The Tampa Chapter
Florida Society
Sons of the American Revolution

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EDUCATIONAL - PATRIOTIC - HISTORIC

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January

1996 1997

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY MEETING

Our January meeting will be held Saturday January 18th at the Best Western Hotel, 820 Busch Boulevard, Tampa, Florida at 12:00 Noon . Each person will be responsible for payment of their own meal and the check will include the gratuity.

PROGRAM FOR JANUARY

West Central Vice Vise President, Florida State, Sons of the American Revolution, Charles Shafer will install our Chapter Officers at this meeting and make a few remarks regarding the SAR. The following will be the Officers installed:

President	Kevin Yarnell
Vice President	Robert Yarnell
Secretary/Treasurer	Robert Yarnell
Genealogist/Registrar	Elwin Thrasher
Editor	Elwin Thrasher
BOG Member at Large	Marty Miller
BOG Member at Large	James Washburn

FINAL NOTICE
1997 DUES

There are some that have not paid their 1997 dues. Please do so at once in order that our out going Secretary/Treasurer can send dues and up to date list of our members to both the State & National Headquarters and records before leaving his office and to assist Bob Yarnell in taking over this position for the coming year. Your dues for 1997 are as follows:

National Dues	$ 17.00
State Dues	$ 20.00
Chapter Dues	$ 10.00

Dues Continued Total $ 47.00

Please make Checks Payable to Treasurer Tampa Chapter SAR and mail to:

James E. Washburn
5211 Neptune Way
Tampa, Florida 33609-3638

Those who wish to make volunteer contribution to the 365 Fund for the FSSAR please send check to above for the type of contribution as follows:

Compatriot	one year	$ 3.65
Patriot	ten year	$ 36.50
Son of Liberty	lifetime	$ 365.00

Martin Miller	Jan 5
Bennett H. McGee	Jan 12
Louis Putney	Jan 28

PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

Remind all of you who are interested in becoming members of the Tampa Chapter SAR that we welcome to you to attend any of our meetings. Your genealogist/registrar has DAR Patriot indexes that we may be able to get information on your ancestor that will assist you in completing your line. Feel free to check on this at any time. We can copies of the information from the National DAR for a small fee that can be used as part of your proofs of your revolutionary ancestor.

TAMPA CHAPTER SAR
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD DECEMBER 21, 1996 AT THE BEST WESTERN RESORT & CONFERENCE CENTER, EAST BUSCH BOULEVARD, FLORIDA

The meeting was called to order by President Kevin Yarnell at 12:12 PM.

The invocation was said by Secretary Jim Washburn.

The pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by President Yarnell and he also led the SARs in the SAR pledge.

Mrs. Yarnell, the mother of Kevin & Bob Yarnell, and Mrs. Fimi Richie were introduced as guests.

The minutes of the October meeting, after a few minor typing adjustments, were accepted as printed in the December newsletter.

Bob Yarnell said that the SAR certificate of Mr. Steven Roth had been received and that he would contact Mr. Roth to invite him to the Chapter's January meeting to be officially installed and sworn in as a member of the SAR and the Tampa Chapter.

Bob also said that the FLSSAR Secretary, Larry Bradley, had passed on to him and inquiry from a Mr. Ed Durham of Tampa. Bob has sent a letter to Mr. Durham inviting him to membership in the SAR.

Ken Brice called Bob a while ago and they had a conversation to the effect that Ken was still very interested in membership in the SAR but was unable to make recent Chapter meetings because of schedule.

Secretary Washburn said that he had sent the necessary form and instructions to Wiley Koon enabling Wiley to become reinstated as an SAR in 1997.

Jim also announced that the FLSSAR ETF was not reimbursing anymore Chapter 1996 expenses in 1996 and would carry forward to 1997 any 1966 expenses. If funds are available in 1997 to reimburse Chapter expenses the ETF may do so.

As Treasurer, Jim reported:

Income to date	$ 566.65
Expenses to date	510.76
Net Income	55.89
Chapter Funds 1/1/96	1,316.11

Chapter Funds 12/21/96	1,372.00
National & State Dues And pennies for Patriots	314.25
Savings account balance	$ 1,686.25

Jim reported that 8 chapter dues were in the bank and that he had checks on hand for depositing of 8 more members making a total of 16.

Ted Dickerson had called Jim asking what the Life Membership in the NASSAR was. On being told that it was $500, Ted lost interest in that membership. Ted told Jim that he had accepted responsibilities in the Mayflower Society (?) And because of that would not be renewing his membership in the SAR for 1997.

Jim reported on the 1997 Chapter budget that the Board of Governors had worked up at least on a prospective basis. As it stands, budgeted income exceeds budgeted expenses by $6. The major unknown regarding the budget is how many Chapter members will not be renewing membership because of the $11 dollar increase in dues. The BOG hoped that application fees from new SAR members would tend to offset a decrease in dues.

Barry Rich as Chairman of the Eagle Scout Award contest reported that he had mailed out 70 letters but had only 2 responses. The two responses had been evaluated and the necessary information forwarded to the State Chairmen asking for the 2 patches and one medal The winner will be invited to a Chapter meeting t receive his award

Barry made some remarks regarding the effectiveness of the Eagle Scout program considering the response of 2 Scouts out of 70 Scouts contacted. Other comments indicated that at least there were 70 Eagle Scouts who knew that the SAR in Tampa existed. The BOG will consider the program when it comes up again for some action regarding it.

President Yarnell noted that at the election of Chapter officers in November there was no nomination for the position of Chaplain. After some discussion as to whether the position had to be elected or filled by appointment, the consensus of the meeting was that Jim Washburn would be Acting Chaplain for 1997.

During the bit of lull in getting lunches Barry Rich filled in with a couple of stories regarding his Revolutionary War ancestors. One was an Abner Shropshire. He was a big, tall fellow from the Virginia militia who fought near General Lafayette. He later moved to Kentucky. When General Lafayette made a tour of the United States, the veterans there paraded in his honor. When the General recognized Abner because of his size and height, pulled him out of line and greeted him as an old comrade-in-arms. In the movie "Green Card" a distant cousin of Barry's can be heard telling this story in the background of the movie dinner party.

Following lunch Vice President Bob Yarnell filled in for the man who had been scheduled to give a program on the differences between the observation of Christmas in the north and the south in Revolutionary War times.

In his research Bob found out that the Pilgrims banned any observance of the birth of Christ - Christmas - as part of the Protestant Reformation cutting all ties with the Roman Catholic Church and its rites and rituals. In New York and Pennsylvania with other religious groups of the Dutch and Germans there were some observances but for the most part not until the 1800s. Further south there was far more celebration of Christmas but primarily by the plantation owners who celebrated over two or three weeks of family gatherings and feasts. There dining tables were set with a greater variety of foods than we are likely to have today. There was dancing, games and sporting contest.

In general, the growth in the complexity of the Christmas observances occurred little by little after the War and though the early and mid 1800s. Saint Nicholas (Santa Claus), Christmas trees, Christmas carols spread eventually even into New England until today it is a major economic as well as religious event.

The 50-50 drawing was won by President Yarnell and the total of $9 was added to the treasury.

He also announced that there would not be a BOG meeting in January.

Then he led in the SAR recessional.

Jim Washburn said the benediction.

The meeting adjourned at 1:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Washburn
James E. Washburn