The Tampa Patriot

Newsletter of The Tampa Chapter, Florida Society, Sons of the American Revolution

Volume VI · Issue II | PATRIOTIC · HISTORIC · EDUCATIONAL | February 2006

PRESIDENT
Jack C. Bolen
2217 Boxwood Way
Brandon, Florida 33511
(813) 685-4026
jbolen@mindspring.com

VICE-PRESIDENT
Edward J. Neugaard
11629 Carrollwood Drive
Tampa, Florida 33618
(813) 932-3556
neugaardn@yahoo.com

SECRETARY/TREASURER
Kevin A. Yarnell
7507 Summerbridge Drive
Tampa, Florida 33634
(813) 249-5608
kayarnell@hotmail.com

SURGEON
Walter W. Lane, Jr., MD
14033 Shady Shores
Carrollwood, Florida 33613
(813) 968-6700
waltlane@msn.com

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
Robert Alan Bell
2603 Heatherwood Drive
Tampa, Florida 33618
(813) 968-9014

CHAPLAIN
Richard Hardesty
3106 Indigo Place
Seffner, Florida 33584
(813) 654-7032

HISTORIAN
Robert Yarnell
7401 Cypress Drive
New Port Richey, Florida 34653
(727) 849-4452
rsyarn@aol.com

REGISTRAR
Luther Lloyd
819 Freedom Plaza Circle #207
Sun City Center, Florida 33573
(813) 642-9450
lloydlr6@quixnet.net

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Kenneth R. Skillman
Post Office Box 10682
Tampa, Florida 33679
(813) 545-2446
k.skillman@lexiconmedia.com

An Affair to Remember

Friends, and in French, amis! On February 6, 1778, Benjamin Franklin was in France signing the Treaty of Amity and Commerce and the Treaty of Alliance. The Treaty of Amity and Commerce recognized the U.S. as an independent nation and promoted trade between France and America. The second agreement, the Treaty of Alliance, made the fledgling United States and France allies against Great Britain in the Revolutionary War. The French decided to back the U.S. in its military efforts until the U.S. had full independence from Great Britain. After that, the treaty required France and the U.S. to work together on any peace agreement. Did you know the French helped the U.S. to win the Revolutionary War?

France had been secretly aiding the American Colonies since 1775, because France was angry at Britain over the loss of Colonial territory in the French and Indian War. In 1776, the Continental Congress sent diplomat Benjamin Franklin, along with Silas Deane and Arthur Lee, to France to secure a formal alliance. When Franklin came to the signing ceremony, he wore, as a symbol, the same brown velvet suit he had worn when he appeared before Britain's Privy Council in 1774. At the time, he was accused of theft for having brought to light British documents that showed the British were purposefully repressing the Colonies.

France aided the colonists by providing military armaments and loans. France's support deepened after the Americans beat the British in the October 1777 Battle of Saratoga, proving themselves committed to independence and worthy of a formal alliance. King Louis XVI approved financial assistance to the

(continued on page 3)

This eighteenth-century French painting by Louis Edouard Rioult (1790-1855) presents an allegorical and idealistic view of the Franco-American alliance. France (represented in the form of a female 'deity') assists the young American nation (a female native of the 'New World') in obtaining its independence.

OUR NEXT LUNCHEON MEETING WILL BE SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2006

The location is the PICCADILLY CAFETERIA, 11810 Dale Mabry Highway North, Tampa, Florida (telephone 963-1660) in their private room at 11:30 AM. This gives us time for camaraderie. Wives and guests are always welcome at our meetings. Members and guests will be responsible for their own meal and gratuity.

Minutes of the January 21, 2006 meeting of the Tampa Chapter SAR

President Bolen called the meeting to order at 12:04. Chaplin Luke Lloyd offered the invocation. President Bolen led the pledge to the flag and the pledge to the SAR.

Members present: Jack Bolen, Marty Miller, Luke Lloyd, Walter Lane, Ken Skillman, John Skillman, Robert Yarnell, and Kevin Yarnell.

Welcome guests: June Bolen, Jeanne Lloyd, FLSSAR President Harry Hollien, and David Benjamin a prospective member

The SAR membership approved the minutes of the December meeting as published in the newsletter.

The secretary reported that the annual report had been sent was coming along with 22 of 32 members having renewed. The president offered to contact these people.

The treasurer reported a balance of $1903.41. The membership agreed to have Marty Miller audit the 2005 books. Further, the treasurer asked for a motion to destroy chapter financial documents prior to 2003. A motion was made, seconded, and passed.

Luke Lloyd, as registrar, reported on the status of two prospective members. Our guest today, David Benjamin, is well on his way to membership as is David Christianson. A brief discussion ensued considering persons and other resources that can serve as aids in genealogical research.

The president offered an update on the health of Janet Tetrick and the secretary relayed an e-mail from Dwight which read, "Janett will start chemo again at Moffit Center this Thursday after taking therapy at home for some time."

President Bolen called on the secretary who introduced FLSSAR President Harry Hollien. President Hollien installed the chapter officers for 2006.

The meeting recessed for lunch.

President Bolen reconvened the meeting and called on President Hollien to present the program.

Harry began by detailing some of the practical things the state society is undertaking. The main goals for the 2005-2006 year are improving communication and the visibility of the society. In these areas, the President explained: the new public relations committee, increased participation in the county History Fairs, the continuing work of the state Education Program, and the attempt to get more high-profile speakers at state events.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Yarnell
Chapter Secretary

During the January meeting, SAR Florida Society President Dr. Harry Hollien inducts the new Tampa Chapter officers. Pictured (l to r): Jack Bolen - President, Kevin Yarnell - Secretary/Treasurer, Luke Lloyd - Registrar, and Walter Lane - Surgeon. Not pictured: Vice President - Edward Neugaard, Alan Bell - Sergeant-at-Arms, Richard Hardesty - Chaplain, and Robert Yarnell - Historian.

A Message From Our President

He was born in a cheaply built house on Pope's Creek in back water Virginia. His father died when he was only eleven years old. He had very little formal education. He was sent by the Governor of Virginia to deliver an ultimatum to the French in the Ohio Valley but the French commander only laughed at him. On his way back home he was nearly killed by a traitorous guide. Later he surrendered a small fort he had built to the French. The surrender document he signed created an international furor. Thus was the early life an American who was later eulogized as "first in war, first in peace and first in the heart of his countrymen."

George Washington was far from perfect but what he was able to do was mull over his experiences, accurately define his failures and work out the reasons he had failed all of which led to his later success in life. So many of us now will not admit that our failures are our own fault. We seek to blame other people and other things. If things don't go our way, it's not our fault we're the victims of circumstances or worse. We seem to have become a nation of victims.

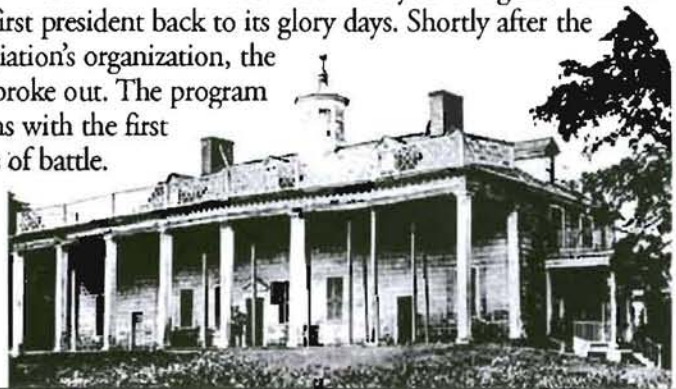
This month as we pay homage to the Father of Our Country we need to remember the legacy of self-responsibility and determination that he left for us. I am looking forward to seeing all of you this month. Our speaker, Miss Shelly Jakes will talk about early efforts to restore and preserve Mount Vernon during the Civil War.

Jack Bolen
President

February Guest Speaker: Shelly Jakes

Shelly jakes is the First Vice President of United Daughters of the Confederacy, Tampa Chapter. She is also the regent of Daughters of the American Revolution, Desoto Chapter, and belongs to several other historical organizations in Tampa. Shelly is a mother of three children. She has donated her time to the Berkeley Preparatory School's Theater Department for the past several years costuming their theatrical productions.

Shelly's program, "Saving Mt. Vernon" highlights Mt. Vernon during the Civil War years. A South Carolinian woman, Ann Pamela Cunningham, organized the Mt. Vernon Ladies Association in 1858, in an effort to halt the decay of the plantation. She set out to gather women from all over the north and south in a common effort to raise money to bring the home of our first president back to its glory days. Shortly after the association's organization, the war broke out. The program begins with the first shots of battle.



Above: Dr. Hollien presents Jack Bolen with the presidential gavel.
Below: Jack Bolen presents Dr. Hollien with a Certificate of Appreciation.

Affair *(continued from page 1)*
American colonists only four days after Franklin and his comrades requested it.

During the Revolution, France sent an estimated 12,000 soldiers and 32,000 sailors to the American war effort, the most famous of whom was the Marquis of Lafayette. He became a good friend (ami) with American commander in chief George Washington in the process.

Defending the Colonies against attack by the French and others had cost the British a great deal of money. As a result, the British had very high taxes in their country. They thus decided to shift some of their financial burden to the colonists. The Stamp Act of 1765, which taxed all legal documents, newspapers and other documents, was met with a great uproar in the Colonies. In 1766, this tax was repealed, but it was just the beginning of the problems between the colonists and the British. The Boston Tea Party in 1773 was an act of revolt against the British and their tax on tea in the Colonies.

Tensions such as these eventually led to the writing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. A year earlier, the War of Independence, also known as the American Revolution, began. When the British finally surrendered on October 19, 1781, Americans were officially independent of Britain and set about establishing their own government.

Kenneth R. Skillman
Newsletter Editor
Post Office Box 10682
Tampa, Florida 33679-0682

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Chaplain's Corner

Self-Denial and Teamwork

Luke 9:23 records the following statement of Jesus, "He said to them all, IF any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me." As many infantrymen know, the motto of the Infantry school and infantry leaders is "Follow Me!" It simply means that they should be in the forefront of any action. That is exactly where Jesus was as he brought His message to the world. He set the example of self-denial and asks us to do the same. When we do this we should evidence a common purpose in all our actions, or another way of saying it is that we should be unified. If Jesus is the focus of our lives, everything we do in our community and for the SAR will be a shining example of unity and teamwork. That is the way I understand it …what about you?

Luke Lloyd, *Past Chaplain*

FEBRUARY SAR NEWS INSIDE!

Chapter Notes

Please visit the Chapter Website at:
www.patriot-web.com
and the National SAR Website at:
www.sar.org

Our next two meetings will be held on February 18, 2006 and March 18, 2006 – please mark your calendars.