



**The Florida Society of the  
Sons of the American Revolution**  
**Fort Lauderdale Chapter Newsletter**



SEP 2013

website: [www.learnwebskills.com/sar/index.html](http://www.learnwebskills.com/sar/index.html)  
Fort Lauderdale Chapter chartered December 8, 1966

Volume 46 Number 6

**President's Message**

Dear Compatriots,

Is it really autumn already?

The leaves are still green, it's hot and the humidity shows no signs of abating, but the calendar seems to indicate that summer is ending. What does this all mean? Why, it means that Floridians are preparing to enter that time of the year that makes our friends in the north envious. It's the beginning of the end of the year and a time to shake off the lazy summer days and get motivated!

For our Fort Lauderdale chapter, it's also time to get re-energized to finish out the year. It's time to finish our work on upgrading the foundation of our chapter to ensure stability moving forward. It's time to continue with our schedule of excellent speakers (hint – the FBI is coming), it's time to move forward with our plans to add new members, the lifeblood of our chapter, and make ready to welcome in a new group of officer's to continue our work into next year.

Please let us know if you are interested in a leadership role and don't be shy with your suggestions to improve the membership experience or expand our community service efforts.

Rolling up my sleeves,

Lance T. Pfeifer

**With this mailing you are receiving the current by-laws for our Chapter for 2013 that have been updated, if you have any questions about the current by-laws, please feel free and contact us.**

We now have a FaceBook page, very interesting stuff and lots of hits, please check us out and LIKE us at:

**Fort Lauderdale Chapter Sons of the American Revolution**



Florida SAR President Ted Duay (front row center) and members of the Florida delegation attend the Annual Congress of the SAR held July 2013 in Kansas City, MO.



Florida SAR President Ted Duay (left) and SAR Secretary General Lindsey Brock attend the Annual Congress of the SAR held July 2013 in Kansas City, MO.

**NEXT MEETING - Sept 21, 2013**

**Primavera Restaurant**

830 E. Oakland Park Boulevard  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33334  
954-564-6363

**Future Dates:**

Saturday, 10/19/2013  
Saturday, 11/16/2013  
Saturday, 12/21/2013

Time: 11:30AM social gathering; Lunch at noon  
Luncheon - \$25.00  
FOR RESERVATIONS CALL: 954-559-3202  
or e-mail Joe Motes at: [joemotes@aol.com](mailto:joemotes@aol.com)

**May 18, 2013 meeting** of Ft. Lauderdale Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution opened by President Lance Pfeifer. Chaplin Rob Joynt lead in prayer, followed by Pledge to the Flag and Pledge to SAR.

State President Ted Duay related some state news notably moving the BOM for better accommodations and better food.

Reports: Vice President, no report.  
Treasurer, Statement submitted. 2nd by Bill Zimmer, approved

Secretary mentioned Trustee Acct to turn over. Low interest rate may discuss Government bond.

Registrar/Genealogist. Two applications pending. New Chapter Scholarship being worked on by Bill Milam and Joe Motes. Working on revising chapter by laws, should be able to vote on next meeting.

New Business: Ted Duay moved to reimburse Joe Motes \$300.00 for gas expenses, 2nd by Jim Lohmeyer.

Approved. Joe Motes told us about our new Facebook page for our chapter.

President Lance Pfeifer introduced our speaker Mr. Ran Meriam. Executive V.P. of Air Force Associations. He spoke about the USAF's various planes and their capabilities.

Mr. Meriam talked about benefits in being an AFA member. Things such as, Air Force monthly magazine, USAF almanac, and access to AFA Veterans Benefits Association's group insurance policies (dental, vision, medical).

Gold Coast 351 unit has refurbished and donated the F-86H Sabre Jet for placement at the Ft. Lauderdale War Memorial.

President Pfeifer presented Mr. Meriam with a Certificate of Appreciation.

Meeting closed with Recessional.  
Respectively submitted, James Lohmeyer

**JROTC Awards for 2012-2013**



**Coconut Creek High School**



**Cooper City High School**



**Coral Glade High School**



**Coral Springs CAP Composite Squadron**



**Coral Springs High School**



**Everglades High School**



**Cypress Bay High School**



**Charles Flanagan High School**



**Cypress Bay High School Good Citizenship Certificates**



**Charles Flanagan High School Good Citizenship Certificates**



**Deerfield Beach High School**



**Fort Lauderdale High School**



Hallandale High School



Ft. Lauderdale Naval Sea Cadets Spruance Division



Hollywood Hills High School



NOVA High School



Monarch High School



Piper High School



Piper High School



Pompano Beach High School



**Plantation High School**



**South Plantation High School**



**Stranahan High School**



**Taravella High School**



**West Broward High School**



**West Broward High School**



**Western High School**

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**JROTC and Good Citizenship Awards Report**

My personal thanks go out to Ted Duay who helped make this year's presentations a great success. This year we had 27 JROTC recipients.

We also presented Bronze Good Citizenship Medals to two Naval Sea Cadet sand four Civil Air Patrol Cadets. This year we continued presenting the Good Citizenship Certificates to some of the JROTC units, 403 were presented.

### 2014 Dues Notice Greetings Compatriot !

Your SAR dues notice and membership card for 2014 are enclosed. Please mail your check no later than December 14th. This timing is required to meet the new deadlines established by the state and national organizations. If circumstances may delay your payment, call or e-mail the Treasurer (954-441-8735 or joemotes@aol.com

NOTE: Anyone who has not been heard from by 12/14/13 must be reported as dropped from membership.

Reinstatement can be made at a later date but this will require processing a special application and the payment of \$5 in addition to the regular dues. These delays also may cause some issues of the newsletter and magazine to be missed. – Of course, it is hoped that everyone will renew but it also is very important that your response be timely.

#### CHAPTER TRUST FUND

The Fort Lauderdale Chapter SAR Trust Fund was established in 1991 and has grown to its current balance of approx \$16,297.45. The stated purpose of this fund is to assist in the operation of the Chapter, including its projects and expenses. Only the earnings of the Trust may be utilized, never the principal. Including extra dollars in your check for the trust fund will be very helpful and appreciated.

Thank you and have a happy holiday season.....



Pines - Miramar CAP Composite Squadron



Pines - Miramar CAP Composite Squadron Good Citizenship certificates



Joe Motes received his 2500 Hrs award for volunteering at the VA Clinic in Fort Lauderdale.

## Signers Risked Lives, Fortunes

July 4, 2000 By Jeff Jacoby The Boston Globe

On July 2, 1776, the Continental Congress voted 12-0 -- New York abstained -- in favor of Richard Henry Lee's resolution "that these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States." On July 4, the Declaration of Independence drafted by Thomas Jefferson -- heavily edited by Congress -- was adopted without dissent.

On July 8, the Declaration was publicly proclaimed in Philadelphia. On July 15, Congress learned that the New York Legislature had decided to endorse the Declaration. On Aug. 2, a parchment copy was presented to the Congress for signature. Most of the 56 men who put their name to the document did so that day.

And then?

We tend to forget that to sign the Declaration of Independence was to commit an act of treason -- and the punishment for treason was death. To publicly accuse George III of "repeated injuries and usurpations," to announce that Americans were therefore "Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown," was a move fraught with danger -- so much so that the names of the signers were kept secret for six months.

They were risking everything, and they knew it. That is the meaning of the Declaration's soaring last sentence: "And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm Reliance on the Protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor."

Most of the signers survived the war; several went on to illustrious careers. Two of them became presidents of the United States, and among the others were future vice presidents, senators, and governors. But not all were so fortunate.

Nine of the 56 died during the Revolution, and never tasted American independence.

Five were captured by the British. Eighteen had their homes looted or burned by the enemy. Some lost everything they owned. Two were wounded in battle. Two others were the fathers of sons killed or captured during the war.

"Our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor." It was not just a rhetorical flourish. We all recognize John Hancock's signature, but who ever notices the names beneath his? William Ellery, Thomas Nelson, Richard Stockton, Button Gwinnett, Francis Lewis -- to most of us, these are names without meaning. But each represents a real human being, some of whom paid dearly "for the support of this Declaration" and American independence.

Lewis Morris of New York, for example, must have known when he signed the Declaration that he was signing away his fortune. Within weeks, the British ravaged his estate, destroyed his vast woodlands, butchered his cattle, and sent his family fleeing for their lives.

Another New Yorker, William Floyd, was also forced to flee when the British plundered his property. He and his family lived as refugees for seven years without income. The strain told on his wife; she died two years before the war ended.

Carter Braxton of Virginia, an aristocratic planter who had invested heavily in shipping, saw most of his vessels captured by the British navy. His estates were largely ruined, and by the end of his life he was a pauper.

The home of William Ellery, a Rhode Island delegate, was burned to the ground during the occupation of Newport.

Thomas Heyward Jr., Edward Rutledge and Arthur Middleton, three members of the South Carolina delegation, all suffered the destruction or vandalizing of their homes at the hands of enemy troops. All three were captured when Charleston fell in 1780, and spent a year in a British prison.

"Our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor."

Thomas Nelson Jr. of Virginia raised \$2 million for the patriots' cause on his own personal credit. The government never reimbursed him, and repaying the loans wiped out his entire estate. During the battle of Yorktown, his house, which had been seized by the British, was occupied by General Cornwallis. Nelson quietly urged the gunners to fire on his own home. They did so, destroying it. He was never again a man of wealth. He died bankrupt and was buried in an unmarked grave.

Richard Stockton, a justice on New Jersey's supreme court, was dragged from his bed and thrown in prison, where he was beaten and starved. He was freed in 1777, but his health had so deteriorated that he died within five years. His family lived on charity for the rest of their lives.

In the British assault on New York, Francis Lewis' home and property were pillaged. His wife was captured and imprisoned; so harshly was she treated that she died soon after her release. Lewis spent the remainder of his days in poverty.

And then there was John Hart. The speaker of the New Jersey Assembly, he was forced to flee in the winter of 1776, at the age of 65, from his dying wife's bedside. While he hid in forests and caves, his home was demolished, his fields and mill laid waste, and his 13 children put to flight. When it was finally safe for him to return, he found his wife dead, his children missing, and his property decimated. He never saw any of his family again and died, a shattered man, in 1779.

The men who signed that piece of parchment in 1776 were the elite of their colonies. They were men of means and social standing, but for the sake of liberty, they pledged it all -- their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

We are in their debt to this day.

**Fort Lauderdale Chapter  
Sons of the American Revolution  
2133 NW 208 Terrace  
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Fort Lauderdale Chapter also presented a check for \$200 from the Fort Lauderdale Naval Sea Cadets Spruance Division at their annual awards ceremonies.



Our Chapter presented Sebastian Torres with an Eagle Scout certificate of recognition during the Sons of Confederate Veterans May meeting.



State Society President Ted Duay presented State Certificate of Distinguished Service to all Past Chapter President, Joseph Motes for years 1998, 1999, 2001, 2002 and 2005; James Lohmeyer for 2007 and 2009; and Robert Dooley for 1993.



Chapter President presented a Certificate of Appreciation to our May meeting guest speaker Ran Meriam on his presentation of the Air Force Association and the story of the jet at Holiday Park in Fort Lauderdale.



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