



CALLOOSA PATRIOT

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December 2013

Christmas Day 1776



Washington Crossing the Delaware River by Emanuel Leutze
the bridges at Assunpink Creek the battle may possibly have had a completely different outcome. Washington's forces were slow crossing in the north and were even slower moving south to attack Trenton, and the actual attack on Trenton was initiated several hours behind schedule. The Hessians would certainly have discovered a successful crossing by Ewing and Washington's surprise attack would have been compromised. The Hessians would have been on full alert by the time Washington initiated his attack.

Elisha Bostwick, a Continental soldier crossing with Washington's troops recounts the crossing in his diary, "Our whole army was then set in motion and toward evening began to cross the Delaware but by obstructions of ice in the river did not all get across till quite late in the evening, and all the time a constant fall of snow with some rain, and finally our march began with the torches of our field pieces stuck in the, exalters. They sparkled and blazed in the storm all night and about daylight a halt was made at which time his Excellency (General Washington) and aids came near to the front on the side of the path where soldiers stood. I heard him as he was speaking to and encouraging the soldiers. The words he spoke as he passed by where I stood and in my hearing were these: "Soldiers keep by your officers, for God's sake, keep by your officers!" Spoke in a deep solemn voice.

Trenton was a significant loss for the British Army. Two thousand four hundred colonials fought 1,500 Hessians in a two hour battle that had lasting effects and an impact far beyond the scale of the battle. The surprise engagement cost the Hessians 918 men - 22 killed, 83 wounded and 896 captured. Colonial casualties were almost nonexistent. Two soldiers froze to death along the line of march and four were wounded in the engagement. This relatively small event had incredible importance on the world stage and pumped new vigor into the men who fought for Washington and the leaders who led them.

Very few of the militia actually made it across the Delaware. At Trenton Falls, Ewing's men could not cross because of an ice jam at the falls. Washington later wrote of Ewing's attempted crossing "the quantity of ice was so great, that tho' he did everything in his power to effect it, he could not get over."

For Cadwalader, the problem was ice piled on the far shore of the river that prevented unloading of the boats. From Bristol, 26 December, Cadwalader wrote to General Washington "The river was so full of ice that it was impossible to pass above Bristol, where I intended, and therefore concluded to make an attempt at Dunk's Ferry."

Had Ewing been successful in his crossing and blocked

From the President



Greetings from your President

We are in the final days of our Chapter year. I am pleased to report that we have been very active in various areas and look forward to this next year.

We have inducted several new members and look forward to many more next year. We have a new Registrar who is doing a very good job in handling the responsibilities of this office. In addition, we have elected a new slate of Chapter officers who will be installed this next month. They are:

President	Lee Matson
Vice President	Russell Radcliff
Secretary	John Jones
Treasurer	John Jones as a temporary
Registrar	Robert McGuire
Historian	Hal Theiss
Genealogist	Albert Myers
Chaplain	Randy Moody
Sergeant at Arms	Wes Morris
Color Guard Commander	Randy Moody
Awards Committee Chair	Randy Moody

I want to express my special thanks and appreciation for those who decided to step down and not run for re-election. Their service to the chapter was much appreciated; notably Maj Earl Kennedy as Treasurer, Tom Veal as Sergeant at Arms and Phillip Moody as Vice President who had accepted new employment in Arizona.

As always, I encourage any member to seek to help and be an understudy for any of the chapter officer positions. This will enable you to learn more about the functions and duties of the position and be of help to the current officer. We also need some new members for our Color Guard.

Lee Matson
President

Chapter Facebook Page

Compatriot Albert Myers is our webmaster and keeps our Facebook page up to date with current activities. He also reports that the hits on our page has increased and is encouraged with this flurry of activity, meaning more people are taking a look at us. The following link to the page can be entered into your web browser's navigation bar (some recipients of the newsletter may be able to click on the link). <https://facebook.com/CaloosaChapteroftheSAR>.

Highlights of November EXCOM Meeting

- Compatriot VPG Moody reported on the Kings Mountain Commemoration in the South Atlantic region, along with complications with the ceremony with the shutdown of National Parks.
- Compatriot McGuire reported on applications in progress and presented a spread sheet to the EXCOM to track the applications and which members of DAR have recommended to us for membership.
- VPG Moody gave a report on the status of the Color Guard. We are short members in the color guard. Any members who are interested in purchasing a Class A uniform should contact any member of the EXCOM on where they can be purchased.
- The EXCOM serving as the Nominating Committee will present a list of candidates (covered elsewhere) for 2014 at the December meeting.
- Still in need of a compatriot to oversee the Eagle Scout Program.

Christmas at Home in Mount Vernon

General George Washington decision to step down as leader of the Revolutionary Army came in late November 1783 when Washington received formal notice of the signing of a peace treaty with England he had little more than a month to accept the transfer of power from British troops in New York then to bid farewell to his troops; and to resign his commission to Congress if he hoped to make it to Mount Vernon for Christmas. He could have remained in charge of the army and become a king to the Americans who loved him. He could have taken control of the newly formed government, yet he chose to resign. It was that decision, coupled with his later decision to step down from the presidency after two terms that rendered him “the greatest character of the age” according to none other than King George III.

Our Calendar of Events

We are meeting at a new location!

Helm Club at the Landings Yacht Golf and Tennis Club
4420 Flagship Drive

(off McGregor Blvd first light South of College)

Follow this link to get a map to the Landings

<http://mapq.st/1bYbmwa>

January 8, 2014

The gathering will begin at 11:30 a.m. with lunch served at noon
Cost for the lunch is \$20.00 per person

Program: Rumbaugh Oration Contest
And
Installation of Officers for 2014

*Please RSVP for meetings to: Compatriot John Jones - 230 Cottage Ave.
LaBelle, FL 33935 – john.jones.2009@comcast.net - 863-843-5771*

**January 24 & 25, 2014 Florida State Society Board of Management Winter meeting
at the Florida Hotel in Orlando**

Attaboy Awards



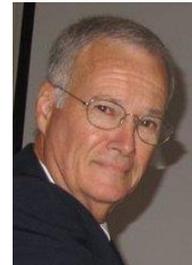
Congratulations and Attaboy awards go out to three outgoing officers who have faithfully served our chapter well over the past few years. They are Vice President Philip Moody, Treasurer Earl Kennedy and Sergeant-at-arms Tom Veal.



Philip Moody



Maj. Earl Kennedy



Tom Veal

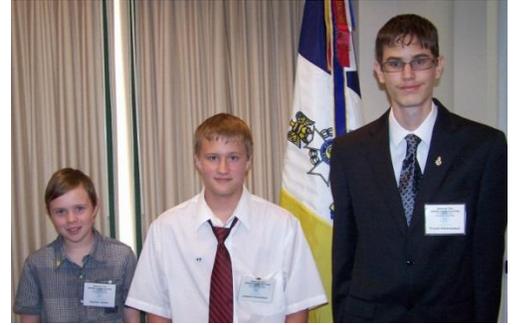
2013 at a Glance



January Passing the Gavel



Prime Rib for Lunch M-m-m Good



Junior members present in March



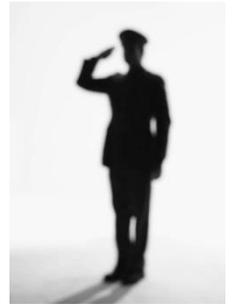
Bill Mellor receiving Silver Citizenship Medal



In Memory of Guy Walton



Law Enforcement Appreciation Award



Vice President General



Pride and Patriotism



General Dozier talks about Academy Appointments



2013 Year End Awards

Chain of Command

Every organization whether for profit or nonprofit, civilian or military, volunteer or paid, requires a chain of command structure to operate most efficiently for the betterment of all. The Sons of the American Revolution operate in this same way. I thought it would be beneficial to list our chain of command.



National Society
Sons of the American Revolution
President General Joseph W. Dooley



Caloosa Chapter Secretary
& Treasurer Pro Temp
John Jones



Vice President General,
South Atlantic District
Rev. Dr. Randy D. Moody



Caloosa Chapter Geneologist
& Past President
Albert Myers*



Florida Society SAR President
Ted Duay III



Caloosa Chapter Chaplain
& Awards Chairman
Rev. Dr. Randy Moody*



Caloosa Chapter President
Lee Matson



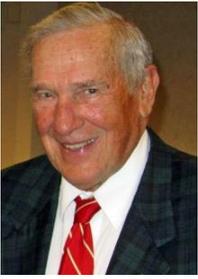
Caloosa Chapter Registrar
Robert McGuire



Caloosa Chapter Vice President
Russell Radcliffe



Caloosa Chapter
Sergeant at Arms
Wesley Morrison



Caloosa Chapter Historian

Harold Theiss

Trust Fund Trustees



Earl Kennedy
Temporary Trustee



Roy Wasson*
Term Ending 2015



Dr. Albert E. Myers*
Term Ending 2014

*Denotes Past Chapter President

Help Wanted!

To paraphrase a very well-known statement by President John F. Kennedy, ask not what the Sons of the Revolution can do for you, but what can you do for the Sons of the American Revolution.

In these busy times it is hard to find time to spend on things for the Caloosa Chapter of the SAR, but we do need your help with some things that require just a small amount of time.

I'm sure many of you have talents that would be greatly appreciated by the officers of the Caloosa Chapter. Only you know what that talent is. Can you give some time to the Color Guard? Could you coordinate the Eagle Scout program with the Boy Scouts of America? What about putting together a newsletter? Help with distributing citizenship awards to high school seniors?

Many other items are available for your many talents to help our Chapter.

How about coming to a meeting if you are able, to spend some times getting to know other members in the organization.

For those that are retired, the well-worn phrase that I am just too busy since retiring to do anything else doesn't hold water. How did you manage when you were working full time?

For more information contact any member of the EXCOM to talk about what you can do to help the Caloosa Chapter to grow and continue to honor our Patriotic Ancestors.