

Sons of the American Revolution

Palm Beach Chapter



Florida Society



The Patriot

P.O. Box 16735
West Palm Beach, FL 33416



Volume 22

March 2016

Number 03

Compatriots Join Us & Bring a Friend...

TUESDAY, March 15, 2016 @ 12:00 noon
THE EMBASSY SUITES
1601 Belvedere Road,
West Palm Beach

MARCH MEETING FEATURES:

- ✓ *Special Guest Speaker: Col. Robert Ames, USAF Combat Pilot*
 - *Americanism Today!*
- ✓ *Chapter Business: Compatriot Member Directory*
- ✓ *Florida-Last Naval Battle of the Revolutionary War!*
- ✓ *Thomas Creek Massacre-Southernmost Battle of the War!*

- **Buffet Lunch, Deserts & Beverages just \$28 per person check/cash at the door.**
- **Reservations** required so please **RSVP by March 14.** Call/email: Don Lanman (561) 315-5073 or Ben Tidwell (561) 704-9918.
- **Guests** are always welcome.

NEWSLETTER CONTENT:

1. President's Message
 2. 2016 Chapter Meeting Dates & Topics
 3. 2016 Officers & Board
 4. President's Brigade Financial Supporters
 5. Committees, Chairman & Members
 6. State/National Society News
 7. Feature Articles:
 - *Last Naval Battle of the Revolutionary War*
 - *Thomas Creek Massacre-Southernmost Battle of the RW*
 8. SAR Membership
 9. Chapter Meeting Pictures
 10. Compatriot Sponsored Ads
-

1. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow Compatriots,

Congratulations to Ms. Talia Fradkin on winning both the Chapter and the State Society *Rumbaugh Oration* and *Knight Essay* contests. A four-time Chapter winner, Talia will represent the Palm Beach SAR Chapter at the National Society Conference in Boston on 7/8-13.

We also offer our sincere appreciation to the *Forest Hill JROTC Color Guard* for their smart presentation of the Colors at our February meeting.

Chapter Officers will present awards to 11 local JROTC high school units in March and April. Compatriots interested in attending the presentations may contact Ben Tidwell for schools, dates and times.

February meeting attendees also enjoyed and appreciated the remarkable Thomas Jefferson impersonation and historical presentation on writing the Declaration of Independence as enacted by Past PB Chapter President John Stewart.

We were also honored with representatives from five local DAR Chapters including; Palm Beach, Garcilaso de la Vega, Henry Morrison Flagler, Spirit of Liberty and Lighthouse Point. We sincerely appreciate their support and look forward to expanding joint events with all the DAR Chapters in WPB.

It has been three years since the last printing of a “hard copy” member’s directory. In that regard, there has been discussion regarding the need for and use of a printed copy vs. an electronic version.

The Chapter Board concluded that a printed version was not only costly (estimated at \$1,200 for printing/ mailing) but almost immediately out of date once printed. However, given that there may be differing opinions, we will bring the question before the membership at the March meeting for discussion and vote.

Fellow Compatriots, membership growth and active involvement in chapter activities are critical to the growth and viability of our Chapter. We need the help of all Compatriots to expand our membership with like-minded individuals interested in good fellowship, honoring our community’s first responders and supporting our many youth programs.

We are actively seeking new members who believe in our country, its founding virtues, and our patriot ancestors who risked life and fortune for a vision of a free and independent nation of the people, by the people and for the people. You can help by inviting men you know to the SAR.

Your Officers cannot do it alone and need your help by:

- ✓ **Attending Chapter meetings**
- ✓ **Serving on committees**
- ✓ **Providing Financial support for youth/civic programs**
- ✓ **Spreading the word about the SAR & our community services**

We must take steps to enroll our Sons and Grandsons in SAR, invite friends and neighbors to join and encourage wives, daughters, and granddaughters to become involved in the *SAR Women’s Auxiliary* and the *DAR*.

Given that American values and virtues are under constant attack from enemies both domestic and foreign, we must expand as a civic, social and community organization with shared American values that honors our Patriot ancestors.

Finally, remember our dear departed Compatriots, Honor your fellow Compatriots, and God Bless the *United States of America*.

2. 2016 CHAPTER MEETING DATES/TOPICS

Visit our Chapter web site @ www.sarpbchapter.org for meeting calendar, special events, articles, pictures, and general information.

- **March 15-Guest Speaker: Col. Robert Ames**
- **April 19-Special Guests: Law Enforcement Awards**
- **May 17-Special Guests: Firefighters/EMT Awards**

- **Oct. 18** Special Guests:
- **Nov. 15** Special Guests, 2017 Officer Nominations
- **Dec. 10** Annual Holiday Event: **Kings Academy Holiday Musical**

H. Wynns
R. Culpepper
A. Dreyfoss
D. Coldwell
D. Shepherd

3. 2016 OFFICERS AND BOARD

Donald Lanman **561-315-5073**
 President dlanman258@aol.com

Benjamin Tidwell III **561-737-0230**
 Vice President ndtidwell@aol.com

Gary T. Green **561-968-5117**
 Secretary garytgreen@gmail.com

Peter Johnston **561-729-6667**
 Treasurer palmtrait@aol.com

Robert Boggs **51-241-3128 6**
 Registrar bobboggs1@gmail.com

Father Sanford Sears **272-259-1413**
 Chaplain fathersears@yahoo.com

Byrd Wenman **561-385-3481**
 Sergeant-at-Arms capt.byrd@yahoo.com

Samuel A. Miller **561-793-1780**
 Chapter Historian sammiller2@comcast.net

Donald Lanman **561-315-5073**
 Editor, The Patriot dlanman258@aol.com

GOLD \$200 - \$499

R. Brinckerhoff
R. Banta
W. Meakin
R. Beck
E. Buckley

PLATINUM - \$500

4. JOIN THE PRESIDENT’S BRIGADE TODAY

The Chapter honors and expresses sincere appreciation to those Compatriots, of the *President’s Brigade!*

These dedicated members have donated “extra dollars” in support of the Chapter’s many youth programs, civic activities, award certificates, police/firefighter medals, veterans’ projects, and related civic programs. **Join Today!**

BRONZE \$50 - \$99

SILVER \$100 - \$199

G. Green
J. Harper
J. Curry
A. Griswold
T. Friend

5. COMMITTEES, CHAIRS & MEMBERS

Fellow Compatriots...The Chapter expresses its sincere appreciation to those members who have volunteered to help with the many civic committees and projects.

- **JROTC** -Ben Tidwell, Paul Chasteen
- **Law Enforcement-Fire Safety**-Keith Davis
- **Veterans Affairs** - Byrd Wenman, Don Lanman
- **Newsletter/Publicity** - Don Lanman
- **Boy Scouts** - Ben Tidwell
- **Knight Essay/Rumbaugh Oration** - Bob Boggs
- **American History Scholarship** - Bob Boggs
- **DAR Liaison** - Don Lanman
- **Speakers Bureau** - Bob Beck
- **Audit** - Coldwell, Johnston, Lanman
- **Flag Certificates** - Open
- **Membership** - Open
- **Liberty Tree** - Open
- **Patriot Bios** - Open

6. STATE & NATIONAL SOCIETY NEWS

- a. **New SAR Lapel Pin!** You can make a Membership Statement with the new SAR pin for your lapel or shirt. The new Pin is part of an S.A.R.

Branding plan to help promote the S.A.R. and stimulate new membership



The **classy** lapel pin is designed to be a recognizable symbol of the SAR for the public, give immediate recognition to you as a member, and spark a conversation about SAR that leads to a new member.

The new pin may be worn with the SAR rosette creating a very professional image that will improve overall SAR name recognition. The Chapter will order a supply from the SAR Foundation and offer them at the monthly meetings for the group price of just \$10. **Get yours today!**

b. State Society Events

- i. ***Last RW Naval Battle*** Ceremony on March 5, 9:30AM @ the Veterans' Memorial 400 South Sykes Creek Parkway, Merritt Island, FL featuring color guards, wreaths, and special guests. **PB Chapter Officers** Lanman & Tidwell will present a Chapter wreath. Compatriots & guests welcome. Info contact Steve Williams @ Swilliams16@cfl.rr.com.
- ii. ***The Thomas Creek Southernmost RW Battle*** ceremony is on March 19, 9:30AM @ the Seaton Creek Historic Preserve, Jacksonville, FL featuring color guards, wreaths, and special guests. **PB Chapter Officers** Lanman & Tidwell will present a Chapter wreath. Compatriots & guests welcome. Info contact David Ramseur @ davidramseur12@gmail.com.

7. FEATURE ARTICLES

Florida-The Last Naval Battle of the Revolutionary War, by Don Lanman

The last naval battle of the American Revolutionary War took place 233 years ago off the coast of present day Cape Canaveral, Florida March 10, 1783.

The sea battle was joined when a British squadron of three war ships sighted two Continental Navy ships, the Alliance, a 36-gun frigate commanded by Captain John Barry (later Commodore & Father of the American Navy), and the Duc De Lauzun, a 20-gun war sloop commanded by Captain John Green.

The British HMS Alarm, a 32-two gun frigate, commanded by Captain Charles Cotton, the HMS Sybil, a 28-eight gun frigate, under Captain James Vashon, and the HMS Tobago, an 18-gun sloop of war, commanded by Captain George Martin took chase to engage the two American ships.

Sailing northward along the coast of Florida, the mighty Alliance, and the Duc De Lauzun, were determined to evade the British ships to save 72,000 Spanish silver coins they were shipping from Cuba to Philadelphia to support the American war effort.

With the chase on, the slower Duc De Lauzun lagged behind causing Captain Barry to order Captain Green to jettison his cannons. Then a fourth ship appeared on the horizon that caused the British to adjust their strategy by dispatching one of their ships to investigate this possible enemy ship.

The faster British war ship HMS Sybil, a 28-gun frigate, commanded by Captain James Vashon, continued to chase the Alliance and the Duc De Lauzun. Closing on the slower Duc De Lauzun, the HMS Sybil fired first, exchanging numerous shots with the Continental vessel.

Commanding the mighty Alliance, Captain Barry believed the change in the British strategy as a signal that the fourth ship was indeed friendly and, in a daring sea maneuver, reversed his course to directly engage the Sybil and allow the slower Duc De Lauzun time to escape.

While under constant cannon fire, the Alliance waited until the HMS Sybil closed before unleashing the fury of his superior 36 cannons.

As the HMS Sybil came alongside the Alliance, Captain Barry fired a full broadside on the enemy vessel. The close-in sea fighting lasted less than an hour when the HMS Sybil, outgunned and badly damaged, broke off from the battle and limped back to the safety of the other British ships.

The Alliance and Duc De Lauzun continued their mission north and on March 20, 1783, sailed into New Port, Rhode Island. In a stroke of irony Great Britain and America had ratified a peace treaty ending the war for independence before the battle was fought on February 3, 1783.

Special Note: Compatriots and guests are encouraged to attend the Last Naval Battle event at on March 5 at 10 am. The event includes color guards, parade, wreath presentations, and lunch. The event is at the Veteran's Memorial Park, 400 South Skyes Creek Parkway, Merritt Island, Florida near Cape Canaveral.

###



Father of the US Navy, Capt. John Barry



USS Alliance v. HMS Sybil

Thomas Creek Massacre, by Don Lanman

When the American War of Independence began residents of the British colonies of Northern Florida did not seek separation from England as the other 13 colonies. As a result, Florida remained comparatively free of serious fighting throughout the Revolutionary War.

However, on May 17, 1777, the Americans initiated a land and sea invasion of North East Florida in retaliation for loyalists' incursions into Georgia and with a goal of capturing St. Augustine with its deep-water port, fort and supplies.

The American expedition was composed of 300 Continental Army regulars from the 1st & 2nd Georgia Regiments commanded by Lt. Colonel Samuel Elbert and supplemented with 100 Georgia militia cavalry led by Colonel James Baker.

The St. Augustine garrison command by veteran Brigadier General Augustine Prevost included battle hardened British Regulars, loyalist rangers, militia cavalry, and local "Creek" Indian allies.

Loyalist spies provided advance notice of the pending invasion, battle hardened British regulars commanded by Major J.M. Prevost and supported by loyalist Rangers, and Creek Indian allies, commanded by Colonel Thomas Brown, ambushed the land element of the Colonial army.

The "Battle of Thomas Creek", or sometimes referred to as the "Thomas Creek Massacre" was fought at Thomas Creek near the Nassau River close to present day Jacksonville. The British ambush surprised and routed the outnumbered the Continentals because a naval flotilla carrying additional American soldiers failed to reach the battle site.

Suffering heavy casualties and discouraged by the failure of the flotilla to provide the additional troops, the American forces retreated. In 1778, another Colonial action against the British garrison also failed to capture St. Augustine at the "Battle of Alligator Bridge".

While the Thomas Creek and Alligator Bridge battles were relatively minor engagements in the context of the Revolutionary War, the failed attempts to capture St. Augustine did prompt the British to reinforce its Florida garrison in December of 1778 and launch a major campaign to capture Savannah and reestablish royal authority in Georgia.

Special Note: Compatriots and guests are encouraged to attend the Thomas Creek Battle event at 10 AM on March 19. The battle site is located on the Seaton Creek Historic Preserve Park near Jacksonville, FL. Directions: Driving South on I-95, take Exit 366 to travel west 2.5 miles on Pecan Park Road to 2145 Arnold Road, Jacksonville, FL (3 miles north of the Jacksonville airport). GPS N30.521109; W81.670325.



Ambush at Thomas Creek

8. IS YOUR SAR MEMBERSHIP ACTIVE?

Support your Chapter and Keep your SAR membership active...For Compatriots who forgot to pay the annual SAR dues your membership in the **SAR is no longer active.** Note: To reinstate your SAR membership, mail your \$75 annual membership dues to SAR PB Chapter, PO Box 16735 West Palm Beach, FL 33416-6735 as soon as possible.

Thank You....Your membership and additional donations to the *Palm Beach SAR* Chapter promotes the values of our *Founding Fathers* through important civic activities including *Boy Scout & JROTC medals, Rumbaugh & Knight Essay Youth contests, Police-Firefighter-EMT awards, Americanism & community programs.*



Lt. Colonel Samuel Elbert

9. CHAPTER MEETING PICTURES



President Lanman & Speaker Past President John Stewart (T. Jefferson)

Lanman Presents T. Fradkin Knight Essay Winner



Lanman inducts New Compatriots Clouse, Gunter (age 3) & Johnson



Special Appreciation Certificate for Forest Hill JROTC Color Guard

10. COMPATRIOT SPONSORED ADS

The Compatriot sponsored Ads are important to the Chapter as they represent additional funds to support all Chapter projects including: *Boy Scout & JROTC medals, Rumbaugh & Knight Essay Youth contests, Police-Firefighter-EMT awards, Americanism & community programs!*

Please consider helping your Chapter with an Ad at the modest cost for 8 issues @ **Business Card \$50, Half Page \$100, Full Page \$200.**

Your AD donation will also qualify you for the *Presidents Brigade* listing. Call Don Lanman 561-315-5073 for information.

COMPATRIOT ROBERT BRINCKERHOFF SPONSORED AD:

Morgan Stanley



Robert Scarborough, Financial Advisor; Amani Gaballa, Senior Registered Associate; Logan Gordon, Financial Advisor; Robert Brinckerhoff, Senior Vice President, Financial Advisor

Robert W. Brinckerhoff, Senior Vice President, Financial Advisor

777 S. Flagler Dr. Suite 700, East Tower
West Palm Beach, FL 33401, (561) 650-7514
Robert.Brinckerhoff@MorganStanley.com

Bob has been a financial advisor since March 1976. He focuses on investment strategies, retirement planning, liquidity solutions for individuals, commercial real estate, and small business owners. Bob is a graduate of the University of Vermont. His clients are geographically diverse and he frequently travels from the east coast to the west to meet with clients. He is active with nonprofit organizations that support the blind and visually impaired. Bob is also an active enthusiast in Ferraris.

The investments listed may not be suitable for all investors. Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC recommends that investors independently evaluate particular investments and encourages investors to seek the advice of a financial advisor. The appropriateness of a particular investment will depend upon an investor's individual circumstances and objectives. Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC is a registered Broker/Dealer, Member SIPC, and not a bank.

Where appropriate, Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC has entered into arrangements with banks and other third parties to assist in offering certain banking related products and services. Investment, insurance and annuity products offered through Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC are: NOT FDIC INSURED, MAY LOSE VALUE, NOT BANK GUARANTEED, NOT A BANK DEPOSIT, NOT INSURED BY ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY. Copy write 2015 Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC, Member SIPC CRC1355648 11/15