



# The Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

## Fort Lauderdale Chapter Newsletter



website: [www.sarfl.weebly.com](http://www.sarfl.weebly.com)

MAY 2019

Fort Lauderdale Chapter chartered December 8, 1966

Volume 52 Number 5

### April 20th, 2019 Meeting Minutes

April 20, Sat. 12:00 Joe Motes acting moderator lead Tom Sheppard, Rusty Calloway, Pat Woolbert, and Jim Lohmeyer in a group discussion.

Tom Sheppard indicated our face book should be up dated and offered to help pay for same. Jim Lohmeyer said he has a neighbor who could do this at a reasonable cost. Tom stated Facebook should have good looking first page, officers names, addresses, how to become a SAR, Contact us for help, meeting times and locations. Past activities and future plans

Charles (Chuck) Adams is working on new application for Rusty Calloway. Wear is holding off now, but will follow up later.

Colony West is working hard compete rebuilding. Hope by the end of the year we can do our meetings there.

This will be our last meeting until Sept. Try to attend.

Jim Lohmeyer

### Presidents Message

Dear Compatriots,

Thank you to our Ft. Lauderdale members who attended our April meeting. Our May meeting will be held at the Outback Steakhouse on University Drive in Davie, Florida on Saturday, May 18th, 2019. This will be our last meeting until September. Please contact Joe Motes and RSVP. Our members are always encouraged to bring a guest to our meetings.

We will be talking about possible summer events and how we may help and get the word out to our communities, family and friends. Visit the S.A.R. website to see what is happening on the state and local level.

Enjoy your week. Hope to see you there.

Sincerely,

David Lott, President  
Ft. Lauderdale Chapter, S.A.R  
954-294-2501



Cooper City High School



Cypress Bay High School



### **NEXT MEETING - April 20, 2019**

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

**Future Dates:**

Saturday, 05/18/2019

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

**FOR RESERVATIONS CALL: 954-559-3202  
or e-mail Joe Motes at: [joemotes@aol.com](mailto:joemotes@aol.com)**



**Cypress Bay High School**



**Northeast High School award and certificates**



**Everglades High School**



**J. P. Taravella High School certificates**



**Hollywood Hills High School Academy**



## The Capture of Savannah

### Overview:

The American commander Brigadier General Robert Howe of North Carolina, with only 700 men, made a feeble attempt to defend the city. But with troops in their rear, the American defense was broken. With the loss of well over 550 men, and all the artillery, Howe was forced to retire into South Carolina.

### Synopsis:

Henry Clinton, in charge of British troop in America, is ordered to move to the South. Intelligence reports in Britain indicate that both Georgia and South Carolina have a large Loyalist population who will side with the British. However, to do so means Clinton will have to reduce his manpower in the North. This would open his troop in the northern theater to attack by George Washington. Clinton and his advisors come up with a plan. They send 8,500 troops to Savannah.

The troops from New York, under the command of Lt. Colonel Archibald Campbell, arrive at Tybee Island on December 23, 1778. They are a month late. Forces from St. Augustine under the command of Augustine Prevost join them. Together they march on Savannah.

### Battles:

Howe held a council that morning, and ground was chosen at which to make a stand. About one-half mile (0.7 km) south of the city, he established a line of defense. He formed a line in the shape of an open V, with the ends anchored by swampy woods. On the left Howe placed Georgia Continentals and militia under Samuel Elbert, while on the right he put South Carolina Continentals under Isaac Huger and William Thompson. The line was supported by four pieces of field artillery, and light infantry companies guarded the flanks. Most of Howe's troops, including the Continentals, had seen little or no action in the war.

Campbell's forces consisted of two battalions of the 71st Highland Regiment, two regiments of German soldiers (von Wissenbach and von Wöllwarth), and four companies of Loyalists, mostly recruited in New

York. When his advance companies spotted Howe's line (drawing a volley of fire), the main body stopped short of the field and Campbell went to see what he was up against. He viewed Howe's defenses as essentially sound, but a local slave told him that there was a path through the swamp on Howe's right. He ordered James Baird to take 350 light infantry and about 250 New York Loyalists and follow the slave through the swamp, while he arrayed his troops just out of view in a way that would give the impression he would attempt a flanking maneuver on Howe's left. One of his officers climbed a tree to observe Baird's progress. True to the slave's word, the trail came out near the Continental barracks, which were left unguarded; the Continentals were unaware they had been flanked. When they reached position, the man in the tree signaled by waving his hat, and Campbell ordered the regulars to charge.

The first sounds of battle Howe heard were musket fire from the barracks, but these were rapidly followed by cannonfire and the appearance of charging British and German troops. He ordered an immediate retreat, but it rapidly turned into a rout. His untried troops hardly bothered to return fire, some throwing down their weapons before attempting to run away through the swampy terrain. Campbell reported that "It was scarcely possible to come up with them, their Retreat was rapid beyond Conception." The light infantry in the Continental rear cut off the road to Augusta, the only significant escape route, forcing a mad scramble of retreating troops into the city itself. Soldiers who did not immediately surrender were sometimes bayoneted. Colonel Huger managed to form a rear-guard to cover the escape of a number of the Continentals. Some of Howe's men managed to escape to the north before the British closed off the city, but others were forced to attempt swimming across Yamacraw Creek; an unknown number drowned in the attempt.

### Conclusion:

Campbell gained control of the city at the cost to his forces of seven killed and seventeen wounded. He took 453 prisoners, and there were at least 83 dead and 11 wounded from Howe's forces. When Howe's retreat ended at Purrysburg, South Carolina he had

Continued on next page

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

---

Continued from page 3

342 men left, less than half his original army. Howe would receive much of the blame for the disaster, with William Moultrie arguing that he should have either disputed the landing site in force or retreated without battle to keep his army intact. However, he was exonerated in a court martial that inquired into the event.

Campbell wrote that he would be "the first British officer to [rend] a star and stripe from the flag of Congress". The British held Savannah for the duration of the war, which they used as a base to conduct coastal raids from Charleston, South Carolina to the Florida coast. In the fall of 1779, a combined French and American attempt to recapture Savannah failed with significant casualties. The British held Savannah through the remainder of the war and used the city as a staging ground for further attacks in the South, until the British evacuated on July 11, 1782.



**Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School**



**Plantation High School**



**2019 CHAPTER OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT - DAVID LOTT**

1140 SW CHAPMAN WAY APT 401  
PALM CITY, FL 34990-2470  
954-967-2356

**VICE-PRESIDENT - OPEN**

**REGISTRAR / GENEALOGIST - THOMAS SHEPHERD**

6600 NE 22 WAY # 2323  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308-1240  
954-938-7219

**SECRETARY - JAMES LOHMEYER**

15862 SW 14 Street  
Pembroke Pines, FL 33027-2361  
954-436-1156

**TREASURER / EDITOR /  
HISTORIAN / SGT-AT-ARMS - JOSEPH MOTES**

2133 NW 208 TERRACE  
PEMBROKE PINES FL 33029-2320  
954-441-8735

**CHANCELLOR - OPEN**

**CHAPLAIN - JAMES LOHMEYER**

15862 SW 14 Street  
Pembroke Pines, FL 33027-2361  
954-436-1156