



**THE TAMPA CHAPTER
FLORIDA SOCIETY
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

NEWSLETTER MAY 1988

An Invitation

Has been extended to the Compatriots of our Chapter and their wives or other guests by the DeSoto Chapter of the DAR. The occasion is a Flag Day Luncheon to be held at the Mac Dill AFB Officers' Club on Tuesday, June 14th, at 12 noon. The cost will be \$7 per person. Reservations should be made by sending your check by June 8th to:

Mrs. Robert Armitage, Jr.
7511 Alema Street
Tampa 33625

A Correction

Last month's newsletter misnamed the organization which Ted Dickerson had recommended to SARs at the Awards Banquet in March. It should have been the Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims.

Our Last Meeting

Was attended by 15 Compatriots, 6 ladies and our program speaker.

Treasurer Sam Beaugard reported that our current bank account balance was \$498.29 which is in the Sunshine State Federal Savings and Loan in Brandon. Inquiry had been made as to whether a change in depository would be advantageous for the Chapter but it was found that none would be better than the one the Chapter has been using in the past.

President Martin Miller reported that the project to restore the London, England home of Benjamin Franklin had been abandoned and that the Chapter would be getting back the \$100 that had been collected from its members for that project. The Chapter's Board of Governors decided that instead of putting this \$100 in the regular Chapter funds that a separate fund to be known as the Flag Fund be established. Each year from this fund a Revolutionary War period flag would be acquired to be presented to one of the area high school ROTC units.

Along those line, President Miller pointed out that if any Compatriot felt called to make a special contribution to the Chapter to be used for the Flag Fund or for any other special purpose the contribution would set apart to be used solely for the intended purpose of the contribution.

Ed McCleary called attention to page 10 of the Florida Patriot, spring edition, which printed an article on the activity FLSAR's Americanism Committee, and particularly the Saramana Chapter's activity, in lobbying the Florida Legislature to rescind the portion of the law (FACET) relating to the testing of 11th grade students on ONLY those items of American History occurring after 1860. Ed said that locally activities have been hampered by a lack of funds....at Saramana \$500 had been contributed towards its efforts....but that his committee would be doing all it could.

One of the Compatriots at the meeting was Bennett McGee. He is not a Tampa Chapter member....YET....but hopefully will be when the necessary paper work transferring his membership from Ohio come through.

According to Registrar Ted Dickerson 99% of the paper work has been completed on the application for membership of Fred Pachoud; however Fred is about to be married so his attention is apparently on other matters than SAR membership. There six other prospective members who are presumably working on their papers but Ted again urged everyone to keep "beating the bushes" for members. To help in the matter of membership, Compatriot Jim Lillard has agreed to accept the responsibility of Publicity for the Chapter. Getting the announcement of our meetings and /or other SAR information in the newspapers should help a great deal in calling the fact of our existence as a Chapter to a good number of persons qualified to be SARs.

Copies of the proposed budget for '88-'89 were passed out and, after an explanation of some of the line items in it and a few comments about it, the budget was approved as submitted. In summary:

Assets on hand and anticipated income	\$ 2,403.50
Liabilities and anticipated expenditures	2,354.00

	49.50
Balance on hand April 1, 1988	497.45

Balance March 31, 1989	\$ 546.95

Included in both income and expense is \$1,440.00 for meeting rooms and meals so you can see that the Chapter other financial activities are quite modest.

Our speaker for the meeting was Mr. Bob Lastinger from TECO's Speaker Bureau who spoke on the topic of "Old Glory". Some of the items of interest regarding our national emblem which were mentioned were:

The original Old Glory was a flag made for a ship's captain and now is in the Smithsonian Institute. It was never our national emblem.

Today's flag is the 27th edition of our flag.

There is no concrete basis for knowing how the first flag came into being although attributing it to Betsy Ross is as likely as any other.

The Second Continental Congress passed the first law about our flag on June 14, 1777.

At first a new stripe was to be added when a new state was added to the Union but that soon became unwieldy and it was changed to 13 permanent stripes and a new star for each new state.

Florida was the 27th star, added in 1845.

Our present pledge of allegiance to the flag was written by Rev. Francis Bellamy, who, at one time, lived in Tampa and worked for Tampa Electric.

Mr. Lastinger also spoke on the roots of our flag from ancient English times. It was a very interesting presentation that kept everyone's attention.

Our Next Meeting

Will be on Saturday, May 21st, 11:30AM at the Egypt Temple Shrine, 4050 Dana Shores Drive. Lunch will be served at noon and will cost \$9. Our speaker for this meeting will be Dr. Samuel A. Ramirez whose topic will be "Greenhouses of the Mind". This will be an inspirational message regarding productive ways to develop thinking. Dr. Ramirez has his PhD from Indiana University and he was formerly a professor at the Univ. of Texas. He is President of SANE Enterprises here in Tampa.

This will be our last meeting until next September so let's everyone make an extra special effort to attend this one and then be ready for three month's vacation!!!

Odds and Ends

The 98th Annual Congress of the SAR will be held July 2nd thru the 6th under the sponsorship of the District of Columbia Society. See the winter 1988 edition of the SAR Magazine for details and registration information.

Comp. Bob Baylies is Chairman of the FLSAR Allegiance Sunday Committee. Bob will probably be giving some information at our next meeting as to what our Chapter can do to participate in this activity.

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