



The Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

Fort Lauderdale Chapter Newsletter



website: www.fortlauderdale.sar.org

Facebook page: Fort Lauderdale Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

Jan 2024

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Compatriots and Friends,

I wish you all the best for 2024. As we begin to plan our 2024 Chapter Program, I will take this opportunity to remind you that our first meeting to be held on January 20, 2024, is the annual meeting of the S.E. Region, FLSSAR, which we will host in Davie at the Outback Steakhouse, 2725 South University Drive, starting at 11:30 a.m. We anticipate filling the room so please R.S.V.P if you plan to attend.

We start 2024 with an exceptionally strong active membership. Consider these stats:

Prior year beginning membership: 59

Prior year ending membership: 75

Average change in membership: 69

Change in net membership: 16 or 27%

Average lunch member attendance: 16 or 24% of average 2023 membership. This is in addition to the average of 6 guests or prospects who also attended our 11 regular or special lunches held in 2023.

Welcome also to our three newest members: Blair and Newton Collins, and Eric P. Knott.

At our 2023 Veteran's Day lunch meeting held on November 11, 2023, the Chapter membership elected the 2024 Chapter officers whose names and positions are listed on the last page of this newsletter. Their induction will occur at the January 20, 2024, S.E. Regional Meeting.

Finally, I want to thank all of you who sent in additional contributions along with your 2024 dues to either contribute to general Chapter support or to specifically contribute to our \$1,776 Chapter donation to the SAR Education Center and Museum Project. Many of you contributed to both. As of the year-end, we received a total of \$2,306 from 39 members leaving \$530 for general use after our 2024 donation to the SAR Museum scheduled to open by July 2026. All of those contributing to the SAR Education Center and Museum Project will be named and acknowledged when the donation is made on January 20, 2024.

For the most current information on upcoming meetings or for information and links to prior Chapter activity, visit us at www.fortlauderdale.sar.org.

I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Chuck Adams

President, Treasurer and Registrar/Genealogist

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb 17-18, 2024. Florida Society C.A.R. State Conference, Melbourn, FL.

Feb 29, Mar 1-2, 2024. Spring Leadership, Louisville, KY.

Mar 16, 2024. Last Naval Battle Ceremony, Merrit Island, FL

Mar 23, 2024. Battle of Thomas Creek Ceremony, Jacksonville, FL

Apr 2024 TBA. Honor Flights of South Florida, Probably at Fort Lauderdale – Hollywood International Airport.

May 8, 2024. Battle of Pensacola Commemoration, Pensacola, FL.

May 17-18, 2024 Spring BOM, Kissimmee, FL.

Jul 10-16, 2024. 134th National Congress, Lancaster, PA.



NEXT MEETING - January 20, 2024

Davie Outback Steak House
2725 South University Dr. Davie, Florida 33328

Future Dates:

Saturday, 02/17/2024

Saturday, 03/16/2024

Saturday, 04/20/2024

Saturday, 05/25/2024

Saturday, 06/15/2024

Saturday, 07/20/2024

Time: 11:30 AM social gathering; Lunch at noon

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL: 954-345-6276
or e-mail Chuck Adams at: chuckadams1808@gmail.com

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING SUMMARY NOVEMBER 11, 2023

At our November 11, 2023, meeting we had 14 members and 3 guests for a total attendance of 17. Members (14): Chuck Adams ^{ca}, President & Registrar/Genealogist; Steve DePaul ^{ca}, Vice President & Sergeant-at-Arms; Mark Snider ^{ca}, Secretary; Kevin Shurte ^{ca}, Historian; Tim McLane ^{ca}, Chaplain; Jim Clark; Paul DeBold; Herb Gardener, Martin Hollick, James Lohmeyer; Barry Moss; Lincoln Pero, and Tom Shepherd. Prospective Members / Guests (3): Kenneth Williams, Prospect; Paul Moore, Prospect; and Claudia Perry, Wreaths Across America Rep. The superscript ^{ca} records compatriots attending in colonial attire and participating in the Color Guard.

Color Guardsmen Steve DePaul, Tim McLane, Kevin Shurte, & Mark Snider presented the colors with Chuck Adams leading the assembly in the SAR Pledge and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chuck Adams recognized the presence of our newest applicant, Paul Moore. He said that year to date, our membership has increased from 59 to net 75, and that there will be three applications pending SAR approval at year end. all but six have renewed their membership for 2024.

Steve DePaul provided an update on the Liberty Tree Dedication Project, and provided the status of his discussions with Dania Beach, Pompano Beach and Tamarac.

Mark Snider stated that the Executive Committee approved via e-mail the amended budget as of October 31, 2023.

Mark Snider stated that 4,035 points have been accumulated to date by the Chapter for the 2023 Stark Awards Program. He outlined the SAR Partners in Patriotism Award Certificate which is awarded which is awarded To Chapters reporting "Activities Supporting Veterans in Cooperation with other Organizations" as part of the annual Stark Awards Program Report.

Chuck Adams gave the Status of Fund Report as of October 31, 2023. He stated that the November 2023 Newsletter includes the Member Profile of Eric P. Knott who's application was recently approved by SAR. On 2023 youth programs, Chuck Adams reported that he and Kevin Shurte attended the November 5, 2023, Swamp Fox Society C.A.R. meeting which was held at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center in Boca Raton.

Kevin Shurte presented the 250 Anniversary Recognition Program Report. This month he summarized his report on *the Patriots Capture of Montreal*, which is also published in the November 2023 Newsletter.

An update was provided by Claudia Perry on the Wreaths Across America ceremony being held on December 16, 2023, at the Forest Lawn North Memorial Gardens. Chuck Adams presented her with the Chapter check for \$408, noting that 50% of that amount was contributed by the H.S. White Corporation of Pompano Beach.

Mark Snider stated that the Chapter, as a member of the Vietnam War Commemorative Partner Program, periodically recognizes Vietnam War era veterans. In the Chapter, he recognized Jim Clark and Paul DeBold for their military service during the period of 1954 – 1975. Chuck Adams stated that in commemoration of Veteran's Day that he had SAR Veteran's Committee Challenge Coins for all of our Chapter veterans. He and Mark distributed coins to the veteran members present: Jim Clark, Paul DeBold, Jim Lohmeyer, and Tim McLane.

Chuck Adams presented medals, certificates and awards to the following Chapter Compatriots:

1. Samuel Nicholas Camp # 23 Color Guard. SAR Color Guard Challenge Coins and Chapter Certificates were presented to the founding members of the Fort Lauderdale SAR Color Guard: Chuck Adams, Steve DePaul, Tom Carpenter Jr (not present), Tim McLane, Kevin Shurte and Mark Snider.
2. Membership Service. Tom Shepherd was presented with his 5-Year Membership Award.
3. 250 Anniversary Recognition Awards. Tom Shepherd was presented with the Bronze Certificate; Chuck Adams, Steve DePaul, and Mark Snider were presented the Silver Certificate & Medal; and Kevin Shurte was presented the Gold Certificate & Medal.
4. Henry Knox Achievement Award. Chuck Adams explained that the purpose of this award is to recognize a Chapter member for a specific or for multiple contributions advancing the Chapter's mission. As Chapter President, he is presented this award to: Thomas Shepherd; Steve DePaul; Kevin Shurte; and Mark Snider.

The following Compatriots were elected as the 2024 Chapter officers: President, Treasurer & Registrar/Genealogist - Chuck Adams; Vice President - Steve DePaul; Secretary - Mark Snider; Editor - Joe Motes; Historian - Kevin Shurte; and Chaplin - Tim McLane.

To read the complete set of the minutes of general members meeting held on the November 11, 2023, open the document sent to you by e-mail, or review it at the archives subpage for minutes and agendas which are maintained at the Chapter website: www.fortlauderdale-sar.org.



Fort Lauderdale Chapter Compatriots at the November 11, 2023, General Membership Meeting.



Fort Lauderdale Color Guardsmen presented Claudia Perry with a Chapter donation for Wreaths Across America. The Color Guard will perform the Presentation of Colors at the ceremony held at the Forest Lawn North Memorial Gardens, Pompano Beach on December 16, 2023.



Thomas Shepherd presented 5-Year Membership Award



Kevin Shurte presented Gold 250 Medal Award



Chuck Adams (left end) and Mark Snider (right end) present SAR Veteran's Committee Challenge Coins to from left: Jim Lohmeyer, Paul DeBold, Jim Clark and Tim McLane.



Henry Knox Achievement Award, recipients from left: Kevin Shurte, Thomas Shepherd, Mark Snider, and Steve DePaul presented by Chuck Adams on right.



Founding Members of the Fort Lauderdale Samuel Nicholas Camp #23 Color Guard Recognized, from left: Chuck Adams, Steve DePaul, Mark Snider, Kevin Shurte and Tim McLane.



250 Anniversary Recognition Silver Medal Award, recipients from left: Mark Snider, Steve DePaul, Chuck Adams and Kevin Shurte.

2024 CHAPTER OFFICERS

PRESIDENT / TREASURER - CHUCK ADAMS
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AMERICA 250
THE GOLDEN HILL RIOT – JANUARY 19, 1770
 By Kevin Shurte

Just as the battles of Lexington and Concord marked the opening shots of the American Revolution, so too did the Golden Hill Riot mark its first bloodshed. The Golden Hill Riot, commonly referred to as the Battle of Golden Hill, was one of the earliest clashes arising between American patriots and British regulars.

Following the conclusion of the French and Indian War in 1763, the British government opted to keep a standing army in North America to maintain control over their newly conquered land holdings in Florida and Canada, as well as to suppress possible Indian uprisings. As part of this peacetime force, 1,500 British soldiers arrived in New York City in 1766. In accordance with the parliamentary Quartering Act of 1765, colonial legislatures were responsible for providing barracks or public housing accommodations for all British troops. However, the New York Assembly refused to levy taxes to comply with this dictate, thus many of the newly arrived soldiers had no quarters in the existing city barracks and had to billet aboard their ships.

Adding insult to injury, the New York Sons of Liberty, formed in 1765 by John Lamb, Alexander McDougall, and Isaac Sears in response to Parliament's passage of the Stamp Act, had erected a series of 4 liberty poles to date on the Common outside Montagne's Tavern near the corners of Murrays Street and Broad Way, one block south of the British barracks. British soldiers had felled the first three liberty poles constructed of wood, so the patriots cast the lower portion of the fourth pole in iron. From 1767 to 1770, British soldiers made several unsuccessful attempts to destroy this hardened target by means of cutting and digging. Finally, on the night of January 13, 1770, redcoats attempted to explode the liberty pole with gunpowder. However, patrons of Montagne's Tavern discovered the saboteurs and began heckling them. Reacting to this verbal harassment, the soldiers drew their swords, fixed their bayonets, and stormed and vandalized the premises. This ransacking sparked civil unrest in NYC over the next week.

On January 15, an anonymous broadside published under the pseudonym "Brutus" appeared on the streets. This appeal asserted that British soldiers were not present to protect but to enslave the citizen population. It directed those who sought to learn more and further the Cause to meet at the liberty pole at noon on January 17. However, the night before the meeting was to take place, British soldiers crept out in darkness and succeeded in downing the symbol of resistance, exploding its iron base, chopping its wooden pole, and spitefully littering its debris at the doorway of Montagne's Tavern.

The next day 2,000-3,000 patriots answered the broadside's call and gathered at the Common where they discussed their outrage over the billeting of soldiers and resolved to treat "any soldier who behaved in an insulting manner" as an enemy of the peace (Bacelar). The British 16th Regiment of Foot responded with their own missive titled "God and a Soldier" which claimed responsibility for the destruction of the liberty pole, labeled the Sons of Liberty as the true enemies of peace, and ridiculed them for clinging to a piece of wood for their freedom.

Hostilities finally boiled over in Manhattan on January 19, 1770. The conflict started with patriots Isaac Sears and Walter Quackenbush attempting to prevent soldiers posting their "God and a Soldier" leaflets. The incident began to escalate as additional soldiers arrived with fixed bayonets. Attempting to pacify the situation, NYC mayor Whitehead Hicks ordered the soldiers to return to their barracks. Armed with knives, clubs, and a halberd, the crowd followed until encountering British reinforcements on Golden Hill. Here the regulars drew their weapons and taunted the crowd, "Where are your Sons of Liberty now?" (New York Historical Society). Consequently, a brawl soon erupted, and a riot spread throughout the neighborhood.

While no deaths occurred, combatants on both sides suffered beatings and stabbings in addition to injuries inflicted on unarmed, uninvolved citizens. Golden Hill Riot marks the first incident of open aggression between American colonists and British soldiers and the first instance of blood spilt relative to the coming war. Just six weeks later, British troops would fire upon another group of colonists in another city killing five in what has come to be known as the Boston Massacre.

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**SWAMP FOX SOCIETY C.A.R.
Tomorrow's Rainbow - December 3, 2023**

The end of year holiday meeting of the Swamp Fox Society C.A.R. was held on December 3, 2023, at Tomorrow's Rainbow. This 501 c (3) non-profit organization is located in Coconut Creek and has been in operation there since 2005. It offers individual therapy to children, teens, and individuals who have experienced grief, loss, or trauma. It specializes in the use of equine assisted therapy offered by licensed practitioners using Tomorrow's Rainbow herd of twelve or more ponies, two horses, two donkeys and several sheep and goats and other small barnyard animals.

Services are offered for free and Tomorrow's Rainbow counsels approximately 500 to 600 qualifying individuals per year. They are supported by grants and foundations, corporate and individual donations and proceeds from fundraising events. Learn more about them at www.tomorrowsrainbow.org, or check them out on YouTube.

Abby Mosher, Founder & CEO met our group of ten children and senior advisors. Representing the Chapter were: Chuck and Ronna Adams, Steve DePaul and Kevin Shurte. Abby gave us a tour of the farm and facilities and she participated in the Society's meeting. Kevin Shurte gave a rousing presentation on the Boston Tea Party.

It has been a 2023 goal of the Fort Lauderdale Chapter to find additional causes serving children in Broward County that we can assist. This year we encouraged the Swamp Fox Society C.A.R. to join with us in making matching contributions to this worthy organization. They were able to use their Kids Helping Kids Program to partner with us on this now common goal. At the close of the December 3rd meeting, both the Swamp Fox Society C.A.R. and the Fort Lauderdale Chapter SAR each gave a check for \$250 or a total contribution of \$500 to support the mission and work of Tomorrow's Rainbow.



Left: Kyle Peterson, Chuck Adams, Kacie Peterson, Betty Schulz, Camden Potts, Mary Margaret Langton, Katy Peterson, Kevin Shurte and Abby Mosher. Not shown: Ronna Adams and Steve DePaul.



Fort Lauderdale Chapter SAR and Swamp Fox Society C.A.R. Presentation of Checks to Abby Mosher, Founder & CEO, Tomorrow's Rainbow.

**WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA
Pompano Beach – December 16, 2023**

On December 16, 2023, at the annual Wreaths Across America Ceremony held in Broward County, fourteen Chapter Compatriots and friends gathered at Forest Lawn North Memorial Gardens to remember and honor our veterans, both past and present.

The ceremony was attended by over two hundred thirty-five participants representing 20 or more groups and organizations. The Fort Lauderdale - Samuel Nicholas Camp - Golor Guard was honored to have been selected to perform the Presentation of Colors.

The sporadic and sometimes heavy rains experienced throughout the weekend prevented the actual distribution of most wreaths by the participants. This was done later by cemetery staff and volunteers. The donated lunch by Mission BBQ, put a smile on everyone's faces in spite of the bleak weather.

The Fort Lauderdale Chapter was represented by the following members, applicants and friends:

Chuck Adams; Jason Clark (and daughters Ella and Charlotte); Paul DeBold; Steve DePaul; Martin Hollick & Michael Clark; Tim McLane and Dr. Bernard Hecht; Barry Moss; Kevin Shurte (and sister Lois King); and newest applicant, Paul Scott.



Fort Lauderdale Chapter Color Guardsmen: Steve DePaul, Paul Scott, Chuck Adams, Kevin Shurte, and Tim McLane.



IN MEMORIAM

Dwight Donald Elam

September 12, 1951 – December 19, 2023



Compatriot Dwight Elam passed away on Tuesday, December 19, 2023. For many years he served as the Florida Society Chaplin, and he also was recently elected Chaplin General at the 2023 National Congress. Dwight and his wife, Beckey, have resided in the Fort Meyers area for the last twenty years.

From early manhood, Dwight had a lifelong career, whether paid or as a volunteer, in Christian ministries and education. His extensive obituary is available on-line through a Goggle search of his name and residence.

A Celebration of Life for Dwight was held on Saturday, December 30, 2023, at the First Christian Church of Punta Gorda. The Florida Sons of Liberty Color Guard performed the Presentation of Colors. Approximately fifteen color guardsmen from throughout the State participated in the ceremony. Chapter color guardsmen, Steve DePaul and Kevin Shurte, represented the Fort Lauderdale Chapter.



Center front: Florida Society President Steve Fields. Shown to his left and right: Fort Lauderdale Chapter Color Guardsmen, Steve DePaul and Kevin R. Shurte, respectively.



**SAR MEMBER PROFILE – BLAIR A. COLLINS
INTERVIEWED BY CHUCK ADAMS**



Q. Ok Blair, can you tell us a little bit about yourself?

A. I was born in Washington D.C. in 1954. I grew up in suburban Springfield, Virginia, and attended Annandale High School. I went to college at Virginia Tech, in Blacksburg, Virginia, and I graduated with a BS degree in Microbiology in 1977. Go Hokies!!

Q. Can you tell us about your career and whether or not you are retired?

A. After graduating, I worked at a local small laboratory in Northern Virginia that focused on government contracts. I moved to South Florida in 1982. Over my career, I had positions in pharmaceutical and clinical research, primarily as Project Manager/Director. I co-founded a medical marketing company, Interact Communications, which my partner and I ran for about 10 years. I have been fully retired now since about 2017.

Q. Can you tell us about some of your recreational interests?

A. Baseball, golf and tennis have always been my favorite participation sports. From a fan perspective, I enjoy all mentioned as well as football and soccer. My wife and I like to walk (mostly with our dog Chester), cycle, travel and attend regular exercise classes at the YMCA. I particularly like to root for our South Florida teams – Marlins, Dolphins and Panthers.

Q. How about your family?

A. I have been married to the love of my life and best friend, Valerie, now for 41 years. After getting married in 1982, we relocated to South Florida and have become “native” Floridians (transplants) ever since. Our son Ryan is 35 years old and works for Publix. Our daughter Shannon sadly passed away at the age of 19 from diabetes complications. We support our local horse and ferret rescues as well as the Humane Society and Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA). Nationally, we support the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) and St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital.

Q. Who is your Patriot ancestor?

A. My patriot ancestor was Captain David Dickson (Dixon) of South Carolina. He commanded a company in 1776 under Brigadier General Williamson. In 1777 he brought a company of Minute Men to Georgia and was stationed on the Frontier. In 1778 his company served in the Artillery during the third failed invasion of East Florida attempting to capture St. Augustine.

Thanks, Blair, for sharing.