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The monthly newsletter and source of information
for the St. Lucie River Chapter,
Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution
December 2011

President's Salvo



Gentlemen,

Hopefully each of you has had a wonderful Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We begin a new year and it looks to be exciting, January we will have Margarita Bonner, Westwood H.S. JROTC Coordinator, February brings the honoring of Sheriff Robert Crowder, the St. Lucie History Fair, March we will have the Last Naval Battle, and FLSSAR President David Ramseur will visit us, April is always an exciting month with the awarding of the SAR Law Enforcement Medal to a St. Lucie County law enforcement officer, elect new officers and May is when we honor our own and induct those new officers into their new jobs. I hope that each of you will make the time to attend meetings volunteer for officer positions and really support the St. Lucie River Chapter.

We are hoping to see you all at the next meeting.

Sincerely yours,

Bob Donnahoo, President

Habitat for Humanity



Photos of our first involvement with Habitat for Humanity, Jay Wise on left presented to the new owners of this home an American Flag, a copy of the US Constitution (supplied by Tom Rooney's office) and a copy of the SAR's Flag Rules and Regulations Book. The flags we

purchase from one of the local home improvement stores, the books are free from Tom Rooney's office and SAR National. To the right



the beaming new owners of this refurbished home in Fort Pierce. They look justifiably proud and delighted. On the left the new home owners provided a lite

lunch for the ceremonies participants and to the right a better picture of the home.

This is a brand new project by the FLSSAR and we are the first to participate.



St. Lucie River Chapter

Website

A article about the St. Lucie River Chapter website. Tom Gilmore one of our new members has constructed and put on line a website for our Chapter, he has devoted a great deal of time and energy to this and he noted the last time we spoke that you all don't know about it. The site is a great way to get information about and from the Chapter, please take a look and let Tom and myself know what you think. The site can be accessed a number of ways, through its web address <http://www.stlucieriverflssarc.org> or through the newsletter section of the Florida Society web site, www.flssar.org or just type in St. Lucie River Newsletter. We are getting known on the Internet. Give Tom an early Christmas present and log into the St. Lucie River Chapter website

Thomas R. Neblett

I regret to inform each of you of the passing of Compatriot Thomas R. Neblett, in Plymouth, Michigan on September 8, 2011. Tom was a regular visitor with us at Manero's when he came down for the winter. I remember him for being kind enough to be our guest speaker at our April 2009 meeting, talking about the Schooner Yacht "America's" role with the U.S. Navy during the Civil War. We will miss him at our meetings for his participation and encouragement.



Events Calendar

December 25,2011 January 1, 2012 - We wish all of you the Merriest of Christmas and the Happiest of New Years join us for this event you will pleasantly surprised.

January 7 - Regular Meeting Manero's, Palm City 11:30 AM Program will be Master Sergeant Margarita Bonner of the Westwood High School JROTC Program. This is a change because of a conflict with the BOM in Kissimmee on the 13/14.

January 13/14 - Board of Management Meeting , Kissimmee, all members are invited to attend.this is the meeting with the annual Rumbaugh Oration Contest. This is an event that is special, to watch and listen to these wonderful contestants.

Feb 10 Regular Meeting Manero's, Palm City 11:30 AM. Program will be the presentation of the SAR Silver Good Citizenship Medal to Sheriff Robert Crowder

Feb 12 Sebastian 4 Chaplains Service, see Jay Wise

February 25 St. Lucie County History Fair, 8AM West Gate K-8 School. This is an annual event for us and it is well worth the effort for you to participate. Please come

March 2/3 Last Naval Battle Celebration in Port Canaveral, this annual event is a great time to go visit and participate in the colorguard, a fun time is always there.

March 10 Regular Meeting Manero's, Palm City, 11:30 AM Program to be announced.

April 14 Regular Meeting, Manero's, Palm City, 11:30 AM. Program is our annual honoring of Law Enforcement, this year is St. Lucie County Sheriff's Department, Sheriff Ken Mascara will be in attendance

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All submissions appreciated

Your Colorguard in action, many thanks to the gentlemen, who make up the St. Lucie River Chapter, Colorguard. The photos are of the Vertean's Day Celebration in PSL and the Verteran's Day Parade in Stuart. The remaning pictures are of the Ft. Pierce Christmas Parade. We try and get every one to participate all you need is a blue blazer and a hat and a desire to have fun. Those pictured are Bob Eisenhardt, Oscar Kraehenbuehl, Hall Riediger, John Auld, Jay Wise, Bob Donnahoo, the banner carriers are Nathan and Dakota Downing, a thank you to Susan Auld, Penny Donnahoo and Coleen Kimball for their pictures



Minutes

December 10, 2011

Call to Order: Bob Donnahoo

Invocation: Phil Carr

Pledge of Allegiance: Chris Wade

Pledge to the SAR: Bob Eisenhardt

There being a Quorum present the meeting proceeded. Members attending Hall Riediger, Bob Donnahoo, Stephen Dillemath, Royce Neil, Philip Carr, Oscar Kraehnbuehl, Chris Wade, Bob Eisenhardt, and Carl Dennis. Special Guests were Penny Donnahoo, Sheila Carr Marie Wade, Sandy Simpson, Pat Eisenhardt, Grace Woodburn: with Jack Irvin, Charles McKinley, James Simpson and Howard Main, who are all working on being members of the SAR.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved: Motion Hall Riediger with Bob Eisenhardt second.

Meeting recessed for lunch.

Meeting called back to order by Bob Donnahoo.

Sick Report: Doug North is doing okay in assisted living, he had hurt his back last year and has not bounced back, he is still hanging on though, Dick Massey has been diagnosed with Liver and Lung Cancer, we saw him at the December meeting and he is fighting the good fight, he is pretty weak from the chemo but is also hanging on.

Unfinished Business: If you have not looked over the new website please take the time and do so, <http://www.stlucieriverflssarc.org>.

Upcoming events: Our next regular meeting is on January 7th and will have M/Sgt Margarita Bonner from the JROTC Program at Westwood High School to give us a talk about the JROTC Program through our the state. Also in January is the Board of Management Meeting in Kissimee, remember that all members are invited and encouraged to become involved at the state and National levels.

Committee reports: There was no activity in our Committees except the colorguard, The colorguard participated in the Fort Pierce Christmas Parade on December 4, we had 7 people participating, we also had two members in uniform attend the December 7th, Pearl Harbor remembrance in Port St. Lucie. Bob Donnahoo and Jay Wise.

Program: Our program did not work out quite as we had intended, but Hall Riediger stepped into the breach and presented a power point presentation on the "Fourteen Forgotten Presidents", it is one of the programs he has made up over the years.

50/50 Drawing : The \$13.00 was won by Carl Dennis, who donated his winnings to Guy's Duck

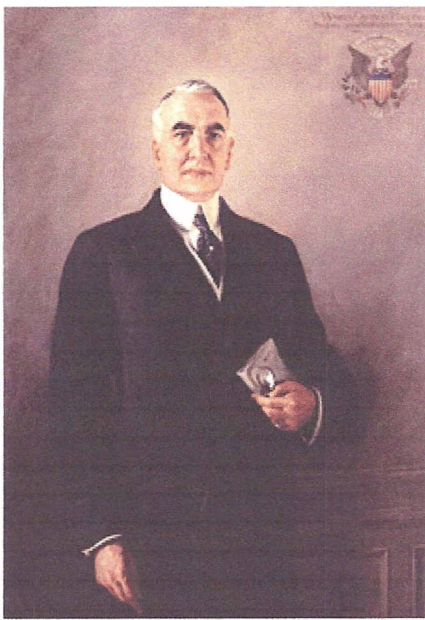
Guy's Duck: Thanks to Carl donation here was \$31.00

Our next meeting will be on January 7th M/Sgt Margarita Bonner will be our guest, this should be a good meeting.

Benediction: Phil Carr

Recessional: Bob Eisenhardt

Thank you
Richard Pattison, Secretary



Warren G. Harding

The seventh in the series of Presidents, who have been members of the Sons of the American Revolution. Warren Gamaliel Harding born November 2, 1865 in Blooming Grove, Ohio, the first of eight children born to Dr. George T. Harding and Phoebe Elizabeth (Dickerson) Harding. Harding went to rural schools as a child, and in 1875 his father moved to Caledonia, Ohio and purchased *The Argus* a weekly newspaper, there at *The Argus*, Harding at the age of 10 began a life long passion for newspapers. He worked at the *Union Register* while attending college at Ohio Central College, from which he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree at the age of 17. Harding was an accomplished cornet player and played with a number of bands the best being the Citizens' Cornet Band which he placed third at the prestigious Ohio State Band Festival. Upon graduating Harding tried a number of jobs, teacher, insurance salesman, and tried reading the law but he tired of these quickly, then in partnership with others he raised \$300 and purchased the *Marion Daily* and by 1886 was the sole owner of the *Star*, he was 21. The operation of his newspaper and the stress of competing with others newspapers landed Harding in the hospital suffering from exhaustion and nervous fatigue. He would end up in this situation 5 times over the next 4 years. On July 8, 1891 Harding married Florence Kling DeWolfe, she was five years older than him and had a young son, she also was the daughter of Harding's fiercest enemy Amos Hall Kling. Harding and Kling would feud until almost 1900 before they reconciled. Harding and his wife were complimentary, Harding with a mild mannered easy personality and his wife with the hard driving no nonsense outlook of her father, together they turned the newspaper into a profitable business. Harding would always call her "Duchess". Through the paper Harding began an interest in politics, running unsuccessfully for Marion County Auditor's Office, then in 1897 he was elected to fill the Ohio State Senate seat for District 13. In 1903 he ran for the Governorship of Ohio but the party had other ideas and he ended up with the Lt. Governor's job where he served from 1904 to 1906. He would try twice more for the Governor's job but failed each time, then in 1912 Harding gave the nominating speech for William Taft. Taft would lose but Harding had made his mark in the Republican Party and in 1915 he would run and win the United States Senate Seat and the first Ohio Senator elected by popular vote. He would hold that seat until 1921 when he resigned the seat to become President of the United States. At the Republican Convention of 1920 Harding began at fourth with only 39 convention votes, after 9 ballots and no consensus had been reached, Harding was put forth as the compromise candidate on the tenth ballot. When he won the nomination on the tenth ballot his wife Florence was so shocked that she accidentally stabbed Harding's campaign manager, Harry Daugherty with her hat pins. Harding was asked if he any incidents in his past or the present that would reflect badly on him or the Party and he answered "NO", but shortly thereafter his latest "friend" and her husband were sent on an extended investigation of the silk trade in China until after the election. Harding won the election of 1920 in a landslide, over 60% of the popular vote; the highest ever recorded and with 404 electoral votes. The Harding Administration would be wracked by controversy and turmoil, his habit of using political patronage for his friends helped fuel the controversy and the rise of the unions fueled the turmoil. Controversy would come from the green house on "K" Street, political appointees from Ohio called the Ohio Gang, the Tea Pot Dome Scandal where the Secretary of the Interior was arrested and jailed for taking bribes. The turmoil from the unions reached it's zenith with the Blair Mountain miner war, where over 150 people were killed in pitched battles between United Mine Workers and private militia's controlled by the Coal Company, this was finally put down by sending in the US Army; the great railway strike that erupted in 1922 and it took the National Guard and 2200 Deputy US Marshals to keep the 400,000 union workers and private company militias apart. But not all was bad, the Veterans Bureau and the Bureau of the Budget were established, an 8 hours federally mandated work day was created, huge arms control deals were worked out and the Sheppard-Towner Maternity Act was created so that 3000 child and health centers were established. The in June of 1923 President Harding decided to make a grand tour, "a voyage of understanding", where the president and his group would tour the western United States and Alaska, a physically demanding trip with speeches and stops. As the trip proceeded Harding's health began to deteriorate and then in Vancouver, Canada on the 26th of July he complained of nausea and upper abdominal pain, he was given digitalis. Harding met with Canadian Officials and inspected the Vancouver Regiment honor guard, he went on to Seattle where he gave a speech, not even waiting for applause, then to Portland, Oregon where his scheduled speech was canceled and then to San Francisco where on August 2, 1923 at 7:35 PM while lying in bed talking with his wife, Harding shuddered and died. Controversy did not end there, because of Mrs. Harding's refusal to have an autopsy rumors came forth that she had poisoned him or he had committed suicide, but he had been showing signs of congestive heart failure for months, and doctors stated that he had died of a heart attack. Mrs. Harding returned to Washington with her husband's body and then stayed with President and Mrs. Coolidge in the Whitehouse for a month, during her stay she collected all of her husband's papers and had them destroyed, then she returned to Ohio and did the same, only 1/7 of his personal papers remain to this day and they are not open to the public. Mrs Harding died 21 November 1924, she and her husband are buried in the Harding Presidential Memorial, Marion Ohio.



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Richard B. Pattison, Secretary

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Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution

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President's Brigade

Gold Medal

Robert Donnahoo, Jr.
Robert Donnahoo, III
H. Hall Riediger
Jay F. Wise

Silver Medal

Bronze Medal
George R. Lambert