



# The Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

## Fort Lauderdale Chapter Newsletter



website: [www.fortlauderdale.sar.org](http://www.fortlauderdale.sar.org)

Facebook page: Fort Lauderdale Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

JULY 2023

Fort Lauderdale Chapter chartered December 8, 1966

Volume 54 Number 7

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Compatriots and Friends,

Whew! This has been a busy month.

Since our last meeting, I continued to work with three prospective members -- Peter DeWick, Jim McHugh and Lincoln Pero -- in order to complete their applications. I am pleased to report that this has been accomplished. I anticipate all to be approved between the end of August to early September 2023. Our net 2023 membership is now at 72, and it is evident that more will be added before year end.

At our June 17, 2023, General Membership Meeting, I announced that we would recognize in subsequent Chapter Newsletters and at Chapter Meetings a Revolutionary War Era event occurring between 1764-1783. This is in observance of SAR's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Recognition Program. Newly elected Chapter Historian, Kevin Shurte, has agreed to work with me on this initiative. For this month, his report on the 1775 Olive Branch Petition follows on page 3.

On June 24, 2023, the Chapter hosted a Donut Saturday at the Alexander Niningner State Veterans Nursing Home. A separate article on this subject follows on page 4.

On June 27, 2023, Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade Commander, Scott Breckinridge, approved our camp's name which is the Samuel Nicholas Camp #23. A separate article on this subject follows on page 5.

On June 30, 2023, the H.S. White Corporation was presented a flag display recognition certificate by Chapter representative, Kevin Shurte. Company representative, Amanda J. Barnes, accepted our certificate and proceeded to present the Chapter with a corporate donation of \$750. More information on this event is separately reported in the article that follows on page 3.

Also on June 30, 2023, Joe Motes and I finished and submitted three grant reimbursement requests totaling \$1,500 to representatives of the FLSSAR Endowment Trust Fund.

For the last couple of months, we have discussed the impending move of Joe Motes to the Jacksonville area. Joe has advised me that he now expects to move in August and that our July 29, 2023, will be the last meeting that he plans to attend - at least for 2023. I encourage all active members to attend and wish Joe well at the July 29, 2023, General Membership Meeting.

For the most current information on upcoming meetings or for information and links to prior Chapter activity, visit us at [www.fortlauderdale.sar.org](http://www.fortlauderdale.sar.org).

I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Chuck Adams  
President and Registrar/Genealogist  
Fort Lauderdale Chapter SAR



### NEXT MEETING - JULY 29, 2023

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

#### Future Dates:

Saturday, 09/16/2023  
Saturday, 10/21/2023  
Saturday, 11/18/2023  
Saturday, 01/20/2024  
Saturday, 02/17/2024

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

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL: 954-345-6276  
or e-mail Chuck Adams at: [chuckadams1808@gmail.com](mailto:chuckadams1808@gmail.com)

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING SUMMARY JUNE 17, 2023

At our June 17, 2023, meeting we had 24 members and 10 guests. **Members (24):** Chuck Adams, President & Registrar/Genealogist; Steve De Paul, Vice President & Sergeant-at-Arms; Mark Snider<sup>ca</sup>, Secretary; Joe Motes, Treasurer & Editor; Kevin Shurte<sup>ca</sup>, Acting Historian; Tim McLane<sup>ca</sup>, Chaplain; Jim Clark; Paul DeBold; Cliff Dickinson; Ted Duay; Ronald Goodale; Martin Hollick; Jim Lohmeyer; Dave Lohmeyer; Jesse Lohmeyer; Jordan Lohmeyer; John Lohmeyer; John Lohmeyer Jr; Tommy Lohmeyer; Scott Moore; Barry Moss; John Sauerwald; Tom Shepherd; and Michael Spear. **Prospective Members / Guests (10):** Peter DeWick, Prospect; Lincoln Pero, Prospect; Ronna Adams; Janice Dickinson; Kailey Gullickson; Marianne Haas; Chrissie Lohmeyer; Melissa Lohmeyer; baby Maxi Lohmeyer; and Lynne Moore. The subscript <sup>ca</sup> records compatriots attending in colonial attire.

Tim McLane, recently elected Chaplain, gave an excellent Invocation through which he conveyed Chapter condolences on the passing of Compatriot Earl Higginbotham and Paul De Paul, father of Compatriot Steve De Paul, as well as expressed well wishes and a speedy recovery from recent surgery to Compatriot Tom Carpenter Jr.

Chuck Adams recognized the presence of our recently approved newest members and their wives, Scott (Lynne) Moore and Cliff (Janice) Dickinson. He also acknowledged the presence of our newest applicant, Peter DeWick, and our newest prospect, Lincoln Pero. Over the next month, he hopes to finish applications for Lincoln Pero and Jim McHugh and resume work on an application for prospect Gary Van Sciver. He said that year to date our membership has increased from 59 to 72, including the recent reinstatement of Ronald Goodale.

Chuck Adams reported on the May 19-20, 2023, FLSSAR Board of Management (BOM) meeting which he attended along with Steve De Paul and Kevin Shurte. He stated that Kevin Shurte is the first from our Chapter to have participated at the BOM in the FLSSAR Color Guard presentation of colors at the two banquets. He announced that the Chapter won second place in the 2022 Chapter Challenge for mid-sized chapters.

Chuck Adams explained the purpose of the 250 Anniversary Recognition Program. He stated that going forward, the Chapter will recognize an historical event in every forthcoming Newsletter and Chapter meeting. He briefly discussed the Battle of Bunker Hill as our first 250<sup>th</sup> Chapter recognized event. He stated that he and Kevin Shurte would co-chair the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Recognition Committee, and that each month a significant revolutionary war era event occurring between 1764 and 1783 will be featured and summarized.

Chuck stated that he, along with Steve De Paul and Kevin Shurte, will represent the Chapter at the July 15 – 20, 2023, 133<sup>rd</sup> National Congress. He said that Mark Snider will also attend to help with registration for the first couple of days.

Steve De Paul reported that he and Chuck had discussed the continuing need for the Fundraising and Charitable Giving Committee. It has been agreed that the original committee will be disbanded and its recommendations made earlier in the year further considered by the Executive Committee. Steve said that he will continue as the Fundraising Committee Chairman both in raising money and in seeking out corporate donations of goods for the Veterans.

Mark Snider reported on the actions taken by the Executive Committee which held a Zoom meeting on June 14, 2023. At that meeting, Kevin Shurte was recommended to replace Joe Motes as Historian subject to the final approval of the general membership. The Executive Committee also approved making a \$250 donation to Honor Flights South Florida in memory of Compatriot M. Earl Higginbotham, and it approved the most currently updated Amended Budget as of May 31, 2023.

Mark Snider continued by reporting that the approvals were received from NSSAR appointing him as Representative and Chuck as Deputy Representative to the Veterans Administration Voluntary Service (CDCE/VAVS) Committee. He stated that last month he attended the Vietnam War Commemorative Welcome Home Program in Washington D.C.

Mark Snider stated that the Chapter will host a Donut Saturday on June 24, 2023, starting at 10:30 a.m. at the Alexander Nininger State Veterans Nursing Home. The Chapter is donating over \$550 in equipment for the facility which will be assembled and presented as part of the event.

Joe Motes provided the Status of Fund Report as of May 31, 2023, and Chuck Adams reported on the Amended Budget as of May 31, 2023. Joe Motes next reported on the various school ceremonies he has attended in awarding JROTC and Sea Cadet medals and certificates. Steve De Paul commented on the enthusiasm of the recipients that he observed at the ceremony he attended representing the Chapter.

Kevin Shurte was elected to serve as 2023 Chapter Historian for the unexpired term of Joe Motes.

Chuck Adams inducted Compatriots Scott A. Moore and W. Cliff Dickinson. Ted Duay explained the purpose of and presented the Rosette recognition lapel pin to both Compatriots. Wives, Lynne Moore and Janice Dickinson, assisted with the pinning of the Rosette.

Chuck Adams presented the SAR Memorial Membership Certificate for Eugene Spear to his brother and sponsor, Compatriot Michael Spear. He also presented the 5 Year SAR Membership Award Certificate to Jim Clark, and he acknowledged other members having anniversaries as published in the June 2023 Newsletter.

Chuck Adams, assisted by Steve DePaul, presented the Chapter's Bronze Meritorious Service Medal to Jim Lohmeyer.

To read the complete set of the minutes of general members meeting held on the June 17, 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](http://www.fortlauderdale.sar.org).

**AMERICA 250 SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL -  
THE OLIVE BRANCH PETITION – JULY 5, 1775**  
By Kevin R. Shurte

In a letter to his wife, Abigail, John Adams wrote that July 2<sup>nd</sup> would forever be commemorated as the “epocha” of American history – this being the day that the Continental Congress had initially declared America’s freedom. Instead, July 4, the day Congress approved the final draft of the Declaration, was to become the universally celebrated date of America’s birth. However, just 364 days prior, the Continental Congress had drafted a lesser-known document that could have forever changed the future of the American colonies. That document came to be known as the Olive Branch Petition of July 5, 1775.

In the years following the French and Indian War (1754-1763), the British Parliament enacted a series of tax laws on the American colonies intended to reduce an approximate £133 million national debt, nearly half of which had been accrued during the war. These laws included the Sugar Act (1764), Stamp Act (1765), and Townshend Acts (1767, 1768) which levied taxes on sugar/molasses, printed materials, and various British imports respectively. Colonists resented these levies believing that Parliament had no right taxing a people who had no representation in government. These acts led to much civil unrest in the colonies which prompted Parliament to further pass a series of new laws known as the Coercive Acts of 1774.

The Coercive, or Intolerable Acts, as they were collectively known in the colonies, specifically punished the Massachusetts Colony by blockading Boston Harbor, limiting representative self-government, and eliminating the right to trial by a jury of one’s peers. The final Intolerable Act, which applied to all thirteen of the colonies, required colonists to quarter British soldiers at their own expense. These acts caused dissent in the colonies and were deciding factors leading up to the outbreak of the American Revolution.

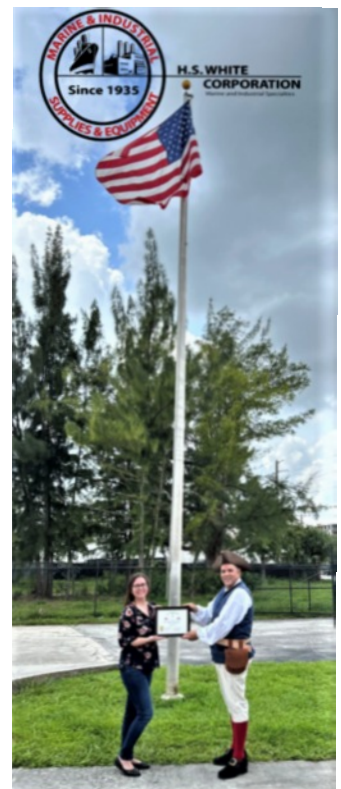
Following the first battles at Lexington and Concord and Bunker Hill, Congress adopted the Olive Branch Petition as a final appeal to King George III for reconciliation between the North American colonies and Britain. It was composed by John Dickinson of Pennsylvania, and signed by delegates from twelve of the thirteen colonies, excepting Georgia whose delegates were not yet in attendance. The ornately written petition promised loyalty to the crown and pleaded with the king to intervene on behalf of his “faithful subjects” regarding what the delegates perceived as parliamentary overreach.

The Olive Branch Petition sought to reassure the British monarch of American colonial allegiance while explaining the just resistance of the colonies to the injustices they had suffered at the hands of an unjust Parliament – but it was not to be. King George refused to accept or even read Congress’s plea and declared the colonies to be in open revolt thereby setting in motion the events leading up to American independence which Congress officially declared 364 days later.

**FLAG DISPLAY RECOGNITION -  
H.S. WHITE CORPORATION**  
By Kevin R. Shurte

The Sons of the American Revolution periodically presents certificates of commendation to recognize individuals, companies, and governmental agencies who proudly fly the flag of the United States. On June 30, 2023, the Fort Lauderdale Chapter SAR recognized H.S. White Corporation of Pompano Beach for patriotically displaying the American flag outside their place of business. At the beginning and ending of each business day, a company designee raises and lowers the flag flying at 1350 S. Dixie Highway East. On behalf of the Fort Lauderdale Chapter, SAR member Kevin R. Shurte presented a certificate of commendation to Amanda J. Barnes, Vice President of Marketing. H.S. White Corporation is actively involved in the local community and has been a leading supplier of marine and industrial gaskets, hoses, and expansion joints for more than 80 years.

Also at the June 30, 2023 presentation, the H.S. White Corporation made a \$750 donation to the Fort Lauderdale Chapter SAR in order to help us carry out our historic, patriotic and educational programs serving Broward County.





## VETERANS SUPPORT AND US STARK MEMORIAL AWARD COMMITTEE

On June 24, 2023, the Chapter hosted a Donut Saturday at the Alexander Nining State Veterans Nursing Home. This facility serving veterans is located at 8401 W Cypress Dr, Pembroke Pines, Florida.

Chaired by Mark Snider, this was an initiate of the Veterans Support and US Stark Memorial Award Committee. Representing the Chapter were Mark Snider, Steve De Paul, John and Dolores Sauerwald. At this event, we delivered and assembled over \$550 in equipment that we have donated to the facility. Selected from a wish list provided by Activities Director, Jill Rutenberg, we donated a wheeled popcorn cart, an air fryer, a mobile dry erase whiteboard, and two big button TV remotes.

More information on activities of the Veterans Support and US Stark Memorial Award Committee is discussed in the summary of the June 17, 2023, General Membership Meeting on page 2.



### ANNIVERSARIES

This month, July 2023, the following Compatriots with uninterrupted SAR membership have been awarded their membership award certificate:

45 Years – Dr. Arthur Edward Chapman, Compatriot since 15 Nov 1977.

5 Years - James William Harrison, Compatriot since 27 Jul 2018.



Mark Snider viewing assembled popcorn cart, air fryer and dry erase whiteboard. In background are Dolores and John Sauerwald.



From back row left, pictured are Mark Snider, Steve De Paul and John Sauerwald with two veterans and Jill Rutenberg.





## **SAMUEL NICHOLAS CAMP #23**

**By Chuck Adams and Kevin Shurte**

Earlier this year, sufficient interest was expressed by Chapter members to explore the formation of the first Fort Lauderdale Color Guard. Several Zoom meetings were held with those interested, and the first order of business was to review options and costs for colonial military and civilian attire. The consensus of the group was to adopt militia attire as the standard dress for our initial color guardsmen. This was agreed to in order to keep costs affordable as well as to present a consistent appearance for our guardsmen. Having secured commitments from at least five Compatriots, we next pursued how to obtain approval by the Florida Society. We also started exchanging ideas for a camp name. We planned to finalize how to proceed at the May 19-20, 2023, meeting of the Florida Board of Management (BOM). The approval by the Florida Society was done by a handshake on May 19, 2023, after discussions by Chuck Adams with the outgoing (Steve Fields) and incoming (Scott Breckenridge) Commanders of the Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade Color Guard. Kevin Shurte attended the BOM in militia attire and was invited to participate in the presentation of colors at both evening banquets. At the BOM, further ideas were gathered on selecting a camp name that would have Revolutionary War significance for Fort Lauderdale and Broward County. A theme that might capture or touch on history related to the Continental Navy was suggested. Armed with this information, Kevin Shurte did further research on the formation of the Continental Navy which led us to the realization that an early and significant naval engagement called the Battle of Nassau was fought about 190 miles southeast off of our coast, and that the land assault was led by Samuel Nicholas who is recognized as the first Commandant of the United States Marine Corps. After presenting this research and proposal in a Zoom meeting with the initial subscribers to the Fort Lauderdale Color Guard, that name was approved and forwarded for approval to state. The June 27, 2023, e-mail reply from Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade Color Guard Commander, Scott Breckinridge, said "Chuck, I really like it...Bravo Zulu to you and your guardsmen for the excellent research. The official name is.... "Samuel Nicholas Camp #23".

The initial subscribers to the Samuel Nicholas Camp #23 Color Guard, all having purchased militia attire, are: Chuck Adams, Thomas Carpenter Jr, Steve De Paul, Tim McLane, Mark Snider, and Kevin Shurte. The article that follows provides a biographical sketch on Major Samuel Nicholas.

### **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH - MAJOR SAMUEL NICHOLAS**

Major Samuel Nicholas is considered the first Commandant of the Marine Corps, having been the highest ranking officer of the Continental Marines when Congress disbanded the Continental Navy and Marine Corps after the end of the Revolutionary War in 1783.

Samuel Nicholas was born in 1744 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, a son of Quakers. On November 10, 1775, the Continental Congress resolved to establish the Continental Marines. This date is recognized as the birth of the United States Marine Corps. Shortly thereafter, at the age of 31, he was commissioned as a Captain in the Marines.

By January 1776, Samuel Nicholas had recruited enough volunteers to form five companies of marines for service in the Continental Navy stationed out of Philadelphia. He led the detachment of marines serving aboard the ship *Alfred* under the overall command of Commodore Esek Hopkins. On March 3, 1776, Nicholas landed 250 marines and sailors at Nassau, Bahamas in the first-ever Marine amphibious assault. The Battle of Nassau was an enormous success securing dozens of cannons, several mortars, and valuable stores of gunpowder. Samuel Nicholas and his marine detachment remained on the *Alfred* which, on April 6, 1776, engaged off the coast of Rhode Island in the first naval battle between an American squadron and the British navy.

Following this action, Nicholas was promoted to major and recalled to Philadelphia where he recruited and trained three companies of marines. He took many of these men with him when he joined Washington's forces in preparation for the December 1776 Christmas Day surprise attack on the Hessians encamped at Trenton, New Jersey. Nicholas' marines were placed under the command of General John Cadwalader but due to severe weather were unable to cross the Delaware River in sufficient numbers to join in the fighting at Trenton. However, on January 3, 1777, Nicholas and his marines joined Washington's army at the Battle of Princeton in the Continental Marines first-ever land battle. Nicholas and the Continental Marines fought in several skirmishes over the next several months, but in June 1778 Nicholas was transferred back to Philadelphia where he served in administrative, recruiting and training roles. After the war, Nicholas returned to civilian life running the family tavern in Philadelphia. He died there on August 27, 1790, during a yellow fever epidemic, and is buried in the Friends Burial Ground.

For more information on Major Samuel Nicholas and the Continental Marines:

- 1) American Battlefield Trust  
(<https://www.battlefields.org/learn/articles/marines-battle-princeton>);
- 2) Destroyer History Foundation  
([https://destroyerhistory.org/fletcherclass/ns\\_nicholas/](https://destroyerhistory.org/fletcherclass/ns_nicholas/));
- 3) The Pennsylvania State University – Pennsylvania Center for the Book  
([https://pabook.libraries.psu.edu/literary-cultural-heritage-map-pa/bios/Nicholas\\_Samuel](https://pabook.libraries.psu.edu/literary-cultural-heritage-map-pa/bios/Nicholas_Samuel));
- 4) Marine Corps University  
[Marine Corps University > Research > Marine Corps History Division > People > Who's Who in Marine Corps History > Mackie - Ozbourn > Major Samuel Nicholas \(usmcu.edu\)](#)





June 17, 2023, Induction of Compatriot Scott Moore (left) and Compatriot Cliff Dickinson (right). Last photo shows President Chuck Adams (left) and Past President Ted Duay (right).

Shows several group photos with the last from left: Chuck Adams, Lynne Moore, Scott Moore, Cliff Dickinson, Janice Dickinson, and Ted Duay.







President Chuck Adams on right: Michael Spear (left) receiving Memorial Membership Certificate for brother Gene Spear



Jim Clark (left) receiving 5 Year Membership Certificate



Joe Motes (left) and Chuck Adams (right) showing 2022 Florida Chapter Challenge Second Place Certificate and Ribbon for a medium sized chapter.



At the June 17, 2023, General Membership Meeting, in attendance were 24 Compatriot members and 10 guests, including two prospective new members.



**Fort Lauderdale Chapter  
Sons of the American Revolution  
2133 NW 208 Terrace  
Pembroke Pines FL 33029-2320**



The Fort Lauderdale Chapter held our Executive Board meeting via zoom June 14<sup>th</sup>.



## **BRONZE MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL AWARDED TO JIM LOHMEYER**



Compatriot Jim Lohmeyer was awarded the Chapter's Bronze Meritorious Service Medal at the general membership meeting held on June 17, 2023. The medal was presented by Chapter President Chuck Adams. Since first joining SAR on September 9, 2004, Jim has continuously contributed to the maintenance and development of the Chapter including service as: 1) President, 2007 & 2009; 2) Vice President, 2006 & 2008; 3) Secretary, 2014 to 2017; 4) Genealogist/Registrar, 2017 & 2018; and 5) Chaplain, 2021 to 2023. In addition to these elected positions, he has served as Chapter Representative from 2012 to 2020 on the Veterans Administration Voluntary Service (CDCE/VAVS) Committee for the William "Bill" Kling VA Outpatient Clinic serving Broward County.

Attending the presentation were sons, Compatriot John Lohmeyer and Compatriot Dave Lohmeyer. Also attending were grandsons, Compatriot John Lohmeyer Jr., Compatriot Tommy Lohmeyer, Compatriot Jesse Lohmeyer, and Compatriot Jordan Lohmeyer. Other family and friends present included: Chrissie Lohmeyer, Marianna Haas, Melissa and baby Maxine Lohmeyer, and Kailey Gullickson.

## **2023 CHAPTER OFFICERS**

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