



The Quill and Bugle

Official Newsletter of the Saramana Chapter SAR, Sons of the American Revolution

APRIL 2020

SPECIAL EDITION



SPECIAL EDITION OF THE QUILL & BUGLE THE COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS EDITION



Compatriots – we hope this special edition of the newsletter finds you all in good health and doing well. We are all enduring a challenge unique to modern American history and indeed, around the world. Our ability to work, gather as friends and compatriots, and do all the

normal activities of life have been greatly altered over the past several weeks. It looks like these challenges will continue for several more weeks. All that is happening affects our ability to gather as a chapter and conduct the normal business of Saramana SAR.

First and foremost, we hope all Compatriots and their families are doing well and have avoided the coronavirus or other health issues. If anyone has become ill or needs assistance in any way – please contact one of the chapter officers. We'd like to stay informed and see if there's anything we can collectively do to help one another. Chapter officer contact information is always available under the leadership tab on the Saramana SAR web site at www.saramanasar.org.

The officers and Board of Governors have continued to conduct the business of the chapter as best we can. We've used email, phone calls and even some personal meeting to work on activities and decisions that affect meetings, awards programs, new member applications, supplementals, budget, and so on. This newsletter is an effort to keep you informed on some of the things that are happening. Please excuse its crudeness – a couple of us got together and decided we needed to communicate a little more in the absence of our monthly meetings and a regular newsletter editor.



A note about our Chapter President – Doug Erb

Doug was recently admitted to the hospital due to an illness unrelated to the coronavirus. He had surgery and we're told he is recovering nicely. We were also told he had the unique experience of having to recover from surgery and convalesce in the hospital gym because they were segregating non-virus patients from virus related patients. Best wishes to Doug on a speedy recovery!!

Luncheons

Sadly, we had to cancel the March and April luncheons. We missed the celebrations of our JROTC award winners and the annual law enforcement award winners. While no decision has yet been made for the May luncheon currently scheduled for 15 May – we all need to stay flexible. We'll let everyone know by special email if a decision is made to cancel that luncheon.

Other News

Currently, we don't have an editor for the Quill and Bugle newsletter. If there's anyone interested in helping with this activity – likes writing and publishing – please let us know by sending an email to one of the chapter officers.

NSSAR has closed its offices for regular business because of the coronavirus. It is anticipated that they will re-open sometime in May. Look for updates on the SAR national website.

FLSSAR Register Ray Lantz continues to accept new member and supplemental applications for processing. He will forward them to NSSAR genealogists once they re-open for business.

Now's a good time to explore the Saramana SAR and SAR web sites. There are recent updates and changes to both. Take time to update your personal information in the national web site.

New Members

Our newest Compatriots recently approved at national will be inducted at our first opportunity. They are:

- Warren M. Wilson – Warren is the brother of chapter registrar Woody Wilson. He lives in Safety Harbor, FL but enjoys participating with us in Saramana. He was approved on 21 February 2020. His patriot is Jacob Biesecker who served three enlistments as a Private in various northern Pennsylvania battalions.
- Ernest F. Cave, III – Ernie is the son of chapter genealogist Ern Cave. He lives and works in Sarasota, FL. He was approved on 6 March 2020. His patriot is Thomas Burbank who served as a Private in Captain Bartholomew Woodbury's company in Worchester, Massachusetts.



COMMITTEE AND OFFICER REPORTS

Law Enforcement & Fire, Safety and EMT Committee chair Tim Milligan has worked with the various departments and agencies to solicit nominations for our annual awards. The medals and certificates for winners will be delivered to the respective department to present when time and circumstances permit.

JROTC Committee chair Bill Battles has worked with the various high schools to coordinate the delivery of medals and certificates for their annual award winners. They will be mailed to the various schools for presentation when time and circumstances permit.

Chapter Treasurer John Boll continues his efforts to report monthly income and expenses and to refine the chapter's budget. His recent report for April indicates we are in need of new sources of revenue in order to stay solvent in the coming years. The officers and BOG are working on those issues. John is also auditing the chapter member roles to prepare for the next year of dues.

Chapter Registrar Woody Wilson has continued to welcome potential members and work on new member applications and supplementals. He recently reported the following information to the BOG...

We reached a milestone in the past month that I'm proud of – we no longer have any pended applications at FLSSAR – all have been resolved. Thanks to everyone who helped get us there.

We currently have 21 new member, supplemental or memorial applications at NSSAR (or on the way) that are awaiting approval. Yes, I said 21! Of those, 13 are new member applications, seven are supplementals and one is a memorial. Ask yourself – how many other chapters have this many applications pending approval at national at one time? I would venture to say, not many. Thanks again to those who have helped make this possible.

Three new member applications were signed and submitted in the last month and four supplementals were also submitted. All were approved at FLSSAR.

We have ten new member applications in the pipeline – two new prospects were added in the past month:

1. Two applications are pended by the Saramana SAR chapter registrar – one is now awaiting the sponsor to pick up the file and get the application signed and proofs copied – it is ready for submission after signing. The second is still being researched to find proof documentation needed for specific generations.
2. One new member application has been reviewed and approved for signing and submission by the Saramana SAR chapter registrar. The sponsor is working with the applicant to obtain a DAR RC and finalize the application, then sign and submit.
3. The remainder are in various phases of initial welcome, research, preparation or review.

We have two supplementals in various phases of preparation and approval – that I am aware of.



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SAR application forms & format tips ...

For those Compatriots who are helping new member applicants document their lineage to a patriot, or for those that want to work on a supplement of their own – below is a discussion on the correct applications to use – along with a few tips to avoid common mistakes.

1st – choose the correct application form. NSSAR has two types of forms available for use. Older form versions are no longer accepted. The two types are: the on-line application form available on the national web site. Set up an account, log-in and begin an application. The chapter registrar and genealogist have access to all on-line forms so we can review them from our computers when the time comes. The other acceptable form is a .pdf version of the application form. It's available for download on the NSSAR website. When using this form, you'll have to save it with a unique name and send it to me as an email attachment to review.

TIP: If you use a MAC computer, the .pdf application form often does not work well because it was built for use on a PC. I recommend MAC users use the on-line form.

TIP: If you are doing a supplemental and using the on-line application generator, select “regular” application in the Basic Info screen when you start it. Leave it as “regular” until you are done and have finalized. Then – go back to the Basic Info Screen and change it to a “Supplemental.” Why – there are bugs in the on-line application that prevent certain updates and edits when in the supplemental version – they don't happen in the regular version.

2nd – read the manual. The SAR Application Manual is available to all Compatriots and prospective members on the NSSAR web site. SAR genealogists use it as their application bible. They expect all applications to be compliant with its format guidelines. Many people make common mistakes that can be avoided simply by reading the manual and following its guidance.

TIP: Date formats are always in the XX Mth XXXX format – and insert a 0 if a single digit date. Example: 01 Jan 2020. Places are always city/county/state. States are always the two-letter abbreviation. Do not insert the word county. Use the / not the comma. Example – Bradenton, Manatee County, Florida is listed as: Bradenton/Manatee/FL

Next month, I'll write about proof documentation, current proof standards, and how to write proof citations on the application form. Until then ...

Regards - *Woody*

The Giving Challenge ...

Did you know that Saramana SAR Chapter has a Trust Fund that helps support chapter activities during times of financial stress? Are you interested in contributing? If so, please do so during the next giving challenge and your donation will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$100.00.

More information on our trust fund is always available on our chapter web site. Here's a link to specifics: <http://www.saramanasar.org/operating-trust-fund.html>

The next Giving Challenge will take place on **Tuesday, April 28, 2020 at 12:00 PM through Wednesday April 29 at 11:59:59 AM**. It is made possible by the Community Foundation of Sarasota County and The Patterson Foundation.

To strengthen giving during the 2020 Giving Challenge, The Patterson Foundation will provide a 1:1 match for all unique donations, up to \$100 per donor, per organization. There is no limit to the number of individual matches from unique donors a nonprofit organization can receive during the 2020 Giving Challenge.

Put that date in your calendar and give to the Saramana SAR Trust Fund. Here's a link to the giving challenge web site:

<https://www.givingpartnerchallenge.org/organizations/saramana-chapter-sons-of-the-american-revolution>

Many thanks to Compatriot Vic McMurry who works hard every year to ensure we can participate in this effort ...

Sustaining Member Program

We also have a Sustaining Member Program. Our chapter needs your financial support – will you help? For more information look on the Saramana SAR web site at: <http://www.saramanasar.org/sustaining-member-program.html>

Closing Comments ...

Everyone – please stay in contact with each other and watch out for your family, friends and neighbors. Let us know if help is needed ...

Keep an eye out for updates on the May luncheon and BOG meeting. We hope to know in the next week or two what the decision will be ...

Keep working your applications and supplementals – this is a great time to research since we all seem to have extra time on our hands ...

Look at the Saramana SAR web site under the Leadership Tab – Committee Chairs. Many are vacant – perhaps you might consider filling one ???

Update your personal information with the chapter registrar and in the national web site.

Stay well ...