



# QUILL & BUGLE

## Saramana Chapter, FLSSAR

*Stand Ready to Defend Your Constitution and Your Country*

### President's Message

**Congratulations to Saramana Chapter on its 59th Birthday.** April 15, 1953 was the date of our Charter. We had 32 Charter Members and Major J.B. Holt was our first President. The chapter owes its founding to Carl Lazelle Northrup and his very active wife, Sara DeSoto DAR member, Esther Northrup. If you wish to read more about our chapter and see the list of our past presidents, a compilation is available from your editor.

#### Fire & Safety and EMT Awards Luncheon, March 9, 2012



Charles Riegler presents medal and certificate to Lt. Curt Tellbuescher, Sarasota Co. FD, with Asst. Chief Rod VanOradol



Lt. Derek Lowery, Venice FD, receives his medal and certificate



Fireman Jim Reynolds, Longboat Key FD receives his medal and certificate



Fireman Adam D. Davis, NorthPort FD, receives his certificate from President Riegler



## The American Revolution Month-by-Month: April 1775

by Compatriot Andrew "Andy" Stough, Gold Country Chapter No. 7 of the CSSAR

### Patriot's Day April 19, 1775 and the Siege of Boston

On the night of April 18th, 1775, a British force of seven hundred men departed Boston Town for Concord to seize and destroy arms and munitions stored there by New England colonists legally organized as Minutemen. It was a long and difficult night for the British force made no easier by the obvious fact that the country side had been aroused, was armed and shadowing their march. Lexington, eleven miles north west of Boston, brought the first confrontation in what would become the American Revolution. Major Pitcairn and a detachment from the main British force encountered John Parker's company of colonial militia drawn up on the village green. The colonials had no intention of resistance nor attack, rather a show of force to indicate the colonists' displeasure at the royal incursion. History does not declare who fired the first shot, an edgy soldier or an accidental firing by a colonial. It does record that the first organized volley was fired by Pitcairn's troops. Several colonists were killed and others wounded before falling back. The British suffered no casualties. Pitcairn having dispersed the "rabble" joined the main force that had proceeded to Concord.

In Concord, what arms and ammunition that could be found was gathered on the green to be destroyed or burned. A detachment of regulars was sent to cross the "Old North Bridge" and seek out other stores of arms. Armed colonials or "Minutemen" shadowed this force, still with no intention to interfere with or confront the "King's Regulars." The Redcoats, having returned from their expedition across the bridge, were drawn up on the east side watching the colonists who had drawn up on the west side in order to maintain a surveillance of the British force.

Minutemen drawn up on the west side of the now famous bridge sighted smoke rising from the area of the Town Common, a half-mile away. The Minutemen thinking that the British were burning the town, advanced to face the Redcoats on the east side of the bridge. The Minutemen, upon sighting what they thought was the burning of Concord, moved forward to the planking of the bridge. No instruction had been given to the Colonials to resist the British, only to shadow them. Disturbed by what appeared to be the preparation of a coming attack the British fired a volley in what they later stated was a warning not to advance further. There was no response to the British volley until Silas Marner, a Minuteman grazed by a bullet, shouted "Fire, for God's sake, fire." Here, by an accumulation of events was the first intentional colonial resistance by an authorized and organized colonial force. Here at this bridge was fired the "shot, heard round the world," now immortalized by Ralph Waldo Emerson in a poem written in 1837:

*By the rude bridge that arched the flood,  
Their flag in the April breeze unfurled,  
Here once the embattled farmers stood,  
and fired the shot, heard round the world.*



**at left: The Old North Bridge in Concord, Mass., site of the first engagement in the Revolutionary War.**

Two British soldiers in the confrontation were killed outright, one wounded. The retreating force left them where they fell to be buried by local authorities who entombed them under an inscribed boulder on the east side of the bridge where they lie until this day. The Regulars fell back before the rush of Colonials

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across the bridge, beginning a disorderly retreat. The Minutemen did not pursue, but the Redcoats hastened the half-mile into Concord and the safety of their main force.

The battle was now joined with no real plan on either side. The British had been aware that they were outnumbered on the march out of Boston. Minutemen were responding from towns near and far. Now it was the British whose only aim was to retreat in good order and suffer as few losses as possible. Originally the colonists only aim was to harass them back to their barracks. What began as an orderly withdrawal became a retreat, then a rout, which ended only when a relief force of a thousand regulars arrived to rescue what remained of the seven hundred. Even then, the Redcoats were harassed the remaining way to Boston by the Minutemen who continued to arrive, joining in the pursuit. By day's end it was a conservative estimate that more than four thousand Minutemen had responded from near and far to the call to arms; while more continued to arrive throughout the night and following day.

Like a powder keg the countryside had exploded. What had begun as a simple march into the country to destroy arms and munitions had turned into rebellion. The safe return of the troops to Boston barracks was not the end of the action. Hasty forts were set up by the Minuteman Militia to ring the city. From this time on, no British soldier would ever march beyond the outer limits of Boston Town. Little more than a year later on March 17, 1776 the last British soldier would leave Boston never to return.

New Englanders were joined by men from all the colonies; the name of Minutemen being applied to all militia from all thirteen colonies. No longer would they consider themselves as colonists, but Americans, a new nation in the making. At one of these forts the battle at Breed's Hill (historically called Bunker Hill) would be manned and defended by men from all the colonies. Authorized by the Convention at Philadelphia, it was the beginning of the Continental Army, generally thought of as the forerunner or beginning of the present day United States Army. (New Englanders believe that the Minutemen and their resistance at Concord's Old North Bridge was the first organized resistance and from their action flowed the Armed Forces of the United States.)

While not recognized as Armed Forces Day but as Patriot's Day, April 19th should be recognized for more than The Boston Marathon. Please fly the Flag on April 19th in honor of those who fought and fell on that day and for all the patriots who served our nation in the Continental Army and in the follow-on Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard and Air Force.

***Editor: Following is an account of the "The Siege of Boston" which began with the battles of Lexington and Concord, April 19, 1775, and ended in March 17, 1776.***

The Siege of Boston was the first intentional act of war on the part of the colonists. Begun on the night of April 19th as a logical follow up on the day's battle begun at the Old North Bridge in Concord. Up until the time of the beginning of the siege, Revolution had not been planned, simply a reaction to the acts of King George III, his ministers, Parliament, and movements of British troops. When the Minutemen found themselves surrounding Boston and all British troops inside the city, reality set in. The action of April 19th and the night following placed the Minutemen in a state of open rebellion against the British Crown.

The new situation was apparent to the local leaders but not to the Minutemen whose organization to this point had been strictly reactionary – to guard and defend – but not to oppose the King in open rebellion. The Minutemen, relatively leaderless, began to disperse as rapidly as they had come; farmers for the most part, they began to return to their farms and families, for this was the season to begin preparation for the year's crops. The local leaders realized that whether they had intended rebellion or not, the actions of the day and night of the 19th of April had created a declaration of war. This message was made more forceful by the large losses suffered by the British and subsequent bottling up of their forces within the city of Boston.

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Fortunately, the British Commander, General Gage, was impressed by the effectiveness of the Minutemen on the way back to Boston and their seeming determination to continue the conflict by their effective and timely occupation of the area around the city. The actual turmoil within the colonists' ranks was not observable. All he saw was the continued fortification and strengthening of the rude forts surrounding his position, indicating that they were in place and planned to stay there. Additionally, there was the cutting off of all supplies from the countryside upon which the citizens of Boston and British defenders were totally dependent.

Neither the British nor Americans were prepared for the situation in which they now found themselves. Adding to the confusion was the failure of both to properly assess the other's actual capabilities. The Americans underestimated the British capability and fortunately for the Americans, General Gage vastly underestimated the American forces, their determination and ability to fight.

In the beginning the Americans lacked weapons, ammunition, and any commitment by the Minutemen to serve beyond an emergency. And above all, they lacked a central leadership to direct and support troops in the enforcement of a siege. Neither was there any preparation or plan to feed, clothe, and house a large force even by the day, not to mention the requirement for an extended siege. Surely if there ever was an army whose motto should be "In God We Trust" this was it.

The siege bumbled along for a few weeks as leaders appeared on the scene and as Colonies rallied to the cause, committing interim funds, supplies and bodies. The so-called "rabble" that Major Pitcairn had dispersed at Lexington was on its way to becoming an army sufficiently formidable to not only defy the vaunted British Regulars but thirteen months later on March 17, 1776, see the last British soldier board ship and sail away. The scent of blood was in the air and the colonists were gaining purchase on the vision of success against a force, which was heretofore deemed to be indomitable.

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## Secretary's Report

*The March meetings of the Chapter and BOG were held and the Minutes of those meetings are available for any member to read by contacting your Editor. This seems to be an appropriate time to reiterate the founding and purpose of our society, for those new members and those members who may have forgotten.*

### **The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution**

The Sons of the American Revolution was incorporated January 17, 1890, in Connecticut and chartered by the United States Congress on June 9, 1906. A number of state societies were formed prior to this date during the 1880s. These were organized under The Sons of Revolutionary Sires organized in San Francisco on July 4, 1876. The first Congress of the National Society took place in Louisville, Kentucky, on April 30, 1890, on the 100th anniversary of George Washington's inauguration to the office of President of the United States. On April 30, 1990, The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution celebrated the bicentennial of Washington's becoming President and the centennial of the NSSAR.

The Connecticut State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution was organized on April 2, 1889 and is the oldest state society, which predates the incorporation of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

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**The purposes of the Sons of the American Revolution are patriotic, historical and educational. These include:**

- Perpetuating the memory of Revolutionary War Patriots.
- Promoting fellowship among their descendants.
- Inspiring the community with a reverence for the principles of government founded by our forefathers.
- Encouraging historical research of the American Revolution.
- Preserving the records of Revolutionary War Patriots.
- Marking the locations of the Revolution events and its soldiers.
- Celebrating anniversaries of the Revolution.
- Fostering true patriotism.
- Maintaining and extending institutions of American freedom.
- Carrying out the purposes of the Preamble of the Constitution.

## Happy April Birthdays to:

Bradley H.T. Clark  
 James P. Goodson  
 James H. Granger  
 Percival S. Hill V  
 Larry J. Hobbs

*If your correct birthday is not listed, please contact the editor at [criegle@verizon.net](mailto:criegle@verizon.net)*

The SAR National Headquarters is located in Louisville, Kentucky. There are 50 state societies including the District of Columbia. There are also societies in France, the United Kingdom, Canada, Germany, and Switzerland. The current membership is approximately 28,000 active members.

**For more information on the SAR, please call, write, or email:**

Mr. Charles W. Riegler, President, Saramana Chapter  
 Florida Society, Sons of the American Revolution  
 3273 Charles Macdonald Drive, Sarasota, FL 34240  
 tel: (941) 371-7079, email: [criegle@verizon.net](mailto:criegle@verizon.net)  
 or visit the National Society webpage: [www.sar.org](http://www.sar.org)

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## In Memorium

Lieutenant Colonel Edward Sherman Hoyt

Our longtime friend and Compatriot. Ed Hoyt died peacefully, at age 95 on March 4, 2012 in Jacksonville, FL. He was preceded in death by his wife of 53 years, Mary Ann.

Ed was the distinguished recipient of the **SAR Minute Man Medal**, the highest award presented by the National Society Sons of the American Revolution and had been the recipient of many medals and awards from his chapter, state, including the Patriot Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Silver Good Citizenship Medal, War Service Medal (World War II), and many certificates of appreciation for all he did at the chapter and state level. Ed served our national society as Treasurer General in 1986-1987 and was President of FLSSAR in 1987-1988. He was a LIFE MEMBER of national, state, and chapter for over 47 years.

Ed was also involved daily with music, tennis, fishing, and bridge and attended All Angels by the Sea Episcopal Church on Longboat Key, where he was given a Memorial Service on March 17th. His ashes were buried alongside Mary Ann. We will all miss Compatriot Ed Hoyt.



## Special Notice

While the March BOG Minutes are not included in this copy of the **Q&B**, it is important to report that the President appointed Compatriot Harold Crapo as Chairman of the Nominating Committee for the year 2013, in accord with the Chapter rules. Harold will select three compatriots to serve with him on this committee, so that the nomination of new Officers for 2013 can begin. The committee will report at the October 12, 2012 Chapter Meeting.

## Dates for your calendar

### APRIL

- **April 13 (Friday)** – Chapter Luncheon honoring Law Enforcement personnel. See last page of this **Q&B** for reservation information.
- **April 18 (Wednesday)** – Saramana Chapter BOG meeting (all members invited to attend). 2:00–3:00 pm. Church of the Redeemer, 222 Palm Ave., Sarasota, FL

### MAY

- **May 4–5** – FLSSAR BOM Annual Meeting  
This meeting is important to us in Saramana Chapter, as our own Phillip H. Tarpley is nominated for President of the Florida Society. And we have other members on the slate of Officers for 2012–2013. PLEASE try to attend. At this meeting we have provided Pages from our local C.A.R. chapter to serve the state, and one to play the pipes at the youth luncheon. All in all, this will be a meeting to remember. For more information, please see our website: [www.saramanasar.org](http://www.saramanasar.org).
- **May 11 (Friday)** – Chapter Luncheon honoring JROTC “Best of the Best.” Information in next **Q&B**.
- **May 16 (Wednesday)** – Saramana Chapter BOG meeting (all members invited to attend). 2:00–3:00 pm. Church of the Redeemer, 222 Palm Ave., Sarasota, FL
- **May 28 (Monday)** – Plan to attend (or march in) the **Memorial Day Parade**. As usual, we will have our trolley, to ride in, for those who cannot or do not want to march with the Color Guard. Bring your tricorn, if you have one, or dress casually, BUT come and be with your compatriot brothers and sisters. Meet at the corner of Main Street and Highway 301 (Washington Street) in Sarasota at 9:30 am on that Monday. We will have sunshine, and water will be available.

## NSSAR Annual Congress, July 6-11, 2012

Please plan to attend the upcoming national convention of the SAR. Phoenix (Arizona) is beautiful and we are sure that there will be plenty to do and see at this venue. Information is and will be available in *SAR Magazine*, *The Florida Patriot*, and on three websites: SAR.org, FLSSAR.org, and our chapter website, SaramanaSAR.org.



**National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution**  
**Saramana Chapter, Florida Society**  
*April Luncheon honoring the Law Enforcement personnel of Sarasota and  
Manatee Counties*

**Friday April 13, 2012**  
**Holiday Inn Lido Beach**

**Uniform of the day:**

**SAR Members – Class B uniform (grey slacks, white shirt, tie and blue blazer)**

**Guests please wear your uniform or appropriate attire.**

Arrive by 11:15–11:30 am. Cocktails available from cash bar.

Meal choices (all of which include coffee & tea, vegetables selected by the chef, rolls/butter and dessert): *choose one*

1. Meatloaf with Mushroom Gravy
2. Chicken Cordon Bleu with Béchamel Sauce
3. Vegetarian. Large garden salad with choice of dressings.

All reservations are \$20.00 per person. Provide all names including your guests with meal selections to Treasurer Ted Hornback by phone or email at (941) 485-4481 or [Ted1538@aol.com](mailto:Ted1538@aol.com). **Note: Reservations are required by 2:00 pm on April 11th.**

Pay at the door **by cash, or by check** made out to “SAR”, or mail check to Ted Hornback, 1538 Belfry Drive, Venice FL 34292-4334.

### **Directions to the Luncheon Meetings**

Holiday Inn Sarasota-Lido Beach, 233 Ben Franklin Drive, 7th floor dining Room. The ramp into the back of the building goes directly to the express elevator to the Seventh floor. Our welcome and check-in table is there by the dining room.

**Better directions to avoid St. Armand’s Circle heavy traffic:**

1. Turn onto John Ringling Blvd from US 41 and go 2.1 miles (about 4 minutes)
2. Turn left at S. Washington Drive and go 0.4 miles (about 2 minutes)
3. Take the 3rd left onto South Boulevard of the Presidents and go 0.1 miles
4. Take the 1st right onto South Polk Drive and go 0.3 miles (about 1 minute).
5. The Holiday Inn Lido Beach parking lot is in rear of hotel.



### YOUR OFFICERS FOR 2012 (email addresses included)

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 Captain of the Color Guard...Phillip Tarpley – [mp18pht@verizon.net](mailto:mp18pht@verizon.net)

### IMPORTANT WEBSITE ADDRESSES

Chapter – <http://www.saramanasar.org>  
 FLSSAR – <http://www.flssar.org>  
 NSSAR – <http://www.sar.org>  
 DAR – <http://www.dar.org>  
 C.A.R. – <http://www.nscar.org>

## EDITOR, QUILL & BUGLE

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Amos Doolittle’s engravings of the Battles of Lexington (l) and Concord (r), and a 1925 postage stamp commemorating these events.

