

Sons of the American Revolution

Palm Beach Chapter



Florida Society



The Patriot

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



Volume 22

May 2016

Number 05

Compatriots bring a Friend to help us Honor our Firefighters/EMS Heroes...

TUESDAY, May 17, 2016 @ 12:00 noon
THE EMBASSY SUITES
1601 Belvedere Road,
West Palm Beach

MAY MEETING FEATURES:

- ✓ *Palm Beach County Firefighters & EMS Medal Awards*
- ✓ *Special Guest Speakers*
- ✓ *Eagle Scout Honor for Junior Compatriot Grey Johnson*
- ✓ *May Armed Forces Month Reflection*

- **Buffet Lunch, Deserts & Beverages just \$28 per person check/cash at the door.**
- **Reservations required RSVP Don Lanman (561) 315-5073.**
- **Guests are always welcome.**

NEWSLETTER CONTENT:

1. President's Message
2. 2016 Chapter Meeting Dates & Topics
3. Officers & Board Members

4. President's Brigade Financial Supporters
 5. Committees, Chairmen & Members
 6. National/State Society News & Events
 7. Special Recognition for Junior Compatriot Grey Johnson – Eagle Scout
 8. Feature Articles:
 - *Death Ships of New York Harbor*
 - *Revolutionary War POWs!*
 9. SAR Membership Information
 10. April Meeting Pictures
 11. Compatriot Sponsored Promotions
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1. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Fellow Compatriots,

It is my proud duty to report that Chapter Past President Ray Wess will be inducted as President of the Florida State SAR May 14 at the Board of Management meeting in Orlando.

This accomplishment reflects Ray's countless years of selfless service and dedication to the SAR, and his diligent promotion of the values of our Patriot ancestors. While Ray's achievement is a high honor, it is also a reflection on his character and the quality of the Chapter members. **Congratulations Ray!**

May is the traditional month for honoring Firefighters & EMS with recognition and appreciation! The Chapter will present several medals to these deserving professionals on April 17th. All Compatriots are encouraged to invite friends and attend this ceremony as a show of support for the heroes who serve our community by running into fires when everyone else is running out.

The Chapter honored officers of the "Thin Blue Line" at the April meeting with certificates of appreciation and medals for their community service. Officers from 5 local police departments received medals including 4 Law Enforcement and one Heroism award.

Honored officers included; Sergeant James Pike, Tequesta, Officer Matthew Finne, Boca Raton, Stephen Santos, PB County School Police, Deputy James Moss, PBSO and Officer Patrick Monteith, Boynton Beach for Heroism.

Compatriots represented the Chapter at the inspirational Missing in America ceremony in April. This special ceremony honored 23 Veterans whose cremated remains were unclaimed by family members.

The 23 Veterans and Spouses representing WW I, WW II, Korea and Vietnam were interred at the South Florida National Cemetery and honored by veteran supporters, military band, full military honors, 21 gun salute with the rendering of Taps.

Congress designated May as National Military Appreciation Month in 1999 to encourage all Americans to publically demonstrate their appreciation for the sacrifices made by our service members and veterans. I encourage all Compatriots to remember and honor the important role the U.S. Armed Forces have played in the history, protection, and development of our great country, and to actively support Veteran causes.

Supported by Compatriot Bob Boggs and Dan Shepard, Chapter Vice President Ben Tidwell concluded our annual JROTC awards outreach program with the presentation of 11 JROTC medals to local high school JROTC units.

Junior Compatriots Grey Sexton Johnson has earned his Boy Scout Eagle Scout rank. The Eagle Scout rank is the highest achievement in scouting reflecting a remarkable level of effort, hard work, dedication, and personal character. In recognition of this high achievement, the Chapter will honor Compatriot Johnson with a special recognition during the May meeting.

Four-time Rumbaugh Oration contest winner, Ms. Talia Fradkin, will represent our Chapter and the State Society at the National Society Conference in Boston July 8-13. We wish Talia every possible success.

The Chapter continues to expand relationships and joint events with the local DAR Chapters and was pleased to welcome representatives from several local DAR Chapters at the April meeting including *Palm Beach, Garcilaso de la Vega and Henry Morrison Flagler*.

At the April meeting representatives of the Henry Morrison Flagler DAR Chapter, referred two new SAR prospects to our Chapter. We sincerely appreciate these referrals and the ongoing DAR support of our membership development initiatives.

Fellow Compatriots, the Chapter needs your help to avoid losing money on the meeting luncheons. The Chapter has a minimum number of members that is required by the hotel to cover the room, food, and service. If our meeting attendance falls below the minimum, the Chapter must pay.

Please, support your Chapter, come to the meetings, invite friends and if you cannot make a meeting be sure to cancel your reservation or pay the \$28 fee so the chapter does not lose money.

Membership growth and active member 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 patriot ancestors, recognizing the community's first responders and supporting our many youth programs. It is easy to sustain your Chapter:

- ✓ **Attend Chapter lunch meetings & bring guests!**
- ✓ **Serve as officers & on committees!**
- ✓ **Introduce new members & spread the word about SAR**

As SAR members, we must continue to grow our chapter as an active social and civic-minded organization in the community to assure that our youth are educated on the importance of and respect for core American values.

You can help by enrolling your Sons and Grandsons in SAR, invite friends and neighbors to join and encourage wives, daughters, and granddaughters to join the DAR and SAR Women's Auxiliary.

Honor our patriot ancestors, honor our dear departed Compatriots, respect your fellow members, and God Bless the *United States of America*.

2. 2016 CHAPTER MEETING DATES/TOPICS:

Visit the Palm Beach Chapter web site at www.sarpbchapter.org for a meeting calendar, special events, articles, pictures, and general information.

- **May 17-Special Guests & Speakers: Firefighters/EMT Awards**
- **Summer Events:** Memorial Day, Flag Day, Bunker Hill Day, July 4th, Labor Day, American Eagle Day, Patriot Day, Constitution Day
- **Oct. 18** Special Guest Speaker:
- **Nov. 15** Special Guest Speaker, 2017 Officer Nominations

- **Dec. 10** Annual Holiday Event: **Kings Academy Holiday Musical**

3. 2016 OFFICERS AND BOARD:

Donald Lanman President	561-315-5073 dlanman258@aol.com
Benjamin Tidwell III Vice President	561-737-0230 ndtidwell@aol.com
Gary T. Green Secretary	561-968-5117 garytgreen@gmail.com
Peter Johnston Treasurer	561-729-6667 palmtreat@aol.com
Robert Boggs Registrar	51-241-3128 6 bobboggs1@gmail.com
Father Sanford Sears Chaplain	272-259-1413 fathersears@yahoo.com
Byrd Wenman Sergeant-at-Arms	561-385-3481 capt.byrd@yahoo.com
Samuel A. Miller Historian	561-793-1780 sammiller2@comcast.net
Donald Lanman Patriot Editor	561-315-5073 dlanman258@aol.com

4. JOIN THE PRESIDENT'S BRIGADE TODAY

The Chapter honors and expresses its sincere appreciation to the Compatriots of the **President's Brigade!** The dedicated members of the **President's Brigade** donate "extra dollars" in support of the Chapter's many youth programs, scholarships, civic activities, award certificates, police/firefighter medals, veterans' projects, and related community outreach programs.

Join the President's Brigade Today!

BRONZE \$50 - \$99

SILVER \$100 - \$199

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

**R. Culpepper
D. Coldwell
D. Shepherd**

GOLD \$200 - \$499

**R. Brinckerhoff
R. Banta
W. Meakin
R. Beck
E. Buckley
D. Lanman
B. Tidwell
S. Hitt**

PLATINUM \$500+

A. Dreyfoos

5. COMMITTEES, CHAIRS & MEMBERS

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

Please step up and volunteer to help with any of the chapter committees. It does not take much time and is a major help with our many civic initiatives. **Call** or email Don Lanman or Ben Tidwell **Today** to lend a hand on any of the following committees.

- **JROTC** -Ben Tidwell, Paul Chasteen
- **Law Enforcement/Fire Safety** - Keith Davis, Tidwell, Green
- **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

- **2017 Officer Nominations** – Lanman, Tidwell, Boggs
- **Flag Certificates** – Devon Clouse
- **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 has ordered a supply of pins from the SAR Foundation. We will offer them at the monthly meetings for the group price of just \$10. **Get yours today!**

b. National & State Society Events

- i. **State Society** Board of Management meeting in Orlando 5/13/14.
- ii. **National Conference** in Boston July 8-13. See websites for registration info.
- iii. **Memorial Day** Flag Placement at the South Florida National Cemetery to honor all Veterans by placing a flag by each tombstone. Compatriots should meet at the Cemetery at 9AM Sunday May 29. RSVP to Don Lanman.

7. JUNIOR COMPATRIOT, GREY SEXTON JOHNSON

The *National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution*, the *Florida Society*, and Compatriots of the *Palm Beach SAR Chapter*, extend heartfelt congratulations to Compatriot Johnson on earning the prestigious *Eagle Scout* rank.

The *National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution* and your *Palm Beach Chapter* has a long history with the *Boy Scouts of America*.

We applaud their significant contributions to our nation through the development of leaders, like Grey, encouraging good citizenship, and promoting the American values established by our Founding Fathers.

The Eagle Scout rank reflects Compatriot Johnson's years of hard work and dedication to the principals of self-reliance, leadership, loyalty, and community service.

Grey is now a member of an elite class of American citizens that includes US Presidents, Business, Political, and Military Leaders, and a "who's who" list of remarkable American citizens. **Well Done!**



Compatriot Grey Sexton Johnson

8. FEATURE ARTICLES

DEATH SHIPS OF NEW YORK HARBOR

Revolutionary War POWs

The One of the most gruesome chapters in the story of America's struggle for independence from Britain occurred in the waters near New York Harbor, near the current location of the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

From 1776 to 1783, the British forces occupying New York City used abandoned or decommissioned warships anchored just offshore to hold those soldiers, sailors and private citizens they had captured in battle or arrested on land or at sea (many for refusing to swear an oath of allegiance to the British Crown).

Some 11,000 prisoners died aboard the prison ships over the course of the war, many from disease or malnutrition. Many of these were inmates of the notorious *HMS Jersey*, which earned the nickname "Hell" for its inhumane conditions and the obscenely high death rate of its prisoners.

While it has estimated that between 4,500 and 8,000 Americans died in battle during the Revolutionary War, an even higher number—an estimated 8,000 to 11,000—died during that time in the Hell of British prison ships.

After the British captured New York, they had more prisoners than they could handle in their makeshift prisons. To manage the POWs at the lowest possible cost, the British began converting older ships into floating jails.

Everything that would allow the ships to sail (rudders, sails, masts, etc.) was removed, and they were anchored in *Wallabout Bay*, on the northwest shore of Brooklyn. Sixteen of these prison hulks—including the infamous *HMS Jersey* soon floated in the bay, where they crammed with up to a thousand prisoners on each prison barge.

Conditions aboard these ships were horrible and lethal. The combination of insufficient food that was often spoiled or raw, inadequate cooking facilities, lack of clean water, no toilet facilities or medical support and brutal treatment by guards caused dozens of Patriots to perish daily.

Every morning, the prisoners were brought above decks, regardless of the heat or cold or the health of the prisoners, while the holds were washed out. Then at sunset, the Patriots were forced to return below decks, where there was very little fresh air and no access to water.

The unsanitary conditions of the ship, along with the malnutrition of the prisoners—led to the rampant spread of diseases including yellow fever, dysentery, small pox, and typhoid. Those who died during the night were left in the hold until the morning, when they were tossed into the bay or buried in shallow mass graves along the bay.

"He was subjected to every privation, was starved, poisoned & became sick & very much enfeebled. Constitution nearly broken, was suffered to be dirty & lousy & was nearly consumed by body lice & last tho not least he took the small pox the natural way while a prisoner in New York & came very near dieing for want of care & the conveniences of life..." - Jonathan Banks, Revolutionary War pension file.

Some Patriots did manage to escape from the death ships. For example, any man who agreed to join the British navy was released, while others, mostly officers, were able to buy their way off or escape, while some were part of prisoner exchanges.

However, most remained in the floating prisons until they died or until the end of the war—whichever came first. By the time the war finally ended in 1783, only 1,400 prisoners, out of the more than 10,000 on the ships, had survived.

Years after the end of the war, some of the remains of Patriots that died aboard the prison ships were located in shallow graves along the harbor.

The remains were reinterred in *Fort Greene Park* after the 1808 burial vault near the Brooklyn Navy Yard had collapsed. In 1908, one hundred years after the burial ceremony, the Prison Ship Martyrs Monument was erected and dedicated to the Patriots in Brooklyn.

9. IS YOUR SAR MEMBERSHIP ACTIVE?

Keep your SAR membership active...

For Compatriots who forgot to pay the annual 2016 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.***

10. CHAPTER MARCH MEETING PICTURES



President Lanman & Deputy Chief M. Gauger



Officer Monteith SAR Heroism Medal Winner



Compatriot Waugh Memorial, Father Sears



JROTC Color Guard



JROTC Medals Awarded by Ben Tidwell



Raffle Winner, DAR Regent-Sheila Zile-Pecoraro

11. 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.**

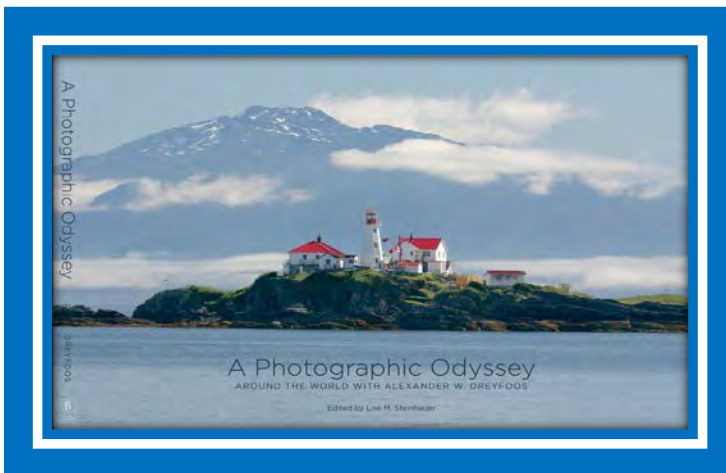
Your AD donation will also qualify you for the *Presidents Brigade* listing. Call Don Lanman (561) 315-5073 for information.

SPECIAL SPONSORED ADS ON FOLLOWING PAGES:

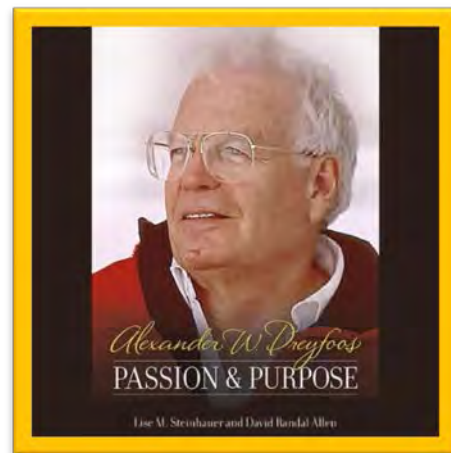
- COMPATRIOT ALEXANDER DREYFOOS
- COMPATRIOT ROBERT BRINCKERHOFF
- DAR GARCILASO DE LA VEGA, DAR CHAPTER

TWO GREAT BOOKS - ONE GREAT MAN

- Alexander W. Dreyfoos -



-A PHOTOGRAPHIC ODYSSEY-



-PASSION & PURPOSE-

Compatriot Alexander W Dreyfoos, Jr. an honored member of the *Palm Beach Chapter Sons of the American Revolution*, noted American entrepreneur, and philanthropist has published two remarkable books that should be on every bookshelf. **Book sales proceeds donated to local West Palm Beach charities!**

- **Passion & Purpose** chronicles a remarkable lifetime of passion with photography, his business, inventions and philanthropic ventures, as well as his adventures above and below the water. **\$29.95.**
- **A Photographic Odyssey** is a remarkable collection of hundreds of stunning pictures from 100,000 photos taken by Alex around the world and bound in an elegant 15” by 10” glossy photographic book. You will travel with Alex around the world, above and below the water, to forests, jungles, glaciers, and deserts in the exotic locals of Papua New Guinea, Bhutan, Nepal, China, Japan, and Tibet. The subjects are very divergent contrasting palaces and temples with the vulnerability of people, animals, and exotic scenery. **\$60.00.**
- **Support** your Chapter & local charities! **Get both books, Passion & Purpose & A Photographic Odyssey, just \$71.96 @ kravis.org/books or Call (561) 651-4329.**

-Alexander W. Dreyfoos-

After graduating from MIT and Harvard Business School, Alex founded *Photo Electronics Corporation (PCS)*, specializing in photography and video production. Over the decades, Alex earned 10 US patents and invented the *Video Color Negative Analyzer* for motion pictures earning him an *Academy Award* for technical achievement. Many inventions, developed by PCS, are on permanent display at the *Smithsonian Institution*. Locally Alex also owned television station WPEC TV-12, the CBS affiliate in West Palm Beach. Alex's many philanthropic achievements include founding the *Palm Beach County Cultural Council*, the *Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts* and gifting a million dollars to the *Dreyfoos School of the Arts*. Alex also donated a million dollars each to the Palm Beach County biomedical research campus of the *Scripps Research Institute* and the local *Max Planck Florida Foundation for Neuroscience* in Jupiter, Florida.

- Robert W. Brinckerhoff -

-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

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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.

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- DAR Garcilaso de la Vega, DAR Chapter -



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