



Saramana Chapter



Florida Society



Editor

National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

The Quill and Bugle

Editor

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Serving Communities beyond our Sarasota and Manatee Counties



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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
February 26, 2007
SERVED WITH COURAGE and DISTINCTION

Respect for service to our country was evident to our community during the annual George Washington Birthday Luncheon. The luncheon meeting had over 165 men and women from the families of the SAR, DAR and guests in attendance. This February 23, 2008 the Saramana Chapter Board of Governors honored 82 of our Veterans with the issuance of the "General George Washington Military Service Award" in observance of the 225th Anniversary of the ending of the Revolutionary War. This was a special one-time issue award. The award is for our family Veterans who served to protect the freedom of the United States of America. ABC News TV Channel 7 came and reported on the event that night

The Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution descend from the first Veterans of these United States and carry on the pledge to defend our Nation's freedoms. We understand from experience freedom is not free and never has been. Many young people today because of other influences and educational bias do not understand how freedom needs our constant protection.

The Commander in Chief, President of the United States George W. Bush issued a letter to your Chapter President from the White House 20 February 2008 congratulating the Veterans receiving the award from the Saramana Chapter, Florida Society, Sons of the American Revolution. A copy is included with the award Certificate issued to each recipient. I have included a copy of the letter in the Quill and Bugle for the record. Congressman Vern Buchanan our luncheon speaker, also a Veteran received the award. He issued his own letter of congratulations to the Veterans to be included with the Certificates.

Compatriot Robert B. Strayer and seven members of his family attended the luncheon. I introduced Bob as the descendant of Cpl. Lewis Leach. Cpl. Lewis Leach is one of only six discovered recipients of the "**Badge of Military Merit**" issued to him by General George Washington 7th June 1783 General George Washington signed it. Cpl. Leach served faithfully from 26 November 1779 until his discharge from service in the Continental Army that day in 1783.

The Badge of Military Merit is considered to be the first official military combat badge of the United States Armed Forces. It is the second oldest United States military award in existence, the oldest being the Fidelity Medallion. General George Washington designed it in the form of a purple heart. It was intended as a military order for soldiers who displayed unusual gallantry in battle, or extraordinary fidelity and essential service. These awards are thought to be the first awards for valor presented to the common soldier. Compatriot William R. Stevenson FLSSAR also descendant of a recipient of this award submitted an article printed in the winter 2007 issue of the Florida Patriot SAR magazine. I have used some information from that issue.

The Saramana Chapter Board of Governors awarded Mrs. Nick "Jean" Catsakis of the DAR Sara De Soto Chapter the 2007 SAR Martha Washington Medal. Compatriots Harold Crapo, his wife Elaine and Jack B. Ashcraft received Certificates of Appreciation for the long hours of hard work with me in the hosting of the FLSSAR BOM in January and again in this luncheon. Congressman Vern Buchanan awarded Morgan Rae Tarpley 13, a special Certificate of Appreciation for her project to make over seventy five thank you cards to be handed out to Veterans at the November Veterans Day Parade. She did this on her own and then asked if she could give them out.

Saramana and the Sarasota Military Academy Color Guard units presented the Colors. SMA provided Bagpipers and Bugler for the Memorial Service. The SMA Drum Drill Team put on an impressive special performance that captured the full attention of everybody including the wait staff that left the kitchen to watch. My thanks to Compatriot James B. Huff for making the 82 award Certificates for this event. I note with deep sadness the passing of Compatriot VAMD Earl B. Fowler on 2 February 2008
Phillip H. Tarpley, President

WORDS of WISDOM

“A trained intelligence can do much, but there is no substitute for morality, character and religious conviction” President Calvin Coolidge

“Nothing is more certain than that a general profligacy and corruption of manners make a people ripe for destruction. A good form of government may hold the rotten materials together for some time, but beyond a certain pitch, even the best constitution will be ineffectual.” John Witherspoon

“Only a virtuous people are capable of freedom. As nations become corrupt and vicious, they have more need of masters” Ben Franklin

ALWAYS REMEMBER

The true Soldier fights not because he hates what is in front of him - but because he loves what is behind him.

This picture of General George Washington in prayer for his men and Country says it all for me, Phillip H. Tarpley, President



Remember that Freedom is not free. God bless our Armed Forces and their families around the world.

THE SECRETARY'S REPORT

February 25, 2007

The monthly meeting of the Board of Governors of Saramana Chapter, FLSSAR was Wednesday, February 13, 2007 at the Church of the Redeemer, Sarasota. FL.

President Phillip H. Tarpley called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM. The following 15 Compatriot members of the Board were present: Ashcraft, Bradley, Crapo, Douglas, Dunn, Hodalski, Huff, Hoyt, Lancaster, Millman, Tarpley, Riegle, McMaster, McMurry and Williams, Secretary Riegle certified that a quorum was present. Compatriot Bradley gave the Invocation. President Tarpley for the benefit of our new BOG members introduced everyone.

Compatriot McMurray made the motion to accept the minutes of January BOG meeting, as written. The motion seconded by Compatriot Hoyt and passed unanimously. Secretary Riegle proceeded to request that each Officer, Governor and Committee Chairman sign a statement of obligation to all SAR members. It is the same oath now required in the long version induction for new members. All members who will hold office or Chair committees are required to sign the SAR oath statement form.

President Tarpley briefed the board on his progress for the George Washington Birthday Luncheon and the GGW awards. The January 11th Chapter Luncheon had attendance of 60 people, of whom 31 were chapter members. There were 19 guests in that number including 4 invited chapter guests.

The George Washington Birthday Luncheon was a great success

After long hours and lots of hard work, President Tarpley with assistance from his wife Mary, Harold and Elaine Crapo delivered a memorable event for our chapter. We had a ballroom filled to near capacity of over 165 in attendance. The attendees included over 40 of our chapter members, other visiting chapter members, DAR members, spouses, American Legion members and others.

82 Veterans of our combined families received the "General George Washington Military Service Award" It was thrilling to see those men and women who served from WWII, Korea, Vietnam and Desert Storm and yet, equally sad to note Compatriot VADM Earl B. Fowler a recipient of this award passed away on February 8, 2008. It was a stirring, emotional and supportive group of men and women who received these award Certificates. The audience showed its appreciation for their service and sacrifices. President George W. Bush sent a letter thanking Saramana for issuing the award and congratulating the Veterans receiving the award.

Compatriot Willis H. Wheat, Jr. received an award and medal for 65 years of membership. The Stella Knight Essay winner read his essay. Co-Chairmen Lawrence Berry and John A. Williams presented him his award.

We thank S/Sgt. Joan L. Feldmeier for singing the National Anthem. She also led us in singing God Bless America and America the Beautiful. *Charles W. Riegle, Secretary - pro-tem*

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Victor McMurry gave the Treasurer's report to the BOG. His report included recommendations for investing monies in our saving and OBTF accounts to receive higher returns. The Treasurer's report and recommendations proposed passed unanimously subject to audit on motion by Ed Hoyt and seconded by Williams.

**PLEASE MAKE NOTE OF THE NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER, MAILING AND
E-MAIL ADDRESSES REGARDING OUR SECRETARY**

Letter from Compatriot, George W. Bush, President of the United States



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 20, 2008

I send greetings to those gathered for the awards luncheon of the Saramana Chapter of the Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. Congratulations to those receiving the General George Washington Military Service Award.

Americans take special pride in the first generation of patriots who waged a desperate fight for liberty. More than 200 years later, our commitment to America's founding truths remains strong. This event is an opportunity to honor the men and women who have served with the same determination and bravery as those who came before them.

I appreciate the Saramana Chapter of the Florida Society of SAR for hosting this event. I also salute all of America's veterans for serving our country with courage and distinction.

Laura and I send our best wishes. May God bless you, and may God bless America.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. W. Bush", written in a cursive style.

Photos from the George Washington Birthday Luncheon Meeting



Congressman Vern Buchanan 13th Congressional District of Florida presented the General George Washington Military Service Award by President Phillip Tarpley as Vice President Charles W. Riegle on the left and Regents Peggy Dornsife and Mary Crocker give him applause.



Miss Morgan Rae Tarpley receives her award from Congressman Buchanan for her Veterans Day project

*National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution
Martha Washington Medal*



President Tarpley presents DAR Jean Catsakis the SAR Martha Washington Medal and Certificate

Dear friends of Saramana Chapter, SAR,
The Martha Washington medal is beautiful!

I thank you so much for this gold medal and for the lovely SAR certificate that you presented to me!
The George Washington Birthday luncheon was outstanding, and what a surprise for me to be honored by such devoted and patriotic members of the Saramana Chapter, NSSAR.

It has been such fun and a privilege to participate in many patriotic events, parades and ceremonies with you since 1992, and more recently together, we give special attention to our proud military veterans residing in nursing homes in Sarasota and Charlotte Counties.

I thank you for this honor of receiving the Martha Washington Medal. I am proud to wear it!
As a member of Sara De Soto Chapter, DAR, I look forward to many more years of working with such a fine group of SAR men who serve our great nation, the United States of America!

Thanks again,
Jean Maxwell Catsakis, NSDAR
Chairman, Commemorative Events, DAR Service for Veterans
and Constitution Week
Sara De Soto Chapter, DAR

We appreciate your help



Compatriot Jack B. Ashcraft, Elaine J. Crapo and Compatriot Harold B. Crapo receive from Saramana President Tarpley, Certificates of Appreciation for all their time and work performed for the FLSSAR State Board of Management meeting and later this George Washington Birthday luncheon meeting.

School Education Projects sponsored by Saramana Compatriots



SMA Cadet Andrew Bilan presented his award Certificate by Co-Chairmen John A. Williams left and Lawrence Berry as Congressman listens.

Members Bulletin Board & Special Events

March 14, 2008 is our next luncheon meeting

This meeting we honor those deserving personnel in Police and Law Enforcement

March 19, 2008 is the next BOG meeting

THE NEW INFORMATION FOR OFFICE OF THE CHAPTER SECRETARY

Charles W. Riegle

3273 Charles McDonald Drive, Sarasota, FL 34240-8714

Telephone 1-941-371-7079

E-mail: saramanasar@comcast.net

NOTICE: MEETING LOCATION NAME CHANGE

SARASOTA CAY CLUB IS NOW THE SARASOTA HOTEL AND MARINA

Please save this new information for regular meeting reservations and meal selections

HAPPY BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO COMPATRIOTS BORN IN MARCH

Eugene L. Bradley, John D. Camden, Daniel A. Carlton, Carl K. Hoffman, Billie West Lowe, John C. Manson, John Arthur Williams

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS: We will induct a new SAR member into our Chapter at the March 14 meeting. He is among several new members near SAR approval

MEMBERSHIP WITH LONGIVITY:



Compatriot Willis H. Wheat, Jr. receives his Certificate and Medal for 65 years of membership in SAR. He was a member in CAR as a youth. His Mother was a long time member of DAR. Willis still looking in good shape received a lot of applause for his faithfulness to our Society. He also received the General George Washington Military Service Award for his service to our country.

EDUCATION: This coming year the focus is on education and school visitations by our Compatriots. We have received several requests to come to middle schools already. We have a commitment from Richard Fowler, SAR (AKA) Ben Franklin to spend a couple days here. He has scheduled three events at local schools on March 10, 12 & 13 to present the presentation he gives nationwide to our schools. I ask those who would like to be involved with this education project contact any of the officers. The Americanism Poster Contest for Elementary Schools is about Molly Pitcher this year. Compatriot Burton Corbus is contact member and welcomes your help.

MEMBERSHIP: Registrar William Millman reports several applications are in process for membership in our Chapter and we hope all our members continue to seek qualified prospects for membership. We expect several more based on some of the comments made during the GWB luncheon

SARAMANA CHAPTER'S NATHANIEL GREENE COLOR GUARD

NOTICE: The annual remembrance of The Last Naval Battle of the Revolution will be at Port Canaveral on March 7-8, 2008. You are invited. to come even if not marching in Colonial uniform. The following Saramana Color members plan to attend and march with the FLSSAR Liberty Brigade for presentation of the Colors at the Last Naval Battle Memorial service Friday night and Saturday, March 7-8 Charles W. Riegle, Harold B. Crapo, Hal Miller and President Tarpley who will lay a wreath for Saramana Call Charles Riegle for more information.

We still need and want your help to add Fife and Drummers. The BOG authorized the establishment of an age 10-18 youth Fife & Drum Corps. The Color Guard units always grab attention during parades, the massing of the Colors at memorial ceremonies and presenting of Colors at meetings. It has such strong appeal to the public that we need and should increase our unit to a sizable number of 12.
Eugene L. Bradley, Commander

NOTICE

NEW AND FASTER RESERVATION SAVES POSTAGE

Below is the

Friday March 14, 2008 Luncheon Meeting Reservation information

12:00 Noon and Cash Bar available 11:30 AM

Please leave home early to arrive by 11: 45 AM

Sarasota Hotel and Marina 7150 Tamiami Trail,

We now prefer you call Secretary Charles Riegle 1-941-371-7079 or E-mail your

reservations to saramanasar@comcast.net and pay at door

Please give names of your guests

March 11 by 3:00 PM is the cut off time for luncheon reservations

Please indicate your entrée selections:

_____ **Corned Beef and Cabbage - \$20 =** _____

_____ **Chicken Parmesan - \$20 =** _____

_____ **Vegetarian or Fruit only entrée - \$20 =** _____

All entrees include salad and dessert

PLEASE HAVE CORRECT CHANGE AT DOOR. WE DO NOT HAVE A CHANGE FUND.

To cancel your reservation, it must be done by calling the Secretary by 9.00 AM Wednesday morning before the Friday Luncheon or you are responsible and billed for your meals. The chapter has to pay when you meal is ordered whether you come or not. Your full cooperation is very important.

Charles W. Riegle, Secretary