



THE TAMPA CHAPTER
FLORIDA SOCIETY
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 1987

Our Last Meeting

Apparently your Chapter has some difficulty competing with a big football weekend in terms of attracting a crowd. However, 15 Compatriots, 4 of their ladies, our speaker and guest, Larry Richter, kept the attendance at 21, which was the same as last May's meeting so at least it didn't fall off any. Of course, Ed Stoner recently has had a little heart problem so he and Fifi weren't there and they are ALWAYS there. But it should be a much larger percentage of the Chapter Compatriots who are concerned enough about what the SAR stands for and their membership in it to come to the Chapter meetings, support its programs and help it be even more vital than it is.

FLSAR President Nealy, in his President's Message in the fall issue of THE FLORIDA PATRIOT, had a list of questions by which a Compatriot can evaluate himself in terms of his contribution to his Chapter and, in turn, his Chapter's effectiveness. Hopefully, enough Compatriot no-shows will read the Message, take it to heart and support their Chapter(s) and the patriotic, historical and educational objectives of the SAR. The areas of activity in which Florida SARs can participate are indicated in the Patriot not only in the President's Message but also by the committee reports of the summer BOM (Board of Management) minutes printed. But this is getting away from "Our Last Meeting" somewhat.

However, at our last meeting the above listed objectives of the SAR were all most fully met. Mr. Charles Sansone of the law firm Mitzel, Mitzle & Feegel, P.A. in his "We the People" talk regarding the U.S. Constitution covered all of them exceptionally well. He stressed the "genius" of the Constitution in being a framework within which change can be absorbed and assimilated and yet still remain a guiding principle. This, he felt, came because the creators of the Constitution recognized their own fallibility and provided the means by which change could be accommodated by evolution rather than by revolution. And by the division of powers and the Bill of Rights, the creators provided enough of the basic needs of the country so that the Constitution has not had to be amended that very often. Fortunately they also made amendments difficult enough to make that the Constitution is difficult to fiddle with with every passing fancy.

Now while all the above probably wasn't brand new to most of those present, it sure was good to hear it again from an articulate, well prepared speaker.

Other meeting notes...the proposed budget was discussed and approved with the addition of \$100 to a contingency fund to include disbursement to the FLSAR Endowment Trust Fund in memory of a deceased chapter member(s), if any.

Treasurer Bob Hill reported a bank balance of \$601.29. However Bob Baylies noted that since the 100 nametags which were approved for purchase would take approximately \$300 from the treasury, they were not ordered last May(?) when approved. 13 members have now paid for their tags at \$3.50 each. All other members are urged to pay for their tags PDQ, Send checks to - Robert R. Hill, Sr.
631 S. Echo Drive
Brandon, FL 33511

Bob Baylies is now ordering the tags and they should be available by the November meeting.

Incidentally, 2 members have already paid their \$27 dues for 1988 (due by January 1st) by sending it to your Editor. He would have appreciated the checks being made out in his name but since they weren't, he sent them on to Treasurer Hill, as all payments of money should be.

Genealogist/Registrar Ted Dickerson reported that Scott Peeler had returned to Arizona before his membership application was complete but that he was working with several other applicants. He stressed the need for more applicants. Compatriots should urge anyone eligible for membership to contact Ted. With his expertise to guide them, tracing their genealogy probably wouldn't be as difficult as they might think nor as expensive.

As Chairman of the Allegiance Sunday committee, Bob Baylies requested that if any member participated in any activity in connection with this Sunday to contact him with the details of what that activity was so that he may complete his report. He wants to have more information to base publicity about the Allegiance Sunday too.

The fall Florida Patriot has printed the resolution of the Constitution Convention Committee that Bob Baylies also chairs. In essence it calls for the State of Florida to reverse its order calling for a Constitution Convention. The order was passed in conjunction with the need for a convention to pass a balanced budget amendment to the US Constitution. While the idea has merit, apparently there is no way to restrict what such a convention can consider to one issue. As last month's newsletter noted, this may open our national constitution to a Pandora's Box of ideas to all the crazies in the country. While Congress can pass such a balanced budget, apparently it and the administration are going with a re-do of the Gramm-Rudman provisions. Compatriots can lend their input on this matter as individuals. If the Constitution is as good as we all heard last month that it was, do something to protect it in any effective way you can think of. Naturally Bob mentioned all of this to us in a few well chosen words.

Our Honorary Associate Glenn Arter reported to the meeting on the SAR's annual meeting at King of Prussia, PA. By his critique, the annual meeting which was held in Tampa was better organized. Before Tampa Chapter members swell with complacency, let's remember that, as a Chapter, it had little to nothing to do with the meeting held here. He also mentioned that there is now a chapter in Lake City so our chapter is no longer the newest chapter in Florida. Florida has more chapters than any other state.

Our Next Meeting

Will be held, as usual, at the Egypt Temple Shrine, 4050 Dana Shores Drive, Tampa. The date? - October 17th, a Saturday. Post time? 11:30 A.M. for the early starters; the gun at 12 noon. The price will be \$8 at the door. Make book this month with President Jack Seymour - 973-1439 since Treasurer Bob Hill will be out of town. Steven Sperry of GTE's speakers bureau will be the feature presenting a slide program on the Enhanced 911 System.

Carry a little extra of the green in your pocket because Bob Baylies has a collection in mind so that the Tampa Chapter can be numbered among those in Florida who have made a contribution towards the restoration of the house Ben Franklin lived in in Jolly 'Ol London.

Odds and Ends

The fall Florida Patriot contains the rules of the Douglass G. High Oration Contest. This contest is one which the Tampa Chapter has never yet gotten involved in. Here is an activity for some Compatriot looking for a challenge worthy of his talents to look into. Did you know that the late Compatriot Austin Drew of the previous Tampa Chapter was at one time the National Chairman of this activity.

Ann Landers isn't one usually thought of in connection with patriotic subjects in her column but the August 1st Tampa Tribune had a letter from A Patriotic American in the name of Old Glory concerning the lack of respect shown our national flag by most of our citizens. It was very moving and Landers should be complimented for carrying it.

The CAR can always use a little financial assistance. \$5 will make you a Florida Society STATE PROMOTER. Send your check to - Mrs. Jerson A. Teran
Senior State Treasurer
8885 SW 147 Avenue, Apt. 1221
Miami, FL 33196

The Chapter gets a brownie point towards an award when you identify yourself as a member.

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