

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, OCTOBER 14, 1993

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

COST : \$ 12.00 per PERSON (Checks payable to: Ft. Lauderdale Chap.- SAR)

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

by **11:00am TUESDAY**, October 12th, at **566-9705.**

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

PROGRAM : Guest Speaker will be Representative Tracy Stafford

Our speaker is a member of the Florida House of Representatives from the 92nd District. He serves on many committees which are in the forefront of interest to all the citizens of our state. He will be able to enlighten us on these and other points regarding our legislature. His committee responsibilities include:

Chairman - Prosecution & Punishment Subcommittee

Chairman - Court Systems, Probate & Consumer Law Subcommittee

Chairman - Advisory Council on Intergovernmental Relations

Member - Business & Professional Regulation Committee

Member - Tourism & Economic Development Committee

+ + + You don't want to miss this meeting !! Bring your friends !! + + +

NEWS :

- + Our Chapter was well represented at the DAR's Constitution Week Luncheon on September 17th. Thanks to the Compatriots and wives who attended.
- + It is with sorrow that we note the recent passing of Marguerite Linskey. She was a fine lady who will be sorely missed by her family, friends and the many organizations of which she was a member and served over the years. Gifts were made to Chapter Trust Fund in her memory by Gib Buckbee and the Treasury.
- + The Treasurer is pleased to report the following balance in Chapter accounts as of September 1st:
Checking Account: \$ 1,670 Trust Account: \$ 2,565 Cash: \$ 95
- + The enclosed membership roster is intended to replace the infrequently published Chapter Directory. It can be easily and inexpensively updated and will be reissued when the number of changes warrant, or at least annually. -- Please provide the Secretary with changes, corrections and/or suggestions.
- + 1994 Dues Notices also are enclosed. Please provide the extra information requested on the return form in order to help make our meetings as interesting as possible for the membership. Thank you !!

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

Foiled by the *Vulture*

The British sloop of war *Vulture* was too small and too lightly armed to play a major role in a naval engagement. Yet this little vessel played a crucial role in disrupting the plans of Benedict Arnold and may have been responsible for the fact that his plot to betray his country was unsuccessful.

Arnold and Major André, his British contact man, had completed all of their bargaining. Terms under which Arnold was to defect to the British, selling out his countrymen by delivering vital plans of the fortifications at West Point and of coming military movements on the part of Continental forces, had been fixed. All that remained was to execute the plan.

Its terms called for Arnold's delivering of papers to André, after which the British major was to board the *Vulture*. Then stationed in the Hudson River near West Point, it would be easy for the vessel to transport André—and the papers—to British headquarters in New York. Or Arnold could go overland to Dobbs Ferry, meet André there, and proceed with him.

Probably with the idea of making sure that all preparations aboard the ship had been completed, Arnold himself had eight oarsmen row him toward the *Vulture* in a barge. That was on the morning of September 11, 1780. Everything should have moved like clockwork, and probably would have, had Arnold not forgotten to fasten a flag of truce to his barge.

That omission caused men of the *Vulture* to fire upon Arnold and make him retreat to a tree-covered bluff. The traitor was almost killed, and the time-table of his operation was hopelessly disrupted. Consequently André was captured on September 20, and Arnold's role was known to Washington almost at once. Had guns of the *Vulture* not fired history might have been different.