



# The Whig



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

September 2016

## President's Salvo



Gentlemen,

Well we are now starting the New Year of our meeting cycle. Our first meeting was cancelled due to hurricane Matthew and was re-scheduled for October 22. At the meeting, we are going to swear in four new Members, which will increase the size of our Chapter a little more. Your Vice President John Sheppard has prepared and sent five additional applications in for approval. This growth is wonderful.

At our October meeting, we will go over all of the Chapter committees, and we solicit your help in participating and having some fun in Chapter activities, and we welcome your input. Our activities next month will include our Veterans meeting, as we will give medals for our compatriots who served in the military over the years, as well as supporting parades and other activities in the area. In the event that we have missed you

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## Constitution Day Activities

The annual Constitution Week Luncheon was held on Saturday, September 10th at the Monarch Country Club in Palm City. The luncheon was hosted by the Halpatiokee, Jupiter Lighthouse, Okeechobee, and St. Lucie River Chapters, DAR and by the St. Lucie River Chapter, SAR. The luncheon was coordinated between Bobbi Hoffman of the Halpatiokee DAR and Hall Riediger of the St. Lucie River, SAR. The Martin County High School JROTC unit provided the Color Guard. A candle was lit in memory of our beloved Compatriot Jay Wise who passed on July 4th.



*Chapter President Chuck McKinley with  
Commissioner Troy A. McDonald*

The Keynote Speaker for the Luncheon was City of Stuart Commissioner Troy A. McDonald, whose address was entitled "The Legislative Process and You". It was the audience's good fortune to listen as Commissioner McDonald described the workings of the Legislative branch of government at the federal, state, and local levels and our connection to it, relating several local hot topics of interest. We were very thankful for Commissioner McDonald's presence and at the conclusion, he was awarded the SAR Bronze Good Citizenship Medal and Certificate by St. Lucie River Chapter, SAR President Chuck McKinley.



*From left to right: Florida Society RVP Jeffrey Sizemore,  
Hall Riediger, Chuck McKinley, Chuck Berger, and Florida  
Society President Raymond Wess*

The St. Lucie River Chapter, SAR was honored to have in attendance Florida Society, SAR President Raymond Wess as well as Regional Vice President Jeffrey Sizemore and his spouse. Compatriots present with their spouses included Chuck McKinley, John Sheppard, Phil Carr, John Auld, Carl Wade, and from Okeechobee, Jim Pippin and Rick Jordan. Also in

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## President's Salvo

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over the years, please advise us so we can rectify that.

Christmas is coming and, starting in November and concluding in December, we will be having our annual food drive. As well, we will be accepting items such as a new toy so we can support our Local Marine Corps Christmas Toy Drive too. We are looking forward to your support and participation in our chapter activities over the next year. Other activities will also be taking place in our chapter such as recognition of the American Flag in our neighborhoods and solicitation of a short resume of your patriot to be included in future Whigs and also to be provided to our state association. Thanks for your help and looking forward to see all of you once again as do our other officers.

Sincerely,

Chuck McKinley  
772-418-5401  
charles\_mckinley@att.net

*Sons of the American Revolution*



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attendance were Compatriots Chuck Berger, Bill Hammond, Joe Leinbach, Jack Irvin, and Jim Alderman.

As Hall Riediger had to leave early, 1st Vice President Chuck Berger conducted the annual Constitution Quiz, an eleven question test devised by Compatriot Riediger, and awarded the prize. Chuck McKinley's wife Betty pleasantly accepted the 50/50 drawing. An invitation was extended for everyone to attend the DAR chapter's 9/11 ceremony to be held Sunday outside the building where the luncheon was held. Compatriot Bill Hammond was our club photographer for the event.

Additional Constitution Day activities were held on September 17th by the Cora Stickney Harper Chapter, DAR at the Ft. Pierce Farmers Market in the morning and a Bell Ringing Ceremony in the afternoon. Compatriot Jack Irvin conducted the Coast Guard Color Guard Unit as it contained the Chapter's colors as well as the Coast Guard, DAR, and the Seal Museum colors. Fort Pierce Mayor Linda Hudson gave a talk about history, our benefits, and our way of government's interaction with the Constitution. Lindy Wise, widow of our recently departed Director Jay Wise, led the Pledge of Allegiance, as Jay always did in the past. Compatriot Wade played the Taps. Later in the day, the "Bells Across America" ceremony was held across the street from the Main Library in Fort Pierce. The ceremony is meant to emphasize citizens' responsibilities for protecting and defending the Constitution. Compatriot attendees for these activities included President Chuck McKinley, Vice President Chuck Berger, Jack Irvin with spouse, Carl Wade, Chris Wade, Joe Regan, Jim Alderman, Past President John Auld, Steve Laster, a member in progress with his papers in the pipeline, Bob Donnahoo, a member from Illinois with his mother Penny, whose husband Bob Sr. was a past President, and of course Lindy Wise with daughter Susan. Other Treasure Coast DAR Chapters were also present too as our interaction with the sister organization provides us with many civic interactions in our communities.



*Martin County High School JROTC Color Guard*



*Compatriots Phil Carr, Joe Leinbach, and John Sheppard*



*Chuck McKinley and Carl Wade*

To Visit the Chapter Website, go to:

<http://www.stlucieriverflssarc.org/index.html>



## 9/11 Remembrances



The St. Lucie River Chapter, SAR attended two ceremonies for the anniversary of 9/11 held concurrently at schools in Port Saint Lucie and Fort Pierce. Compatriots Jack Irvin and Chuck Berger attended the event at Northport K-8 in Port Saint Lucie, and Compatriot Jim Alderman attended Fort Pierce Central High School.

The ceremony at Northport K-8 was well thought out and very emotional and meaningful. Principal Glenn Rustay and Media Specialist Lynne Gruszka hosted the ceremony with over 200 students from the school, veterans partners, and special guests. A fifteen minute film was produced by NHTC Preventive Specialist Maryanne Warren. It was magnificent and dealt with the true reality of 9/11.



*Compatriots Jack Irvin and Chuck Berger*



Many were moved to tears, both adults and students. The memories cling to us all. We need keep in mind these students were not yet born when this occurred. Sandra Tyndale-Harvey sang a most touching version of the song Cling. The keynote speaker was Tony Ross, relative of Cee Cee Lyles of Ft Pierce, Florida, who perished in flight 93 on 9/11. Also present was Cee Cee's brother and her Uncle Rev Hill. Located in the media center was a sheet signed by the students on September 12, 2001. The ceremony ended after two hours. We were honored to be invited to this and we should continue to touch this and all schools in meaningful ways.

Compatriot Jim Alderman represented the St. Lucie River Chapter at the Fort Pierce Central High School JROTC ceremony. The ceremony began as 207 JROTC Cadets stood at

attention while the faculty, students, and guests gathered around the Flag Pole while the Flag was presented, raised, and lowered to Half Staff, and Taps was played. The Guest Speaker was a sharp looking Army Sergeant who was born in New York and told of his experience fifteen years ago. He was in his Spanish class on that day and had already enlisted in August at age 17. He could look across the city and see the Twin Towers in smoke. He stated that the event made him more dedicated to become a better citizen.

These two events our chapter members participated in, as well as others, were part of our interaction with public schools and JROTC units throughout our three county area, and the invitations extended to us to attend are evidence of our Chapter's continued acceptance within the community, and we are honored to be involved in such ceremonies.



To Visit the Chapter Website, go to:

<http://www.stlucieriverflssarc.org/index.html>

## Compatriots Go to School



Compatriots Chuck McKinley, Chuck Berger, and Jack Irvin went to the Fort Pierce Central High School on September 22 at the invitation of new Compatriot Lt. Col Matt Saxton, who is the JROTC commander at the high school. Two different classes were attended, one a History Class and the other the JROTC class. Chuck Berger related his history of his Patriot John M, Montgomery and his movements in the Maryland area. As Chuck Berger was in a colonial uniform he related the history of Colonial and Military uniforms. Chuck McKinley related the history of his Patriot Abraham Van Courtright in Pennsylvania, and Abram's father John, of whom Chuck is working on a supplemental application, and the loss of two Courtright's in the Wyoming Massacre. Jack Irvin talked about his Patriot, John Horner, as working on the constitution process and other items about George Washington, several Battles, the history of small pox and subsequent vaccinations and other topics. We left some materials on the Brown Bess Musket, history of militias, and some other data. LTC Saxton also related to the class that the session that we had with the students is eligible for credit at a 300 level at Embry Riddle, and Aeronautical College here in Florida. As Jack is co-chair of the Veterans and JROTC Committees, I am sure that there would be other opportunities for fellow compatriots to participate in this process of sharing our knowledge with students in the future.



*From left to right: Lt. Col. Matt Saxton, Jack Irvin, Chuck McKinley, and Chuck Berger*

## Missing Man Ceremony

The 23rd annual Missing Man Ceremony was held at Port Saint Lucie Veterans Park on the evening of September 17. This is an annual ceremony held by the local Korean War Veterans group. All local JROTC groups participated and lit candles for each war conflict starting from WWI. Names of all Florida Missing in Action Military participants for the Vietnam war were read. During this reading, all attendees had a lit candle also. In attendance was past Mayor Minski, Councilman Linda Bartz, and State Representative Gayle Harrell. Our chapter always represents the SAR in this event. The ceremony also explains the significance of the Missing Man Table with an empty chair and the POW/MIA flag, a table cloth, a plate with salt on it, a vase and empty wine glass and a vase with one red rose. Each has a meaning and a line spoken for each one. These may be seen at an American Legion Clubs and Elks Lodges across America. The St. Lucie River Chapter was represented by Compatriots Chuck McKinley, Chuck Berger, and Jack Irvin.

## 2017 Membership Dues



**2017 dues (\$70) are now due.**

Dues may be paid to the Treasurer by mail or at chapter meetings. Please send them in as soon as possible so we are not delaying our report to National.

*Note: NSSAR Dues (not FLSSAR or SLRSAR) were raised \$5 at the 125th Annual Congress.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Copy or print this page, fill out, include check for \$70, and Mail to:

Compatriot Chris Wade  
628 Bent Paddle Lane  
Port St. Lucie, FL 34983

## SAR News and Notes

-1777: The Road to Saratoga, a proposed tour sponsored by the SAR whose itinerary generally follows the 1777 route of British General John Burgoyne from Québec City to his defeat at Saratoga at the hands of Patriots under the command of General Horatio Gates and ends with a patriotic celebration in Albany, the unachieved objective of Burgoyne's campaign. Along the way, we plan to dedicate at least two new SAR markers or interpretive signs. Find out more information by visiting the NSSAR website or by clicking [here](#).

-Come stop by the SAR Headquarters and Library and receive your FREE pocket-sized Constitution booklet! The SAR has a fresh new window display that explains some of the context of the U.S. Constitution's creation and the SAR's early involvement in celebrating and recognizing September 17 as a holiday. To learn more,

visit the National SAR website or click [here](#).

-Americanism Committee 2015 Results: The National SAR Americanism Committee is pleased to present the full results of the 2015 Liberty Bell Americanism Contest, 2015 Allene Wilson Groves Contest, 2015 President General's Streamer Contest and the 2015 President General's Cup. These contests recognize the outstanding efforts of the 562 chapters and 58 state societies that comprise the National SAR. Learn more at [www.sar.org](http://www.sar.org) or click [here](#).

--The current edition of The SAR Magazine, Summer 2016, is available to view or download from the NSSAR website or by clicking [here](#).

-The current edition of The Florida Patriot magazine, Fall 2016, is available to view or download from the FLSSAR website or by clicking [here](#).

## Events Calendar

October 22: Rescheduled Meeting, Manero's, Palm City\*

November 11: Veterans Day, Parade in Stuart and Ceremony in Port St. Lucie.

November 12: Regular Meeting, Manero's, Palm City\*

December 7: Pearl Harbor Day, Port St. Lucie

December 10: Regular Meeting, Manero's, Palm City\*

December 11: Christmas Parade, Ft. Pierce

December 17: Wreaths Across America, Ceremonies in Port St. Lucie, Stuart, and Okeechobee.

January 12: St. Lucie County History Fair, Indian River

State College, Fort Pierce

January 14: Regular Meeting, Manero's, Palm City\*

January 21: Canes for Purple Heart, Ft. Pierce Seal Museum, Color Guard

February 3-4: Winter 2017 BOM Meeting, Kissimmee

February TBD: Regular Meeting, Manero's, Okeechobee, place TBD.

March 4: Last Naval Battle

March 11: Regular Meeting, Manero's, Palm City\*

\* Regular meetings start at 11:30 am unless noted.

### Editor's Note

As a result of Hurricane Matthew, this edition of *The Whig* was delayed, as well as the regular October Chapter meeting being delayed. Hopefully everyone has come through the hurricane safely. In spite of the weather, there has been abundant activity to report. *WKH*

### The Whig Contact Information

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## St. Lucie River Chapter Committees



We will soon begin a new year in the life of our Chapter. Our chapter was started on the 18th of February in 1989 by a group of dedicated ancestors of Revolutionary War Patriots. We owe this group of hardworking men (and most of their wives) a debt of gratitude. We can best honor them by making this our Chapter's best year ever. But to have that success, everyone will need to get involved. Even if you don't normally participate, this is your opportunity to help the Chapter, help others and have some fun in the process. An easy and very important way to help is by just speaking up. If you have an idea for a program you would like or a suggestion on anything, make it known. Another way to help is to be on a committee. Check out the attached committee list; there is bound to be one or more areas that interest you and that would enjoy. We will go over the committee list at the October meeting for any suggestions or questions. If you are interested in helping out with any of the committees or have any questions before the October meeting, please contact me, Chuck McKinley by phone at (772) 418-5401 or by email at [charles\\_mckinley@att.net](mailto:charles_mckinley@att.net).

### St. Lucie River Chapter Committees

#### **Program Committee** – Chairman Chapter 1st Vice President

Responsible to find a speaker or program for every meeting

Notify the secretary so the speaker/ program can be included in the meeting notice

Although almost any interesting speaker or program might be appreciated, those pertaining to the common interests of the members should be considered

Some suggested topics might be:

The Constitution

The Bill of Rights

The Continental Congress

Revolutionary War History

Revolutionary War Patriots

Colonial attire, food and weapons

Applications and Supplementals

Genealogy

#### **Membership Committee** – Chairman Chapter 2nd Vice President

Responsible for recruiting new members

Assist prospective members with genealogical research and documentation.

Prepare and submit applications and supplementals

Maintain a list of prospective members

Provide the president with information needed for new member swearing in ceremonies

#### **Public Safety and Heroism Committee** – Chairman appointed by Chapter President

Responsible for recognizing individuals in Law Enforcement, Fire Safety and Emergency Medical Services who have performed an heroic act in the course or their duty with medal and award certificates

#### **Medals and Awards Committee** – Chairman appointed by Chapter President

Responsible for maintaining Chapter medals and award certificates

Responsible for maintaining a record of the inventory

Responsible for ordering medals and award certificates

Responsible for determining recipients of medals and awards that are not the responsibility of other committees

#### **Americanism Committee** – Chairman appointed by Chapter President

Responsible for promoting the principles of Freedom and Liberty for all Americans

Elementary School Poster Contest for 4th or 5th graders depending on the year in which their school system teaches the American Revolution

Tom and Betty Lawrence American Teacher Award presented to the middle or high school teacher who distinguishes themselves in teaching about the American Revolution

Local History Fairs and Award Chapter Monetary Awards and Certificates

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**Color Guard Committee** – Chairman appointed by Chapter President  
Responsible to visibly promote the stated objectives of the SAR which are historical, patriotic and educational by wearing uniforms of Continental Soldiers, Militiamen or attired as Revolutionary-era Clergymen  
Provide Color Guard at parades, funeral and other activities as requested

**Eagle Scout Committee** – Chairman appointed by Chapter President  
Responsible to act as liaison with the Boy Scouts of America to develop activities and recognitions that enhance a Partnership for Good Citizenship  
Promote the Arthur M. and Berdena King Eagle Scout Award Program

**Veterans/ROTC/ JROTC/ Service Academies** – Chairman appointed by Chapter President  
Responsible for attending and reporting local Veteran activities/ meetings  
Preparation of State and National Battalion forms  
Determine what medals to awarded new members for their military service  
Attend and present the applicable Medals for these activities  
Support local Veterans' hospitals

**Patriotic Activities Committee** – Chairman appointed by Chapter President  
Responsible for recognition of community businesses and individuals who publically exhibit an act of Patriotism, such as displaying American Flags  
Committee is responsible for Awarding Certificates

**Publicity Committee** – Chairman appointed by Chapter President  
Responsible for promoting the Chapter, Chapter events and activities through media sources such as newspapers, flyers, radio, etc.

**Habitat for Humanity Committee** – Chairman appointed by Chapter President  
Responsible for procuring an American Flag and a copy of the Constitution to present at new home ceremonies  
Coordinate with the local Habitat for Humanity Office and attend the ceremony  
Try to involve the youngest resident in the Flag Ceremony

**Liberty Tree Committee** - Chairman appointed by Chapter President  
Determine and request funds for the installation of any new Liberty Tree and provide the information to the State Committee for inclusion in the data base

**Joseph S. Rumbaugh Oration Contest Committee** – Chairman appointed by Chapter President  
Responsible to find and assist high school students to promote oratorical presentations related to the Revolutionary War Period 1750 – 1800

**Knight Essay Contest Committee** – Chairman appointed by Chapter President  
Responsible to find and assist high school students to write essays that deal with events, persons, philosophies or ideals associated with the American Revolution, the Declaration of Independence or the Constitution of the United States

**Nominating Committee** – Chairman is the most immediate Past President  
Responsible for selecting and presenting a slate of nominations for officers to the membership

**DAR Liaison** - Individual appointed by Chapter President  
Coordinate SLR Chapter activities with the applicable County DAR Organizations

Other positions which can be appointed by the Chapter President:

**Parliamentarian** – Responsible for interpretation of rules of order and proper procedure for conducting meetings

**Historian** – Responsible for collecting and maintaining material about Chapter history, members and activities

**Chaplain** – Prayers and benedictions at Chapter activities



John H. Auld, Secretary  
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St. Lucie River Chapter  
Florida Society, Sons of the American Revolution

## 2016/2018 Officers

### **President**

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## **President's Brigade**

### **Gold Medal**

John Auld

Hall Riediger

Carl Wade

### **Silver Medal**

Oscar Kraehenbuehl

Jay Wise

### **Bronze Medal**

Jack Irvin