

Pete Stevenson gave Mark Snider's report on the Veterans Support and US Stark Memorial Award Committee. Among other things Mark is working with the coordinator of the Nininger Veterans' Nursing Home to identify items which are needed that the Chapter can assist with. He also plans for the Chapter to sponsor a Donut Saturday on June 24th at 10:30 a.m. He stated that on May 29, 2023, the City of Fort Lauderdale will hold a Memorial Day Ceremony at the Lauderdale Memorial Park Cemetery.

Steve De Paul gave an update on Fundraising, and Joe Motes gave the status of funds report. Joe also said that when he moves to Jacksonville, he will remain a member of this Chapter and will continue to help with things that he can do remotely. He particularly would like compatriots interested in taking on the JROTC and Sea Cadet medal and certificate program to let him know so he can help with the transition while he is still here locally.

A **Motion** was introduced by Chuck Adams, made by Pete Stevenson and seconded by Tom Shepherd to elect Tim McLane to serve as 2023 Chapter Chaplin for the unexpired term of Jim Lohmeyer. Unanimously approved.

Kyle Peterson, the newly elected President of the Swamp Fox Society C.A.R., reported on Swamp Fox activities over the past year and plans for the coming year. During 2023-24, the State and local societies will raise funds to support the Clearwater Marine Institute's research to save the endangered Right Whales. Kyle concluded by recognizing and thanking Joe Motes for his years of service to the Swamp Fox Society. Coleen Langford introduced herself as the Immediate Past President. She stated that they would welcome children and grandchildren from the Chapter to attend their meetings and join the C.A.R.

Chuck Adams presented C.A.R. representatives Kyle Peterson and Colleen Langton the Chapter's check for \$350 stating that it is the first of our two annual donations which will total \$700.

Chuck Adams inducted Robert C. Bowling and his son, R. Collier Bowling, Jr, welcoming them into the Chapter. Ted Duay assisted with the presentation of their Rosette. Chuck Adams also presented the SAR Membership Award Certificate and Pin to Allen Manning (25 years) and Ted Duay (20 years).

Chuck Adams presented a certificate and medal for war time service to: Thomas Carpenter Jr (U.S. Navy - Vietnam), Rick Kidder Jr (U.S. Navy – Iraq, Southwest Asia & Global War on Terrorism), and Tim McLane (U.S. Air Force – Saudi Arabia/Southwest Asia).

Under unfinished and new business, Chuck Adams provided the update on the efforts to form a Chapter Color Guard which should be finalized after his return from the Florida Spring BOM being held May 19-20, 2023.

To read the complete set of minutes of the May 13, 2023, members meeting, open the document sent to you by e-mail, or review it at the archives subpage for minutes and agendas maintained at the Chapter website: www.fortlauderdale.sar.org .

ANNIVERSARIES

At the May 13, 2023, General Membership Meeting, we recognized the following SAR Membership Anniversaries:

25 Years – Allen C. Manning, Compatriot since 25 Sep 1997
20 Years – Theodore "Ted" M. Duay III, Compatriot since 19 Jun 2003.

After reviewing our rolls, the following Compatriots with uninterrupted SAR membership are being mailed their certificate during the month of June 2023:

25 Years – Andrew Lee Lewis, Compatriot since 5 Nov 1997.
25 Years – David Thomas Stoke, Compatriot since 1 Apr 1998.
15 Years – David Thomas Stoke Jr, Compatriot since 5 Dec 2007.
10 Years - William Wright Zimmer, Compatriot since 23 Mar 2012.
10 Years - Gregory William Zimmer, Compatriot since 27 Sep 2012.

5 Years – James Hargess Clark, Compatriot since 15 Sep 2017.
5 Years – Jason James Clark, Compatriot since 15 Sep 2017.

Going forward, we shall attempt to recognize anniversaries in five-year increments in or shortly after the month in which they occur.



**SAR Member Profile -
Scott A. Moore
Interviewed by Chuck Adams**

Q. Ok, Scott, tell us a little bit about yourself.

A. I was born in 1967 in Pittsburgh, PA, and moved to Belgium with my family when I was seven. I developed my affinity for languages overseas while at school in Belgium. I returned to the U.S. as a teenager and graduated from Dick-

inson College. I then went to the University of South Carolina for my M.B.A.

Q. Tell us about your occupation, and some of your recreational interests.

A. I worked at Hewlett-Packard in Finance and Operations for the duration of my career. I used to play soccer and enjoy following that sport. I am an avid cyclist and golfer. My youngest son got the golfing bug and I enjoy taking him to tournaments around the state and out of state over the last few years.

Q. How about your family?

A. My wife, Lynne, and I are old friends from Pittsburgh. We met in our church youth group and then reconnected some 15 years later. We married in 1998 and this year marks our 25th anniversary. Our boys are Justin, age 23, who is a Purdue graduate, and Brett, age 17, who will be starting his senior year at Archbishop McCarthy High School.

Q. Who is your Patriot ancestor?

A. My fourth great grandfather was Elijah Shumway, who enlisted at the age of 17 and served as a private in a Massachusetts Regiment. He was a Revolutionary War pensioner and his wife, Chloe Griggs, also was granted a widow's pension.

Q. How do you hope to contribute to Chapter development?

A. I'm new to SAR. Besides participating in the regular meetings, I would be interested in participating in activities that can help reinforce the importance of remembering our historical roots.

Thanks, Scott, for sharing.



**SAR Member Profile -
W. Clifford Dickinson
Interviewed by Chuck Adams**

Q. Ok Cliff, tell us a little bit about yourself.

A. I was born in 1958 near San Antonio, Texas at Lackland AFB. I was raised in Hollywood, Florida and graduated from Chaminade High School. I then attended the University of Florida

and graduated with a degree in Mechanical Engineering.

Q. What is your occupation?

A. I am a Sales Engineer & Owner for Northrich - Florida. It is a commercial HVAC manufacturing company operating in Ohio and Florida who I have represented throughout my entire career.

Q. Tell us about some of your recreational interests.

A. I enjoy watching baseball. Some of my favorite teams are the Marlins, Yankees, Red Sox and Dodgers. I also follow the Miami Heat.

Q. How about your family?

A. My wife's name is Janice, and we have been married 42 years since 1980. We have 3 children together: Brittany, Lauren and Alex. Brittany is a recent member of the DAR and encouraged me to join SAR. We also have two grandchildren, Camila and Siena.

Q. Who is your Patriot ancestor?

A. My patriot ancestor is James Gardner. He was a seaman aboard the Frigate "Boston," and served under Capt. Samuel Tucker. He is also credited for his civil service in the Rehoboth, Massachusetts town records as a collector in 1782.

Q. How do you hope to contribute to Chapter development?

A. Yes. I plan to attend the monthly lunches and will determine from there what else I can do.

Thanks, Cliff, for sharing.

The following photos are just some of our SAR JROTC and Good Citizenship Awards.



Everglades High School



Piper High School



Charles Flanagan High School



Cypress Bay High School

McArthur High School. Just so you know that this cadet was promoted tonight to Cadet Major, making him third in Commander of the Battalion, so many of our awards are being award to great cadets.



Stranahan High School



At our May 13th Chapter meeting, we were graced with members of the Swamp Fox Society Children of The American Revolution who gave us a report on their years' program activities and were presented a check for \$350 from the Chapter.



Chapter members Allen Manning was awarded his 25 year service certificate and Ted Duay his 20 year service certificate.



New Members Robert C. Bowling and Collier Bolling Jr were inducted by Chapter President Chuck Adams and their rosette pinned by Past Florida President and Past Chapter President Ted Duay.



CONDOLENCES

Condolences are conveyed to Compatriot Steve De Paul and his family for the loss of his father, Paul De Paul (1943-2023), who died early morning, Friday, May 19, 2023. Paul was a veteran who served in the United States Air Force from 1960-1968. Services, including military honors, were held on Wednesday, May 24, 2023, at the Jacksonville National Cemetery, Jacksonville, Florida.



Chapter members Tom Carpenter Jr., Rick Kidder Jr., and Tim McLane were awarded their Military War Service Medal and Certificates by Chapter President Chuck Adams and Chapter Vice President Steven De Paul.



Kevin Shurte, first Chapter member to participate in a National Color Guard event held at the Florida Society BOM on May 19-20, 2023.



Some of the Color Guardsman with Kevin Shurte second from left at the practice session held at the Florida Society BOM on May 19, 2023.



Chapter President, Chuck Adams (left), incoming Florida Society President, Steve Fields (center), and Chapter Vice-President, Steve De Paul (right) at the Spring Florida Society BOM held in Kissimmee, Florida May 19-20, 2023.

**Fort Lauderdale Chapter
Sons of the American Revolution
2133 NW 208 Terrace
Pembroke Pines FL 33029-2320**



Boyd Anderson High School Academy.

At this ceremony they wanted the presenters to pin their medals of their uniforms with no certificate.



2023 CHAPTER OFFICERS

PRESIDENT - CHUCK ADAMS

1808 NW 124 Way
Coral Springs, FL 33071-7887
954-345-6276

VICE-PRESIDENT / SGT-AT-ARMS - STEVEN DE PAUL

11240 SW 21 Street
Miramar, FL 33025-6634
(954) 232-5008

REGISTRAR / GENEALOGIST - CHUCK ADAMS

1808 NW 124 Way
Coral Springs, FL 33071-7887
954-345-6276

SECRETARY - MARK SNIDER

3051 NE 47 Court Apt 210
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308-5377
(317) 748-3651

TREASURER / EDITOR - JOSEPH MOTES

2133 NW 208 Terrace
Pembroke Pines FL 33029-2320
954-441-8735

CHAPLAIN - TIMOTHY McLANE

400 NE 20 Street
Wilton Manors, FL 33305-2043
305-395-9526



Our Chapter presented 12 Good Citizenship Certificates to cadets from Stranahan High School JROTC.



Chapter Vice President Steven De Paul presented The Good Citizenship Medals to two cadets of the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps, USS Fort Lauderdale Division



Dillard High School