

***CALOOSA CHAPTER,
Florida Society,
Sons of the American Revolution (SAR)***

Bylaws 2017

ARTICLE I - THE CHAPTER

Section 1 - Name

The name of this organization shall be: *Caloosa Chapter of the Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) (hereafter referred to as "the Chapter")*.

Section 2 - Structure

The Chapter is a principle subordinate element of the Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (FLSSAR), which in turn is a chartered entity of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (NSSAR). It serves as the primary link between the individual Members (of the Chapter) and the State and National SAR Societies.

The Caloosa Chapter was the 18th chapter to be chartered by the FLSSAR on 1 January 1973. It is a not-for-profit organization that derives its tax exempt status from Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code granting such status to the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution and its subordinate elements. The FLSSAR was founded in 1896, and organized as a not-for-profit corporation on March 9, 1972 under the laws of the State of Florida. The NSSAR was founded in 1889 and is a corporation created by special act of the Congress of the United States on June 9, 1906, under Title 36 USC, Chapter 1 C, and amended in 1925 and 1961.

Section 3 - Purposes

The purposes and objectives of the Chapter are patriotic, historical and educational, and include activities to perpetuate the memory of the men and women who, by their services or sacrifices during the war of the American Revolution, achieved the independence of the American people. Activities are intended to:

- a. Unite and promote fellowship among their descendants;
- b. Inspire their descendants and the community at large with a more profound appreciation for the principles of the Government founded by our forebears;
- c. Encourage historical research relating to the American Revolution;
- d. Acquire and preserve records and other materials relating to the Revolutionary War period, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and ancillary subjects, in cooperation with local and state libraries, other lineage organizations, and the Center for Advancing America's Heritage (CAAH).
- e. Promote and recognize local educational activities by sponsoring NSSAR or FLSSAR approved contests.

Section 4 - Membership

The Caloosa Chapter is made up of following membership categories:

- a. Regular or Regular Life Member: Any man (18) years or older, being a citizen of good repute in the community, whose application to membership in the National Society Sons of the American Revolution has been approved, and who also has been admitted as a member of the Florida Society, who is not in arrears in payment of his annual dues, and whose membership is not suspended or terminated under the provisions of Section 3 of Bylaw 17 of the National Society;
- b. Junior: A Junior Member is a male under the age of eighteen (18) whose Application has been approved by the National and State Societies and whose annual dues are not in arrears.

Section 5 - Meetings

The Chapter holds eight regular meetings each year, October to May, with the December meeting designated as the Annual Meeting. Meetings are usually held on the second Wednesday of the month, subject to change by the Executive Committee (EXCOM). A quorum for the Annual Meeting shall consist of twenty percent of the Members in good standing.

ARTICLE II - ORGANIZATION

Section 1 - Executive Committee

The Chapter shall be governed by an Executive Committee (EXCOM) that establishes policy, approves the annual budget, sets fees & dues, and exercises operating control of the affairs, activities, funds and properties of the Chapter. The EXCOM shall meet prior to each general Chapter meeting. Times and locations will be announced in the Chapter's Newsletter and/or by direct notice to the members. Meetings will be open to the general membership. The EXCOM may decide additional meetings are needed, however, additional meetings shall require ten days prior notice. EXCOM meetings shall require a quorum consisting of a simple majority of regular, voting EXCOM members. In addition, the EXCOM shall:

- a. Set attainable annual goals and long-range objectives.
- b. Monitor and evaluate activities to achieve the Chapter's goals and objectives.

Section 2 - Executive Committee Membership

The Executive Committee (EXCOM) consists of Members who have been elected to be Officers plus the immediate Past President . Honorary (non-voting) Members include all previous past Presidents and Officers and Committee Chairmen who have been appointed by the President or EXCOM who serve in an advisory capacity. Officers with combined positions, e.g., Secretary-Treasurer, have a single vote.

ARTICLE III - OFFICERS

Section 1 - General

The Officers of this Chapter, who must be Regular or Regular Life Members in good standing, are elected at the December Annual Meeting and are installed at the January meeting for a one year term or until their successors are elected unless they resign or are removed for good cause. The term of office will be from January 1 through December 31. The Officers, who will also serve as members of the EXCOM, shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Second Vice President, a Secretary, a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, a Registrar, an Assistant Registrar, a Genealogist, an Historian, a Chaplain, a Sergeant-at-Arms, and a Member-at-Large. One or more positions may be combined at the discretion of the Nominating Committee with the concurrence of the EXCOM, based on available Member resources. Terms of office for the President and Vice-President are limited to three consecutive terms.

Section 2 - Nomination and Election of Officers

The Nominating Committee shall be created each year and shall include a minimum of three Members appointed by the President and approved by EXCOM, one of whom shall be any former Chapter President. The Committee shall solicit suggestions for nominations, and determines whether individuals nominated are willing to serve. Nominations from the floor may be offered at the December Meeting.

Election for an office for which only one Member has been nominated will be by voice vote upon a motion to elect by acclamation. Election for an office for which there are two or more candidates will be by secret ballot to be tallied by the Nominating Committee. Election will be by majority vote of Members in good standing who are present and voting at the December meeting. If there is a tie vote, balloting will continue until a winner is determined. The results of balloting will be communicated to the President who will announce the winner.

Section 3 – Vacancies of Officers

In the case of death, disability, removal, or resignation of any Officer, the EXCOM shall have the power to fill the unexpired term of office. Officers who resign or have been relieved of their duties shall, within one week of the date of their resignation or release, deliver to their successor all files, documents, funds including account access codes, electronic records, and any other property belonging to the Chapter. Failure to turnover said documents or other property of Chapter in timely manner shall be considered just cause for immediate termination from Membership of Chapter.

ARTICLE IV - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

All Chapter Officers are to be guided in their duties by the FLSSAR Governing Documents, Volumes 1, 2, & 3 (Latest Edition) and the Chapter's By-Laws and Standing Rules.

ARTICLE V - COMMITTEES

Section 1 - General

The President or the Executive Committee may appoint both standing and ad hoc committees to address specific issues or to assist in short-term and/or long-range planning. Examples of standing committees are Budget, Nominations and Awards. Ad hoc committees are those formed to address specific issues such as By-Laws and Audit Committees. The Audit Committee reviews the financial and management records of the Chapter and needs to be convened whenever the Chapter has a new Treasurer or every 3 years, whichever comes first. This committee is empowered to recommend improvements to the operations of the Chapter, and may utilize outside consultants if authorized by the EXCOM.

Section 2 - Caloosa Chapter S.A.R. Project Trust Fund

The Caloosa Chapter S.A.R. Project Trust Fund, (hereafter referred to as "the Trust Fund"), was approved by the membership in 2001. Separate By-Laws governing the Trust Fund took effect in 2002. The Trust Fund specifies that it be managed by three Trustees consisting of the Treasurer and two Members appointed by the EXCOM for a term of two calendar years each.

ARTICLE VI - MISCELLANEOUS

Section 1 - Amendments/Revisions

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Members present and voting at the Annual Meeting of the Chapter, subject to the following:

- a. The text of any proposed amendment shall be submitted to the EXCOM who must review and present their recommendations to Members at any regular meeting which is at least 30 days in advance of the Annual Meeting;
- b. Proposed amendment(s) shall be clearly identified and published in the Chapter newsletter prior to the Annual Meeting.
- c. The text of the proposed amendment(s) may be modified by a simple majority of the Members present and voting without giving prior notice, provided that modifications do not significantly change the original intent.

Section 2 - Dissolution

In the event of the dissolution of the Chapter, its assets, property, and records including its Trust Fund, shall be transferred to and becomes the property of the State Society (FLSSAR).

Section 3 - Conduct of Business

Unless otherwise provided in these By Laws, all business shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, as revised.

Section 4 - Provision for Electronic Meetings

The Executive Committee and other committees of the Chapter are authorized to hold electronic meetings via teleconferencing, audio-conferencing, video-conferencing or other technology that provides the opportunity for simultaneous aural communication in accordance with the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, as long as doing so does not conflict with the Constitution and bylaws of The National Society or the Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Note: This bylaw does not cover or include meetings which are done in "writing" (e.g. postal mail, email, "chat rooms" or fax) as they do not meet the requirements for "simultaneous aural communication."

CERTIFICATION

I, James D. Stone , Secretary of the CALOOSA CHAPTER, FLORIDA SOCIETY, SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, hereby certify that at the Annual Meeting of the chapter, held on the 13th day of December, 2017 at Fort Myers, Florida, at which meeting there was a quorum of Members authorized to vote, these By-Laws were duly adopted.

James D. Stone, Secretary

Attested:

Russell Radcliffe, President