

The Gainesville Broadside

Gainesville Chapter ~ Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution

Bob Reeves ~ Chapter President
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The Cross Of Malta

Membership in the Sons of the American Revolution entitles you to wear the medal of the SAR. I now take great pride in describing the symbolism behind the Cross of Malta.

The cross is composed of a horizontal and vertical bar. The horizontal bar represents the first commandment, “You Shall Love Your Neighbor as Yourself.” The vertical bar represents the second commandment: “You Shall Love Your God.” Let us focus on the intersection of the bars to remind us the Love of God and neighbor are in fact one and the same love.

There are four limbs of the cross. The limbs remind us of the four cardinal virtues. The first virtue is prudence learned by studying the past in order to regulate the present and plan for the future. Prudence allows one to understand the fallacy in allowing a lesser evil to avoid a greater evil, because the accumulation of lesser evils will eventually exceed the hypothetical greater evil.

The second virtue is justice. There is an art and science in being just. The art comes from the recognition of the true worth of fellow man. The science involves the concept of impartiality and always begs the question: Is it fair to all concerned? True justice is underscored by an integrity of life.

The third virtue is temperance or moderation in all of our actions including the senses especially the sensual desires.

The fourth virtue is fortitude with magnanimity and courage to serve God.

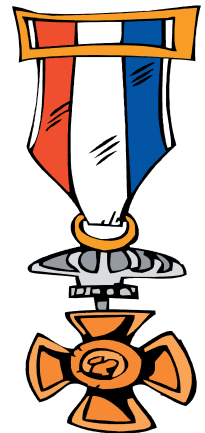
There are 8 points of the Maltese Cross. Each point represents one of the beatitudes recounted for the knight of Malta by the initiator who would proclaim the following annunciation: “This cross was given white to us as a sign of purity which you must carry in your heart as you wear it externally, without spot or blemish. The 8 points that you see in this are a sign of the 8 beatitudes that you must always have within you and they are:

1. To have spiritual contentment;
2. To live without malice;
3. To weep over your sins;
4. To humble yourself at insults;
5. To love justice;
6. To be merciful;
7. To be sincere and open hearted;
8. To suffer persecution.

All these virtues you must engrave upon your heart for conservation and preservation of your soul, and for that reason I command you to wear it openly sewn on your clothing on the left hand side of the heart and never abandon it.”

Lastly, our medal has the bust of George Washington at the intersection of the two bars of the cross. This reminds us of our great leader at the time of the American Revolution.

Surrounding his bust are the words of libertas and patria reminding us of our Declaration of Independence and Constitution.



Honorable Mention ~ 1992 NSSAR
Carl F. Bessent Newsletter Award



Winner of 2001, '02 & '03 FLSSAR “Poor Paul”
Newsletter Award ~ “Best in Florida”



CHAPTER MEETING SCHEDULE

February 3rd Executive Committee Meeting
February 14th Happy Valentines Day!
February 17th-Monthly Dinner Officer : Installation by FLSSAR Pres. Ron Toops
February 19th Naturalization Ceremony

What Heroic Statesmen Can Teach Us

If we look at what heroic statesmen can teach us, the sartorial dimension – what they wear – is indicative. Prince Otto von Bismarck, the Prussian who created Germany in its modern form, always put on uniforms when he addressed the Reichstag... The English and American traditions and instincts are quite different. George Washington might wear a uniform when the Republic was in danger, to indicate his willingness and ability to defend it. As a rule, however, he deliberately stressed his civilian status by his dress. He was anxious to show that, unlike Cromwell 150 years before, he would not use his military victories to become a Caesar. His self-restraint fascinated contemporaries. After American independence was secured, King George III asked an American “What will George Washington do now?” He was told “I expect he will go back to his farm.”” The King commented, in frank admiration” If he does that, he will be the greatest man on earth.” And that is what he did. When he finally – and reluctantly – accepted political office, he waited to be summoned by election. The importance of Washington’s behavior should never be underrated, contrasting, as it did, so markedly with the behavior of Napoleon Bonaparte a few years later. I illustrated all the difference between a civil and a military culture. In statesmanship, personal self-restraint in the search for exercise of power is a key lesson to teach.

Excerpted from a lecture by Historian Paul Johnson

February Birthdays:

Adam C. Losey 1st
Samuel R Martin 10th
Donald A. Coker 23rd
Charles R. Earnest 27th
Max R. Langham 28th



“Firearms stand next in importance to the Constitution itself . . . They deserve a place of honor with all that’s good.” -- George Washington



Volunteers Needed for Gainesville SAR Chapter Committees:

Program, Publicity, Veterans, Rumbaugh Orations, Knight Essay, Flag Certificate, Eagle Scout, Webmaster. All are partime jobs; guidance and assistance are available. We need help or we will have to curtail programs. Let any of our officers know your interest or call/email 352-371-2387/rdrii@yahoo.com.



George Washington

from a lecture November 1, 2007 during a Hillsdale College cruise. Hillsdale College “Imprimis” free: https://www.hillsdale.edu/news/imprimis/subs_new.asp

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Guilford County is created in reaction to a taxpayer's revolt.

Some things never change! Americans today who grumble about how their government operates or interferes with their lives may find the eighteenth-century North Carolina Regulator movement an interesting study, if not only of history, but of people and their government.

North Carolina prior to the American Revolution was a crown colony of Great Britain. As such, the King of England governed by appointing a royal governor to administer the affairs of the colony. The people were represented in an Assembly. These literate men (remember women were not yet enfranchised) came from the landed gentry and served to further the best interest of the king or the governor, an interest they made sure was as close to their own interest, too! One of the advantages of being so close to the power of the crown was the platinum opportunity to obtain for themselves, or for a friend, the "gift" of a lucrative governmental post, such as assemblyman, county tax collector, judge, militia colonel, magistrate, justice of the peace, or all of them at once! Multiple officeholding was quite common because, without a salary, their income came from the collection of taxes and fees.

By the late 1750's the people of piedmont and western North Carolina were beginning to have their fill of these local officials who either in their opinion or on a rare indictment were all corrupt, abusing the power of their office for personal gain, particularly through the highly favored practice of misappropriating or embezzling public funds. Riots and protests in 1759 and 1765 resulted in some officials or their agents angrily confronted or, worst, beaten short of death. North Carolina's Royal Governor, William Tryon, viewed by the people as sitting on top of this mountain of corruption, was not immune either. His condoning of these practices and benefiting from them, too, irritated and ignited the citizenry. Fueling the fire was his extravagance in building a "palace" for himself at New Bern using tax money "stolen" from them.

In the backcountry counties of Rowan and Orange, far removed from the improvements and benefits going to eastern North Carolina, rose up a vigilante force of citizens taking the name "Regulators", an old English term applied to those "with the professed object of supplying the want of the regular administration of justice." Herman Husbands, their outspoken leader, protested in the Assembly with no result, except to be expelled. Rebuked in this lawful way-to-do-things arena, the Regulators picked more aggressive leaders and their actions grew bolder. From 1768 to 1771, acts of violence and retribution against these officials ranged from protests to mock trials. As these grew into mob violence more than once the Governor was required to call out the militia. Seeking to control the wrath of the Regulators, the Assembly passed the "Riot" or "Bloody Act" on January 15, 1771 making rioters guilty of treason and giving the Governor the power to quell any insurrection with military force. In defiance of the Assembly, an "army" of Regulators marched on Hillsborough. Barring the road near Alamance Creek stood Tryon's force of militia. On May 16, 1771, in a short one-sided battle, the Regulators were defeated. Content the rebellion was crushed and to be certain it remained crushed, one of the movement's top leaders was executed immediately and twelve others were later tried in court. Six of them were hanged; their bodies drawn and quartered, and buried in unmarked graves. Those not put to death were obliged to swear allegiance to the government. As calm descended over middle-North Carolina, many of the ex-Regulators left their homes in self-banishment for the "non-government" of the frontier. Tryon and Fanning left to fill similar government jobs in New York. Later, when the Revolution began, many of those who had participated in this rebellion against the governor and his cronies had to choose sides. Some took the road again to rebellion and supported the cause of independence; others, sensing the officials they had bitterly despised in 1771 were the same ones now in charge of the Revolution, chose to remain loyal to the King.

One of the political reactions to the Regulators was the creation of a new county formed by slicing off the western part of Orange and the eastern part of Rowan County. The Governor and the Assembly hoped this new county, stretching north from the Virginia border south to the Uwharrie Mountains, would weaken the political influence of the Regulators by installing more new "appointed" officials. Thus Guilford County, named for the father of King George's Prime Minister, Lord North, began by an act of Assembly in 1770 to take effect in April 1771, a month before the battle of Alamance. A few years later, in its center, county commissioners began erecting a small wooden building along the Great Salisbury Wagon Road. Here, too, in less than ten years, an important battle of the American Revolution would be fought.



January 6, 2009 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

The meeting was convened at 1:00 P.M. at the Masonic Temple. Present were: President Bob Reeves, Gordon Greenwood, Ray Davis, David Cromer, Charles Rinek, and Jim Partin

Monthly Meeting: The next monthly meeting will be a dinner meeting on Tuesday, January 19th at Brown's Country Buffet. The meeting time is 5:30 PM. The speaker will be announced later.

Treasurer's Report: David Cromer presented the Treasurer's Report for December 2008. The EOM bank balance is \$3,566.78. David reported that the Chapter received \$835 in 2009 Dues from regular and associate members, and \$235 Donations were submitted with dues payment. A copy of members who must be "dropped" by reason of failure to pay dues has been provided the President. There are three known active duty military members in the Chapter at this time whose paid fees will be refunded. David reported current paid membership of 60 regular members and 5 associate members.

Genealogist / Registrar Report: Jim Partin reported that he has four new applications in hand and one in the mail to him. Three pending applications were approved in December 2008. He reported a total of 19 new member applications, transfers, and reinstatements processed in 2008.

Lake City: Nothing new to report. A discussion was made concerning the "promise" to transfer funds to the Lake City chapter when a charter is received. Jim Partin recalls a plan to transfer fees and dues paid to Gainesville by Lake City members. It was discussed that dues paid to Gainesville would be advanced to Lake City on a prorata basis for the portion of the year remaining.

Veterans Committee: There are donated goods to be delivered to the nursing wing at the VA hospital.

Medals. There was discussion as to presentation of the Bronze Good Citizen Medal. The presentation action will proceed.

Service Pins: This program will be phased in during 2009.

2009 Officer Nomination Committee: The committee reported a proposed slate of officers as follows:

President: Bob Reeves; 1st VP: Gordon Greenwood; 2VP: Ray Davis, Secretary: David, Treasurer: David Cromer

Installation of Officers: The installation of 2009 officers will be conducted at the dinner meeting February 17, 2009 at Brown's Country Buffet.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be Tuesday February 3, 2009 at 1:00 PM at the Masonic Lodge.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 PM. Respectfully Submitted D. W. Cromer,

Gainesville Chapter-Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution
Minutes of Chapter Regular Dinner Meeting - Tuesday, January 20, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 P.M. by President Reeves, at Brown's Country Buffet, 12510 M.L. King Hwy, Alachua, FL. Also present were Vice President Davis, Secretary Cromer, Second Vice President Thrasher, Regional Vice President Greenwood and 9 other Regular members. There was 1 Associate member present. Associate member Roger Cox has submitted his application and now is a "pending" member. President Reeves led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Preamble to the Constitution. The Pledge to the Sons of the American Revolution was led by Jim Craig. Chaplain Rinek delivered the Invocation. President Reeves extended a welcome to members and guests.

Dinner was served at 6:00 P.M..

After dinner was completed, the meeting re-convened. President Reeves introduced the guest speaker, Com-patriot Bill Piper, Lake-Sumter Chapter.

Mr. Piper reviewed the historical acts of Benedict Arnold which led to his treason during the Revolutionary War. Piper reported that Arnold had served during two French and Indian campaigns and had deserted twice. Arnold and General Daniel Morgan led the unsuccessful attack on Quebec on December 24, 1775. After promotion, Arnold led the battle of Saratoga, but was not credited with his leadership. He was subsequently "passed over", while several junior officers were promoted.

Arnold was suspected of "misuse of supplies and material". These charges; his disappointment at not being credited with leadership; his failure to be promoted; all led to his acts of treason. He had been wounded in the leg at Saratoga and these later events seemed to "wound his heart".

Gen. George Washington appointed Arnold command of West Point, then a fort on the Hudson. Arnold solicited the British for money and a British Officer's appointment if he assisted them. He was offered \$10, 000 and BrigGen rank. British army Major John Andre was the go-between. Andre was captured with plans of Fort West Point on him. He was subsequently hanged as a spy. His remains are in a crypt at Westminster Abbey. Arnold escaped to England where he was held in disrespect as a traitor. However, he is buried in honor with stained glass windows showing service to both England and the U.S.

Mr. Piper's comments were enjoyed by all. President Reeves presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Mr. Piper.

The business meeting received a report from the 2009 Officers nominating committee. VP Davis presented the committee's recommendations as follows:

President:	Bob Reeves
1stVice Pres:	Gordon Greenwood
2ndVicePres:	Ray Davis
Secretary:	David Cromer
Treasurer:	David Cromer

The President called for nominations from the floor. There being none, a motion was made and carried that the nominees be elected as presented. This motion carried. New officers will be installed at the next meeting by State President Ron Troops.

Bob Reeves presented "A Look Back in History". This date is Presidential Inauguration Day. Some historical background was provided concerning the oath taken, the date itself, and the fact that George Washington is credited with adding the words "so help me God" to the oath outlined in the Constitution.

The fifty-fifty drawing was won by DAR Regent Roz Miller who will donate the proceeds to the DAR Scholarship Fund.

A door prize drawing was won by a member.

The next meeting is a dinner meeting on February 17 at Brown's County Buffet.

The meeting was concluded with the American's Creed, a Benediction, and the SAR Recessional.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 P. M.

Respectfully submitted D. W. Cromer



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

See you at our February Meeting

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