



# QUILL & BUGLE

## Saramana Chapter, FLSSAR

*Stand Ready to Defend Your Constitution and Your Country*



### **Children of the American Revolution**

How much do you know about the C.A.R.? Saramana helps the Sara DeSoto chapter, DAR, by providing financial support to the local C.A.R. society, attending meetings, paying for pizza parties, and speaking to the group when asked. Are you involved with these children who are the **FUTURE** of the SAR and DAR? Please let us know if you are interested in helping. No amount of time is too small. – see *Liberty Tree* article on Page 2

### **FLSSAR Board of Managers meeting August 26–27, 2011 at Kissimmee, FL**

*Your Editor has asked Harold Crapo, Executive Committee member at large to give us a short reprise of this recent meeting:*

**National Congress Activities** President David Ramseur stated there were 15 Delegates from the Florida Society in attendance at the National Congress held in Winston-Salem, NC. The Florida Society excelled in youth awards with our JROTC student winning 1<sup>st</sup> place, Americanism Poster Contest 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, and our Eagle Scout coming in 3<sup>rd</sup> place nationally. Our State Rumbaugh winner gave an excellent presentation but did not win the finals. The FLSSAR earned 7 additional awards including: the C.A.R. Activities Award; Best News publication (\$250 for 1<sup>st</sup> place); recruiting the largest number of new members under age 40; NSSAR Flag Certificate presentations; enrolling the largest number of sons, grandsons, and nephews of SAR's/DAR's; participation in the CAAH project; and sponsoring the winning JROTC Cadet.

**State Webmaster** Scott Bushnell asked that everyone check out the state website ([www.FLSSAR.org](http://www.FLSSAR.org)) for accuracy.

**Florida Patriot Editor** Steve Williams asked for more people to accept the *Florida Patriot* via e-mail as an effort to reduce mailing costs.

**Medals and Awards** Past State President and Chairman Gerry Meeks requested that all Chapter Presidents send him a list of member names and awards received.

**CAAH** Past President General Roland Downing asked members to consider making a donation to support Phase II of the CAAH. A form is available in your *Florida Patriot* for this purpose. Donations that are not on a form will be accepted as long as you provide your name and Chapter name.

**Wearing of Medals** The Color Guard Commander stated that only the full-sized SAR Medals may be worn on the Colonial Uniform during SAR internal events such as Chapter, state, and national meetings where the general public is not present. Medals shall not be displayed during parades or other such publicly attended events. Miniature medals may be worn only on formal wear.

**Commemorative Sites** Compatriot Ed Young discussed their efforts to raise money for a commemorative statue to be placed in Pensacola, the site of the longest battle in the Revolutionary War. The dedication will take place on July 4, 2012 in downtown Pensacola.



## Children of the American Revolution Liberty Tree Dedication

The Saramana Chapter Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) Membership, considered it an honor to provide and dedicate a Liberty Tree to the Chichi-Okobee Society, Children of the American Revolution (C.A.R.) on the property of the Daughters of the American Revolution Sara DeSoto Chapter House located at Pioneer Park in Sarasota, Florida. The event took place on August 28, 2011 at 2:00 pm.

It began with an Invocation, a Patriotic song, and a Pledge of Allegiance inside the Chapter House followed by the American Creed. The meeting was then taken outside to the site of the Liberty Tree. This was followed by an impressive parade of the Saramana Color Guard in their full Colonial Uniforms with the American Flag and others gently flowing in the welcome breezes, guarded by two riflemen and commanded by Compatriot Phillip Tarpley, Commander of the Florida State Sons of Liberty Color Guard. All attendees at the dedication site rendered a proper salute, from the elders to the youngest participants. The C.A.R. President then led the attendees with the Pledge of Allegiance.

One could not have found a more Patriotic scene on this day than this, with flags flying high, birds singing in the trees, the Sun shining brightly on the colors, Patriots in colorful uniforms, and most of all the attendees all recognizing the red, white, and blue symbol of Freedom. The Dedication granite stone was then placed in front of the tree.

Although the weather could not have been better, except for the excruciating heat, everyone repaired back to the Chapter House for the remainder of the meeting, which was held in a cooler, more comfortable environment and

where pizza and soda laid in wait. Once inside, the President of the C.A.R. introduced the speaker, Compatriot Harold Crapo. Harold proceeded to describe how the Liberty Tree came about.

It started in about 1765, when the British enacted the Stamp Act upon the Colonies. The first tree was a large elm located near the Boston Common. Because it was too risky to hold meetings in Meeting Houses, the tree was used by the Sons of Liberty and citizens to discuss actions needed for protection against the British. Capture meant imprisonment or death, yet the Liberty Tree allowed the Sons of Liberty to quickly disperse to another area.

Upon hearing the Benediction and adjournment of the meeting, everyone sat down to enjoy the pizza and soda, provided by the Chichi-Okobee Society, Senior President. The table centerpieces in the Chapter House, prepared by C.A.R. members, were stand-up depictions of a Liberty Tree. The members would later pack boxes of much-needed items to be sent to Veterans overseas.

The success of this Liberty Tree Dedication could not have been accomplished without the close coordination of Jennifer Turner, Senior Society President; the spouse of one of the DAR members, who dug the hole for the tree; the impressive presence of the Saramana Color Guard; the families that came out to support the C.A.R. members; and the generous donation by the Schroeder Manatee Ranch Farms of a beautiful Live Oak tree.

Finally, a big Thank You goes to our two adopted nephews – Alex (9 years old) and his brother John Vardelli (13 years old). The two



boys helped maneuver the tree and shovel the dirt into the hole around the tree. Alex and John chose to attend this dedication instead of

visiting with their friends as previously planned. Now, that is Patriotism because both of them knew what was being done without an explanation. — *Written by Past President Harold B. Crapo, Jr.*

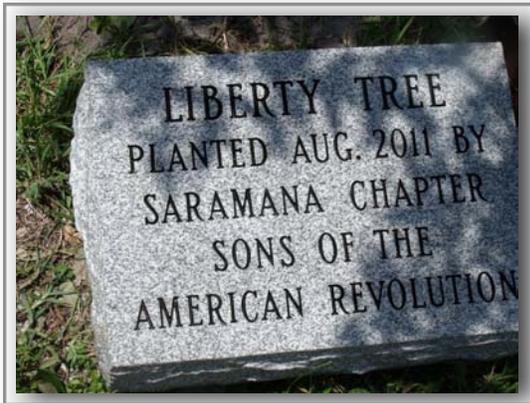


photo courtesy of Harold B. Crapo, Jr.

The Liberty Tree (1646–1775) was a famous elm tree that stood in Boston, near Boston Common, in the days before the American Revolution. The tree was a rallying point for the growing resistance to the rule of Britain over the American colonies. In the years that followed, almost every American town had its own Liberty Tree – a living symbol of popular support for individual liberty and resistance to tyranny. In some locales, a Liberty Pole rather than a tree served the same political purpose. — *Tattled from wikipedia information by your editor*

**Happy Belated August**

**Birthdays to:**

William E. Battles III  
Richard P. Brainard  
Charles A. Churchill  
Robert M. DeMarr

Russell A. DesErmia  
John L. Fitzpatrick  
Herbert Flanders  
Edward D. Gorton Jr.  
Allen J. Hegener  
Basil L. Lancaster  
Paul J. Longstreet

Aiden S. Mahaffey  
Malcolm L. Miller  
Albert W. Paul  
Evan C. Riegle  
James D. Sympson  
John A. Williams Jr.  
Henry C. Wood Jr.

**Happy September**

**Birthdays to:**

Alvin A. Abbott  
James G. Barrett  
Bruce E. Baxter

Stanley O. Bennett  
Ronald E. Benson  
Donald E. Campbell  
Burton R. Corbus, Jr.  
Foster G. Finley

Billy C. Franklin Sr.  
Jerry N. Hess  
Jeffrey A. Pearce  
Larry A. Peck, Sr.  
Walter J. Test



## Secretary's Report

### September 14, 2011 Board of Governors Meeting

The Board of Governors will meet, as scheduled on Wednesday, September 14th, from 2:00-3:00 pm at The Church of the Redeemer 222 Palm Ave. Sarasota. All members are invited to attend. We will discuss upcoming meetings and to vote on issues coming before this body. The official Secretary's Report of this meeting will appear in the October **Quill & Bugle**.

### October Chapter Meeting

We will meet on Friday, October 7th, at noon, in the 7th floor dining room of the Holiday Inn Lido Beach for our Chapter luncheon. Our guest speaker will be Jennifer N. Turner, Senior President of the Chichi Okobee C.A.R. society and wife of our compatriot member Richard R. Gans. She will talk about the purpose and organization of the C.A.R. and how we can be helpful to these wonderful children. Please see below for meal choices and reservation information.

### The Saramana Liberty Tree Ceremony, Patriots Park in Venice

**Not to be missed**, this event is scheduled for **Wednesday September 21st at 11:00 am**. Invited are 12 different military organizations from Sarasota county and one from Bradenton. Saramana will provide a Color Guard. Notable invitees include the Mayor of Venice, the Sarasota Veterans Council, the Chair of Sarasota Parks and Recreation (Carolyn Brown), the Forestry Department, the DAR chapters, the C.A.R. representative and the entire School Board of Sarasota County.

### Constitution Day Luncheon with the Daughters of the American Revolution

The Luncheon honoring our Constitution will be held at Laurel Oak Country Club, 2700 Gary Player Boulevard, on **Saturday, September 17th**.

For reservations and meal choices, please contact Judge Kim Bonner, Regent of Sara DeSoto chapter, DAR at [bonner522@gmail.com](mailto:bonner522@gmail.com) or by phone at 941-322-1651. Meal choices are: Salad with Salmon, Chicken Montrachet, Vegetarian pasta, and a Vegetarian plate.

Cost is \$25.00 per person, pay at the door. The luncheon begins at 11:30 am. The guest speaker will be **Sarasota County Commissioner Christine Robinson**. Please try to attend!

### Chapter Luncheon - Friday October 7th

Please call or email Ted Hornback with your reservation information and meal choice at [Ted1538@aol.com](mailto:Ted1538@aol.com) or by phone at 941-485-4481. Meal choices are:

1. Baked Tilapia with Panko crust, topped with lemon beurre blanc
  2. Gorgonzola Steak salad (medium well done) with choice of dressings
  3. Large garden salad with choice of dressings
- Plus warm rolls, butter, coffee, decaf, and tea, along with the Chef's selection of dessert.

Cost is \$20.00 per person, pay by cash/check at the door.



## SPECIAL REPORT

### September 22, 1776: Patriot executed for spying

In New York City on this day in 1776, Nathan Hale, a Connecticut schoolteacher and captain in the Continental Army, is executed by the British for spying.

A graduate of Yale University, Hale joined a Connecticut regiment in 1775 and served in the successful siege of British-occupied Boston. On September 10, 1776, he volunteered to cross behind British lines on Long Island to spy on the British in preparation for the Battle of Harlem Heights.

Disguised as a Dutch schoolmaster, the Yale-educated Hale successfully gathered information about British troop movements for the next several weeks. While Hale was behind enemy lines, the British invaded the island of Manhattan; they took control of the city on September 15, 1776.

When the city was set on fire on September 20th, British soldiers were told to look out for sympathizers to the Patriot cause. The following evening, September 21st, Hale was captured while sailing Long Island Sound, trying to cross back into American-controlled territory.

Although rumors surfaced that Hale was betrayed by his first cousin and British Loyalist Samuel Hale, the exact circumstances of Hale's capture have never been discovered.

Hale was interrogated by British General William Howe and, when it was discovered that he was carrying incriminating documents, General Howe ordered his execution for spying, which was set for the following morning. After being led to the gallows, legend holds that the 21-year-old Hale said, "I only regret that I have but one life to give for my country."

There is no historical record to prove that Hale actually made this statement, but, if he did, he may have been inspired by these lines in English author Joseph Addison's 1713 play *Cato*: "What a pity it is/That we can die but once to serve our country." — adapted from [www.history.net](http://www.history.net)





**YOUR OFFICERS FOR 2011 (email addresses included)**

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**Historian**.....Charles Riegle – criegle@verizon.net  
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**Dates for your calendar**

- **September 14th** – Board of Governors meeting
- **September 17th** – Constitution Day Luncheon (with local DAR chapters)
- **September 21st** – Saramana Liberty Tree Ceremony
- **October 7th** – Chapter luncheon (C.A.R. speaker)
- **October 14/15th** – FLSSAR Fall BOM meeting
- **October 19th** – Board of Governors meeting
- **November 11th** – Sarasota Veterans’ Day Parade
- **November 12th** – Chapter luncheon (Election of officers for 2012)
- **November 16th** – Board of Governors meeting
- **December 9th** – Chapter luncheon (FLSSAR president David Ramseur)
- **December 14th** – Board of Governors meeting