

The Brevard Chapter

Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution



Constitution & By-Laws

June 1, 2011

Be it known that on the 25th day of January 1967 the first organizational meeting was held and Brevard became the 16th Chapter of the Florida Society. Julian M Ellington was elected as the Chapter's first President at that time, but the Charter was not signed until the 25th day of July 1969. A listing of Brevard Chapter Presidents and a history of the Chapter is included within.

This new version of the Constitution and By-Laws follows much of the wording of the original documents established in 1967, and the up-dated documents of 1988. This document supersedes and replaces all previous versions of the Chapter Constitution and By-Laws. These changes will become the official CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE BREVARD CHAPTER FLSSAR as of June 1, 2011.

Brevard Chapter FLSSAR Constitution

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of the organization shall be "*The Brevard Chapter, Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution*," hereinafter known as the "Brevard Chapter FLSSAR," or simply as the "Chapter"

ARTICLE II - TERRITORY

The Brevard Chapter FLSSAR has the jurisdiction over the territory in Brevard County and, if necessary, any unassigned, adjacent county.

ARTICLE III - OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this Society are declared to be patriotic, historical and educational, and shall include those intended or designed as follows:

- To perpetuate the memory of those, who by their services or sacrifices during the war of the American Revolution achieved the independence of the American people;
- To unite and promote fellowship among their descendants; to inspire them and the community at large with a more profound reverence for the principles of the government founded by our forefathers;
- To encourage historical research in relation to the American Revolution; to acquire and preserve the records of the individual services of the patriots of the war, as well as documents, relics and landmarks;
- To mark the scenes of the Revolution by appropriate events of the war and the revolutionary period; to celebrate the anniversaries of the prominent events of the war and the revolutionary period;
- To foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom;
- And, to carry out the purposes expressed in the Preamble of the Constitution of our country and the injunctions of George Washington in his Farewell address to the American people.

ARTICLE IV - ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP

Any man shall be eligible for membership in the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution (NSSAR) who, being of the age of eighteen years or over and a citizen of good repute in the community, is the lineal descendant of an ancestor who was at the time unfailing in loyalty to, and rendered active service in, the cause of the American Independence, either as an Officer, Soldier, Seaman, Marine, Militiaman, or Minuteman, in the armed forces of the Continental Congress, or of any one of the several Colonies or States; or as a Signer of the Declaration of Independence, or as a member of a Committee of Safety or Correspondence; or as a member of any Continental, Provincial or Colonial Congress or Legislature; or as a recognized patriot who performed actual service by overt acts of resistance to the authority of Great Britain; or otherwise aided in achieving American independence.,

No person advocating the overthrow of the Government of the United States by use of force or violence shall be eligible for membership in this Society.

Any man meeting the above requirements shall be eligible to join the Brevard Chapter, FLSSAR.

ARTICLE V - ELECTED OFFICERS

1. The Elected Officers of this Chapter shall include a President, a First Vice-President, a Second Vice-President, a Secretary, a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer and two (2) Members at Large. The regular term of office for elected officers shall be for one (1) year. All Officers may serve until voted out, or resigning, except for the President and the two Vice-Presidents who shall serve no more than three (3) consecutive terms in the same office. In the event that there are not enough candidates for elected office the President may combine the duties of such officers as he deems necessary and desirable. Under no circumstance may an Officer hold more than two (2) elected positions at the same time, unless, or otherwise stipulated in the By-Laws.
2. Elections shall be held in the month of MAY every year.
3. The President may call together an informal meeting of the Elected Officers when 50% (four Elected Officers) agree, but ALL Elected Officers MUST be invited to attend.

4. The President with the concurrence of a majority of the Elected Officers shall fill any vacancy not otherwise provided for among the Elected Officers of the Chapter. Such appointees shall continue in office for the term of the appointing President.

ARTICLE VI - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Elected Officers enumerated in Article V above, together with all past presidents, Chapter members who have been awarded the Patriot Medal, and those Chapter Committee Chairmen, as described in our BY-LAWS under ARTICLES IV and V.
2. The Executive Committee Officers shall be appointed with the concurrence of the Elected Officers.
3. Informal meetings are authorized in which any member of the Committee may contact other members of the Committee individually, however at least five (5) members, including the President and one Vice President, must concur in the proposed action to validate such a meeting. All members of the Executive Board MUST be notified of said meeting.
4. A quorum for the transaction of business shall be fifty (50) percent of the Elected Officers, and a majority of those present on the Executive Committee shall be necessary to act. PROXY VOTES are acceptable.
5. The Executive Committee shall have general supervision of the Chapter activities and shall control all administrative and financial affairs. It shall perform such duties as may be referred to it by the Chapter; have the power to make necessary rules and regulations which are not inconsistent with the By-Laws or Resolutions of the Chapter, and to approve the Committees, and Committee Chairman appointed by the President.

ARTICLE VII - REGULAR MEETINGS AND PROXY VOTING

1. See Article II in BY-LAWS for the Official Agenda to be used at Regular Meetings
2. The Chapter shall try to meet on the third Saturday of each month, with the exception of December, in which the date of the Meeting may be adjusted so as to minimize conflict with Christmas. However, the Executive Committee shall have the power to change the dates for meetings as necessary.
3. There shall be no fewer than four (4) Regular Meetings per calendar year.
4. When Regular Meetings are Joint Meetings with the local DAR's the DAR, the dates may be changed to accommodate the DAR activities, if and when necessary.
5. There shall be no Regular Meetings in the months of July and August.
6. Twenty (20) percent of the active membership (Members in Good Standing) shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at a Regular Meeting, including a meeting for the election of officers. See By-Laws Article I "Membership" for the definition of Members in Good Standing.
7. For the good of the Chapter and in the event that there is not twenty (20) percent of the active members at meeting for the election of officers the meeting it shall automatically be declared an Executive Committee Meeting, and the elections shall proceed with those in attendance, as long as the meeting proceeds in conformance with Article VI of this Constitution..
8. Members in good standing may assign their PROXY VOTE to any other member in good standing. The PROXY VOTE must be in writing, must include the date of the meeting that the PROXY is to be used, and any restrictions placed upon the PROXY by the receiver. PROXY VOTES may be used for the Election of Officers, Amendments or Changes to the By-Laws and/or Constitution and for any other order of business conducted at said meeting. PROXY VOTES are only good for one business meeting and must be presented to the Secretary prior to the voting.

ARTICLE VIII - SPECIAL MEETINGS

1. Special Meetings may be called by the President; or when ordered by the Executive Committee; or when requested, in writing to the Secretary, by seven (7) or more members in good standing. The notice of every Special Meeting shall state the business to be transacted at the meeting. Notice of such meetings shall be sent to each member at least five days prior to the meeting date.
2. Any member in Good Standing may request a current Membership Mailing List from the Secretary for this purpose.
3. A call for a Special Meeting that cannot be published in a regularly scheduled issue of the *BREVARD BEACON* shall be paid for by the member/s calling for such meeting.
4. PROXY VOTES will count at Special Meetings, as long as they conform to ARTICLE VII of this Constitution.

ARTICLE IX - FLSSAR BOM MEETINGS

1. The By-Laws of the Florida Society of the SAR (FLSSAR), stipulate that there shall be a Board of Management that will meet quarterly and its members will include the President and Immediate Past President of each Chapter. Chapters are authorized to send additional members to the Board of Management on the basis of one additional member for each forty chapter members or fraction thereof, more than the first forty members. This is subject to change if the FLSSAR subsequently changes its rules.
2. The President, with the approval of the Executive Committee may appoint such additional members as representatives to the BOM and their term as representatives to the BOM shall be the same as the term of the incumbent Chapter President at the time of appointment.

ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS

1. This Constitution and accompanying By-Laws may be amended by affirmative action of two-thirds of the active members, present at any Regular or Special Meeting, provided however, that the proposed changes were presented in writing to the membership prior to the meeting at which considered; or the changes may be proposed at any Regular Meeting without advanced notice, but final action may not be taken until the following regular meeting. The meeting notice for that meeting must indicate the changes proposed.
2. Proposed amendments may be recommended by the Executive Committee, or alternatively, by any member if seconded by another member.
3. PROXY VOTES will count at Regular or Special Meetings concerning the changing of Amendments, as long as they conform to provision s of ARTICLE VII of this Constitution.

ARTICLE XI - RETAINED POWER

1. All powers and authority not expressly delegated in this Constitution and/or the accompanying By-Laws are retained in the body of the membership. This body shall establish Policy and has the authority to veto or overrule actions of any of the Officers, and may recall any of them from office. Recall action can be accomplished only upon affirmative action vote of fifty-one (51) percent of the entire active membership.
2. PROXY VOTES may be used in recall actions, as long as they conform to the provisions of ARTICLE VII of this Constitution..

ARTICLE XII - AUTHORITY

This revision of the Constitution and Bylaws is effective **May 18, 2013**, and supersedes any revision previously in force, and shall provide guidance for the conduct and affairs of the Brevard Chapter, Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Final action was taken to approve the provisions of the of the Constitution and By-Laws at the meeting of the Chapter on the **18th of May 2013**. Attested to by:

Ben DuBose (President/Secretary 2013)

Brevard Chapter SAR BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I – MEMBERSHIP

1. Application for membership shall be made in accordance with the instructions of, and on the forms prescribed by, the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. The Chapter Registrar shall review applications and forward them to the Florida State Registrar, along with all necessary fees and dues payments.
2. Membership Definitions
 - A. A Member in Good Standing is defined as a member of the Brevard Chapter FLSSAR, 18 years of age or older, who is not in arrears in Chapter, State or National dues and fees.
 - B. Only Members in Good Standing can serve as Officers or Committee Members and have voting rights for Chapter business activities.
 - C. Dual Members (formerly called “Associate” members) are defined as members whose primary membership is in a different Chapter (the Primary Chapter). The Dual member is not a full member may not hold office and may not vote in the chapter in which he holds the Dual membership. A FLSSAR Dual Membership Application and Fee is required, and the standard Chapter Dues must be paid to the Dual Membership Chapter. (See the FLSSAR Procedures Manual Rev.9 dated 08/08/2009, page 17 Item 4.8, and Dual Chapter Membership Request Form referenced in Item 4.8 F.)
 - D. Junior and Youth Memberships shall be as determined by the NSSAR requirements. Standard Chapter Dues apply. As provided in No. 2. B. above, Junior and Youth Members may not hold office or be Committee Members, and do not have voting rights.

ARTICLE II - FEES AND DUES

1. The schedule of fees and dues for the Brevard Chapter will be announced when changes are made in Chapter, State or National Society fees and dues. Such will be published in September issue of the *BREVARD BEACON* (current newsletter).
2. The annual dues for the Chapter will be determined at the October meeting each year when the budget for the following year is considered. Changes may be made at any Regular Meeting at the will of the membership. As of 2010 Chapter dues are \$10.00 per year.
3. The Sons of members of the Brevard Chapter shall be exempt from all Chapter Dues, but not State and National dues, until they attain the age of twenty-five (25) years, provided that their initial application for membership in the Sons of the American Revolution was submitted through the Brevard Chapter FLSSAR.
4. Emeritus Program – (FROM FLSSAR BY-LAWS - REVISED 2004)

The Emeritus Program of the FLSSAR recognizes compatriots for long membership and financial support to the Society and also provides relief to certain compatriots in need or distress.

- A. Emeritus I. All FLSSAR members who have paid dues to the NSSAR for fifty years shall be Emeritus Members of the NSSAR in accordance with the NSSAR Bylaws. All FLSSAR Members who are Emeritus Members of the NSSAR may request to become exempt from NSSAR dues in accordance with NSSAR Bylaws. Those Exempt from National dues are Emeritus I Members. The FLSSAR may request Emeritus I Status for any FLSSAR Member who is an Emeritus Member of the NSSAR.
- B. Emeritus II. All FLSSAR Members who have paid dues to the NSSAR for forty years shall be Emeritus members of the FLSSAR and their respective FLSSAR Chapters. All Emeritus Members of the FLSSAR may request to become exempt from FLSSAR and Chapter dues. The member, or his Chapter, shall request exemption from dues based on his Emeritus Status. The Chapter shall approve exemption from dues based on his Emeritus Status. The Chapter shall approve exemption from Chapter dues and the request will be forwarded to the FLSSAR Executive Committee. The FLSSAR Executive Committee approves the exemption of state

dues. Those Emeritus members of the FLSSAR approved to be exempt from further State and Chapter dues are Emeritus II members.

- C. Emeritus III. At times a member of the FLSSAR may become in need or distress. A Chapter may forgive the dues of a compatriot and request the FLSSAR to forgive dues. This is a temporary measure and such relief is for one year only. The FLSSAR Executive Committee approves the relief from dues for the FLSSAR. Those granted this relief from dues are designated Emeritus III members. Emeritus III status must be requested on a yearly basis. Emeritus II and III Status shall be submitted to the Executive Committee via the FLSSAR Secretary for the approval by the convening date of the Fall BOM.
5. Life Members from other Chapters are required to pay all dues as regular members, as this Chapter has no provisions for Life Membership.
 6. Annual dues for the upcoming calendar year (Jan 1st through December 31st) are due on or before November 1st of the previous year and may be paid up to and including December 31st of the previous year. Dues unpaid on December 15th cause the membership to lapse, and the member's name to be dropped from the rolls as of February 1st. Such lapsed membership may be reinstated by payment of the annual dues.
 7. A member in good standing of another Chapter (his "Primary" Chapter) may become a Dual (formerly associate) member in the Brevard Chapter FLSSAR by payment of Chapter dues only. A Dual member may not vote or hold office in the Dual Membership Chapter. (See Article 1, Item 4 above.)
 8. A member who is in arrears for dues may transfer to another Chapter, or resign from membership in this Chapter, by filing a written request with the Chapter Secretary for transfer, or resignation.

ARTICLE III - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

1. PRESIDENT

Shall preside at all meetings of the Chapter, and at all meetings of the Executive Committee; shall appoint such committees as are provided for by the Constitution and By-Laws exclusive of the Executive Committee, and shall be EX OFFICIO member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.

Shall enforce strict observance of the Constitution and the By-Laws of the Chapter as well as those of the State and National Societies.

Shall have power to appoint members of Committees, appoint new Officers to fill vacant offices, and to create new offices subject to the concurrence of the Executive Committee.

Shall induct new members into our Chapter Shall perform such duties as customarily pertain to such office, unless otherwise provided therein.

2. FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Shall preside, in the absence or at the direction of the President, at meetings of the Chapter and of the chapter's committees.

Shall succeed to the Presidency in the event of the resignation or death of the incumbent President. In such case his term of office will be the remainder of the term of the previous President.

May be appointed by the President to serve on any committee.

Shall serve as Alternate Member (for the President) to the Board of Management of the Florida Society SAR.

May be appointed by the President to serve on or any committee.

Shall, along with the Second Vice President serve as the Co-Chairman of the PROGRAM COMMITTEE and arrange for the monthly meetings, programs and guest speakers. Programs and speakers will be cleared with the President and then the information will be forwarded to the Editor to be included in *THE BREVARD BEACON*.

Shall keep in touch with the Editor of *THE BREVARD BEACON*, our official newsletter, to insure that it will be sent out in a timely manner.

Shall preside over at least One (1) meeting per year.

See Article III, #6 for other related duties - RE: Collection of funds.

See Article IV, #1 for other related duties - RE: MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE.

See Article IV, #10 for other related duties - RE: MEDAL AWARDS

3. SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT

Shall succeed the First Vice-President should that office become vacant.

Shall serve as Alternate Member (for the First Vice-President upon the request of the President or the First Vice-President) to the Board of Management of the Florida Society SAR.

May be appointed by the President to serve on any committee.

Shall, along with the First Vice-President serve as the Co-Chairman of the PROGRAM COMMITTEE and arrange for the monthly meetings, programs and the guest speakers. Programs and speakers will be cleared with the President and then the information will be forwarded to the Editor to be included in *THE BREVARD BEACON*.

Shall, in the absence of the First Vice-President keep in touch with the Editor of *THE BREVARD BEACON*, our official newsletter, to insure that it will be sent out in a timely manner.

See Article III, #6 for other related duties - RE: Collection of funds.

See Article IV, #1 for other related duties - RE: MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE.

See Article IV #10 for other related duties - RE: MEDAL AWARDS

4. SECRETARY

Shall conduct and maintain the files of the general correspondence of the Chapter, except that pertaining to other officers.

Shall maintain the membership rolls of the Chapter including State and National numbers of members, together with addresses.

Shall notify the President and Treasurer of the receipt of official notification of acceptance of new members, or transferees.

Shall prepare all required quarterly and annual reports and forward such in a timely manner to the State Organization.

Shall, along with the Treasurer, prepare a Dues Paid Report that is to be filed by the first week in December, along with a Chapter check in the amount due for State and National Dues collected up until that date.

Shall be responsible for ordering the Past President's Pin and the new President's Neck Ribbon in a timely manner for presentation at the June meeting.

Shall have custody of all Chapter Seals, Stamps and devices, other than colors, and is responsible for procurement and distribution of Chapter stationary and supplies ordered.

Shall be responsible for all Chapter Medals, Awards and Certificates, and for re-ordering these items when needed.

See Article III, #6 for other related duties - RE: Collections.

See Article IV, #8 for other related duties: RE: If there is no PARLIMANTARIAN the Chapter Secretary shall fill this position.

5. RECORDING SECRETARY

Shall record and preserve the minutes of meetings of the Chapter and the Executive Committee and shall see that such are published, or made available to the membership or Executive Committee members.

See Article III, no.6 for other related duties - RE: Collections.

6. TREASURER

Shall sign all checks written for expenses of the Chapter. Only one signature is required. In the absence or incapacitation of the Treasurer the following officers may sign checks: the President, Secretary, or First Vice President. (Note: Change to one signature voted on at the November 1998 meeting.)

Shall receive all monies of whatever source derived for the Chapter and pay all bills, keeping accurate and clear accounting of the same. The Treasurer is authorized to expend Chapter funds in accordance with the approved budget. Expenditures not included in the current budget require approval of the Executive Committee, or are to be made in accord, with action taken by the membership at a regular or special meeting.

Shall be responsible for the collection of funds at luncheons and various events with the assistance of the Vice-Presidents and/or Members At Large, when needed, in the order given below. The duty of collecting funds at luncheons and events when the Treasurer is not available will be in the

following order – 2nd Vice-President, 1st Vice-President, Members At Large, Recording Secretary, Secretary.

Shall retain a record of members which includes:-name, address, date of admission, name of qualifying ancestor, State and National Society numbers, and date of death or other termination of membership.

Shall be prepared to present a report on the state of Chapter finances at each meeting of the Chapter, or of the Executive Committee, or upon request of the President.

Shall present a financial statement at the December meeting, and upon termination of his term of office if at any other time.

7. MEMBERS AT LARGE

Either or both shall represent our Chapter at other organizational meetings at the President's request and assist the President in various matters of the Chapter.

See Article III, Paragraph no.6 for other related duties - RE: Collections.

ARTICLE IV - DUTIES OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN AND APPOINTED OFFICERS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The President shall try to fill as many of these positions as he can. A member may serve in more than one of these positions.

1. REGISTRAR

Shall examine all Applications for membership for proofs of lineage and qualifying service and shall approve them before forwarding them to the Florida State Registrar for processing.

Is responsible for assisting prospective members, or their sponsors, in the preparation of their applications. The Registrar may call upon the Genealogist for assistance when necessary.

2. CHAPLAIN

Is responsible for the opening and closing services at each meeting and shall have charge of all matters pertaining to the spiritual welfare of the Chapter.

Shall have charge of the preparation of all memorial resolutions and of any Chapter participation in memorial services, particularly of a deceased member.

Shall keep track of the GOOD & WELFARE of sick members and send out cards in the name of the Chapter when necessary.

3. EDITOR / PUBLISHER

Shall be responsible to produce at least four (4) quarterly newsletters titled *THE BREVARD BEACON* each year and to send them out to the members, and others who have an interest in the Chapter.

Shall keep a current address list of ALL members: FLSSAR Officers who should be receiving our newsletter; potential members; widowed WOSAR members; other lineage organizations, local Elected Officials, the media and all others who might be interested in our newsletter.

4. COMMANDER OF THE COLOR GUARD

Shall file all required reports to the FLSSAR Color Guard Commander in a timely manner.

Shall be responsible for contacting Color Guard members concerning up-coming events; and shall keep an up-to-date list of all members who belong to our Chapter Color Guard.

Shall have supervision of Chapter Participation in any public or private ceremonies, except as provided for in Article's III and IV of the By-Laws.

Shall be responsible for the maintenance and good order of all colors, standards, signs, muskets, and any other equipment that are property of the Chapter.

Shall be responsible for the proper arrangement of the head table and for protocol at all Chapter meetings.

Shall keep on hand Official SONS OF LIBERTY - FLORIDA BRIGADE Hat Pins and Red Hat Ribbons for New Color Guard members.

5. GENEALOGIST

Shall assist the Registrar in the examination of all lineages in applications for membership.
Shall assist new applicants and members with their genealogical research when requested to do so.

6. WEBMASTER

Shall be responsible for setting up and maintaining the Brevard Chapter Website which should include information on the chapter, its activities, and membership.
Shall assure that the website domain registration remains current and that all fees for the maintenance of said website are included in any budget requests to be submitted annually to the Treasurer and the Executive Committee for review/approval.
Shall submit to the Treasurer itemized invoices for the payment of said website maintenance, hosting, and/or domain registration costs.
Shall insure that there is a back-up or assistant Webmaster who shall have access to the website who will be able to perform webmaster duties if necessary. The Backup or assistant webmaster should be an SAR member or a member of the chapter Ladies' Auxiliary.

7. R.O.T.C. CHAIRMAN

Shall contact all ROTC units based in Brevard schools and arrange for the presentation of the SAR ROTC Medal, Ribbon and Certificate to an outstanding Cadet who meets the requirements set forth by the National Organization.
Shall insure that members of the Chapter be assigned to attend as many ROTC ceremonies as possible to present said SAR ROTC Awards to the recipients.

8. YOUTH PROGRAMING CHAIRMAN

Shall try to run as many SAR youth programs as possible each season. These programs include, but are not limited to the EAGLE SCOUT PROGRAM, ORATION CONTEST, ESSAY CONTEST, and GOOD CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

9. PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN

Shall be responsible for the maintenance of contacts with the local, state and national media for suitable presentation to the public of Chapter activities.
Shall prepare and send out PRESS RELEASES when appropriate.
Shall collect and save all press related mentions of the Chapter and forward them to the State Publicity Chairman for entry into the GEORGE MARLIN CONTEST.

10. PARLIAMENTARIAN

Shall be prepared to give opinions concerning parliamentary procedure, if called upon by the President, according to the authority adopted by the Chapter.
Shall use Robert's Rules as his guideline. If there is no PARLIAMENTARIAN the Chapter Secretary shall fill this position.

11. MEDAL AWARDS COMMITTEE

The First and Second Vice Presidents shall serve as Co-Chairmen of the MEDAL AWARDS COMMITTEE.
They shall be able to appoint two (2) additional members to this Committee with the approval of the President.
Shall prepare a list of members who could be eligible for various SAR medals, and present said list to the President at the January meeting. The President shall then call together a meeting of the Executive Committee prior to the March meeting to consider and approve these recommendations, and any others brought to their attention.
The Secretary will then be presented a final list of medal recipients and he shall insure that the medals be available for presentation at the May meeting.
Any member, or the Co-Chairman, of the MEDAL AWARDS COMMITTEE may nominate Non-Members for the various SAR Medals and Awards available by presenting said nomination to the President along with an explanation of why they believe the award should be presented.

The President shall, at the next available Executive Committee meeting, present the nominations for approval. These SAR awards include, but are not limited to: LAW ENFORCEMENT; FIRE SAFETY; OUSTANDING CITIZENSHIP; HEROISM; APPRECIATION (DAR Members Only); DAUGHTERS OF LIBERTY; MARTHA WASHINGTON; etc.

12. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The First and Second Vice Presidents shall serve as Co-Chairmen of the MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE. Shall be able to appoint two (2) additional members to this Committee with the approval of the President. One of these may be appointed as CHAIRMAN, if needed, and both of these members should act as GREETERS at meetings.

Shall be responsible for maintaining a list of prospective members and keep the Registrar, Secretary, and Editor advised so as to insure mailings and follow-ups.

Shall be responsible for the maintenance of good and regular attendance among the established membership, as well as among the prospective members, and for the maintenance of an atmosphere of WELCOME at all Chapter meetings.

Shall assist in recruiting new members and in retaining established members.

13. Remuneration

Unless otherwise noted herein, no officer shall receive any form of remuneration for the exercise of his office from the Chapter, except for Registration Fees related to State and National Board Of Management meetings.

Any officer who, in the execution of his office, incurs expenses incident to his normal functions which is not included in the current Chapter budget shall present a quarterly statement to the Treasurer for reimbursement. Approval of the Executive Committee is required prior to the payment of items not included in the current budget, or specifically authorized at a request, or special meeting of the Chapter.

14. Officer Duties

All duties of officers not specifically assigned under this article are presumed to reside in the President or shall be assigned by him to the appropriate Committee or individual..

15. Chairman Responsibilities

All Committee Chairmen and Officers shall be responsible to the President and to the Executive Committee for the proper and timely functioning of their Committees or Positions, and in the absence of any member of their Committee such as would be detrimental to their proper functioning if prolonged, will request the President to make temporary appointments so that their functions shall not be delayed or neglected.

16. Additional Committees

The President, with the approval of the Executive Committee, may establish additional committees as required by circumstances; provided however, that none of them enjoy the status of permanence of Standing Committees until and unless Article IV or V be amended to include them.

ARTICLE V - STANDING COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The President shall, prior to the September meeting, appoint members who shall serve for two years, or until their successors are appointed, for as many of the following Standing Committees and positions as possible - except where noted.

1. CHANCELLOR

Shall be the chief legal advisor to the Chapter and shall be an attorney at law duly qualified to practice in the State of Florida preferably, otherwise in any other state.

2. SURGEON

Shall be the Physician-in-Chief to the Chapter and be a duly qualified medical officer licensed to practice. The duties of the Surgeon shall extend to the membership only during that period when the Chapter is in session.

3. HISTORIAN

Shall maintain a Chapter history, and shall assist the State Historian and the National Historian General, in their efforts to maintain a timely history of the Society.

Shall be responsible for alerting the Chapter of the observance of upcoming holidays, or anniversaries of National or Revolutionary importance.

4. THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE and NOMINATION OF OFFICERS.

1. This Committee will called-up by the President prior to the MARCH Regular Meeting in every year.
2. The Chairman of this Committee shall be the immediate Past President.
3. It shall also have two (2) other members who are not officers on the Executive Committee. If these are not available other Past Presidents may become members of this Committee.
4. If the immediate Past President cannot fulfill this duty the President shall appoint any Past President to assume the Chairmanship.
5. The Committee Chairman will be responsible to the President and to the Executive Committee for the proper and timely functioning of this Committee.
6. They shall provide in a timely fashion a slate of officers for election that can be presented to the Editor for publication in *THE BREVARD BEACON* in the issue prior to the May elections.
7. The Editor shall then insure that the proposed slate of officers appears in *THE BREVARD BEACON* in the issue prior to the May elections.
8. This Committee shall make its report at the APRIL meeting.
9. Any Chapter member in good standing shall make nominations from the floor at the April meeting after the Nominating Committee's report and at the May meeting prior to the election of officers.
10. The person nominated must be a member in good standing and must agree to serve. If further nominations are made, then the election for the offices concerned shall be conducted by secret vote. Three "Tellers" shall be designated by the President to tally the votes.
11. The new Officers shall be installed at the end of the May Meeting and begin their term of office immediately. The newly elected President shall preside for the remainder of the meeting.
12. In the event that no State or National Officers are present to perform the Installation of Officers, a local Elected Official shall preside. And, in the event that none of these are available the Senior Past President shall preside.

5. AREA CALLER COMMITTEE

The President shall appoint as many members as necessary to be AREA CALLERS. One of whom, or a member of the Executive Committee, shall act as the Coordinator. They shall be responsible for calling members for luncheon reservations and/or Special Meetings.

ARTICLE VI - INSIGNIA

The Insignia of this Chapter shall be the same as that of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and shall be worn in accordance with the National Society Regulations.

ARTICLE VII - FLAG

The Flag of the Chapter shall be similar to that of the Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. On the center, or white bar, shall be in Insignia of the Society and, in appropriate place, the name of the BREVARD CHAPTER.

ARTICLE VII - CHAPTER MEDAL

The Chapter Medal shall be of the design adopted in 2003 dedicated to the Spaceship COLUMBIA and its Crew. It shall be suspended by a Red, White and Blue ribbon and be placed after any and all other authorized SAR Medals.

A Star shaped Pin with the number of years a member has been on the Executive Committee will be worn at the center of the ribbon. The Secretary shall keep in stock Pins representing 1 - 5- 10 - 15 - 20 & 30 years of Service on hand, and they shall be awarded at the May meeting.

ARTICLE IX - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Roberts Rules of Order, latest revision, shall be the authority for this Chapter, in all questions of parliamentary law not covered by the Chapter Charter, Constitution, and By-Laws.

ARTICLE X - STANDING RULES

1. The courtesies of the Chapter shall be extended to any visiting members from another Chapter and to applicants for membership in the Society.
2. A Past President's pin shall be presented, at Chapter expense, to the outgoing President at the close of his term in office.
3. A President's Neck Ribbon will be presented to the incoming President at the time of installation, at Chapter expense, but not the large SAR Membership Medal that attaches to it.
4. The Secretary is responsible for ordering the Past President's Pin and the President's Neck Ribbon.
5. The Chapter membership lists are to be held in confidence and are not to be distributed by any Officer or Member to any person for the purpose of solicitation of any kind.

ARTICLE XI - ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Observance of strict rules of protocol will increase the prestige and dignity of all SAR functions. The Chapter President will assure that the Chapter adheres to the Rules of Protocol outlined in the Handbook of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. The Secretary shall be responsible to obtain an up-to-date copy when needed.
2. Suggested Order of Business to be used at Regular and Special Meetings is:
(Note: This agenda conforms to the National Handbook)

- 1... Call to order
- 2... Invocation
- 3... Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the U.S.
- 4... SAR Pledge
- 5... Introduction of National and State Officers
- 6... Introduction of Past Presidents & Guests
- 7... Action on the Minutes of the previous meeting
- 8... Reports of Officers
- 9... Reports of Committee Chairman
10. Old or Unfinished Business
11. New Business & Announcements
12. Installation of New Members *(if any)*
(Note: See Ceremony on Page #7)
13. If at a luncheon, Recess for meal
14. If at a luncheon, Reopen meeting
15. If at a luncheon, Recall of Old or New Business
16. Program Chairman to introduce Program
17. Door Prize Drawing (if run)
18. Motion to Adjourn
19. SAR Recessional
20. Benediction
21. Adjournment

3. This order of business may be modified by the President

ARTICLE XII - AUTHORITY

This revision of the of the Constitution and By-Laws is effective May18, 2013, and supersedes any revision previously in force, and shall provide guidance for the conduct and affairs of the Brevard Chapter, Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Final action was taken to approve the provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws at the meeting of the Chapter on the 18th of May 2013. Attested to by:

Ben DuBose (President/Secretary 2013)

Brevard Chapter SAR Supplements

SUGGESTED NEW MEMBER INDUCTION CEREMONY

CHAPTER PRESIDENT:

"Compatriot ____ (insert names here) ____ Do you, as a Descendant of one of the Patriots and Heroes of the American Revolution, reaffirm your ancestor's faith in the principles of Liberty and our Constitutional Republic?"

COMPATRIOTS RESPONSE - "I WILL" CHAPTER PRESIDENT:

"And will you pledge to support the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution?"

COMPATRIOTS RESPONSE - "I WILL" CHAPTER PRESIDENT:

"I now take great pleasure in presenting to you your Membership Certificate."

NOTE: - If new member's wife is there ask- her to come forward. If not President continues and hands out pin.

CHAPTER PRESIDENT WITH ROSETTE:

"This rosette is the official Recognition Emblem of the Sons of the American Revolution. Its blue and buff colors represent the colors in the uniform worn by General George Washington. Wear it proudly." *Note: - If wife is present have her secure pin to Compatriots clothing on the left side- If not, President pins it on.*

NOTE: If wife is there continue with the following, - if not skip.

CHAPTER PRESIDENT:

"Compatriot ____ (insert names here) ____ Here is a WOSAR pin for your wife. WOSAR stands for WIVES OF SAR MEMBERS. Please pin it on your wife."

CHAPTER PRESIDENT:

"Compatriot ____ (insert names here) ____ We welcome you to the BREVARD CHAPTER. We ask that you work with us to fulfill the purposes and objectives of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Remember that the SAR is a non-political organization. Chapters and state societies must never endorse or recommend any candidate for public office, nor may meetings include the discussion of merits or demerits of such candidates. The merit of any question involving the social, economic, moral or physical welfare of the people may be fairly and intelligently studied and discussed at a meeting for enlightenment of those attending. The SAR may take a position on any bill or measure which may be submitted to a vote of the elected representatives of the people or to the vote of the people.

At this time we would like to invite you to address our members present with whatever thoughts you may have."

ALLOW COMPATRIOT TO TAKE THE FLOOR IF HE WISHES.

CHAPTER PRESIDENT:

"Here is a copy of our CONSTITUTION and BYLAWS. We hope that you will become an active member of our Chapter and assist us in any way you can. Will all SAR members please come forward and welcome our new Compatriot into the BREVARD CHAPTER."

MEMBERS OF THE FLSSAR BOM

As of 2006 the Chapter President, immediate Past President, plus one member for every forty 40 members or fraction thereof above forty 40, may represent the Chapter at the FLSSAR BOM. The President and immediate Past President may appoint a member in good standing to represent them if they are unable to attend.

Chapter members who are elected Officers of the FLSSAR, Committee Chairman of the FLSSAR, past Presidents of the FLSSAR, past or present elected Officers of the NSSAR, and holders of the Patriot Medal, are considered members of the FLSSAR Board of Directors and are not counted as representing the Chapter.

SUGGESTED INSTALLATION OF CHAPTER OFFICERS

INSTALLING OFFICER:

"Will the newly elected Officers of the Brevard Chapter please step forward."

"Compatriots, please raise your right hand. Having been duly elected to office in the BREVARD CHAPTER, Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, do you promise to swear to support and defend the Constitution of the United States of America and the Constitution and ByLaws of the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution; and do you further promise and swear that you will faithfully discharge the duties of your office to the best of your knowledge and ability, and that you will, at all times, conduct yourself in a manner worthy of our Society' s help you God?"

RESPOSNE:

"I do."

INSTALLING OFFICER:

"President elect insert name here It is now my privilege to present you with this gavel, as a symbol of the authority now vested in you. Wield it, always, with dignity and honor."

"Compatriots of the BREVARD CHAPTER, I have officially installed these new officers, duly elected by you. May I now remind you of your obligation to them? Assist, support and encourage them in the discharge of their duties, thus furthering the principles and purposes of the Sons of the American Revolution. Thank you, and God Bless America."

SUGGESTIONS FOR CHAPTER MEETINGS

1. A United State Flag should always be displayed to the right of the presiding officer or the principal rostrum.
2. A gavel should always be used.
3. The SAR Invocation and SAR Pledge should be led by one of the Chapter's Vice Presidents or its Chaplin.
4. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States should be performed at the beginning of every meeting.

PLEDGE TO THE SAR:

"We descendants of the heroes of the American Revolution who, by their sacrifices, established the United States of America, reaffirm our faith in the principles of liberty and our Constitutional Republic, and solemnly pledge ourselves to defend them against every foe."

SAR INVOCATION:

"Until we meet again, let us remember our obligations to our forefathers who gave us our Constitution, the Bill of Rights, an independent Supreme Court and a nation of free men."

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

SALUTE PROTOCOL:

During the rendition of the National Anthem or during the Pledge of Allegiance, everyone should face the American Flag. Those not in uniform should (remove their hats) place their right hand over their heart. Persons in uniform should render a military style salute. Members of the Color Guard who are holding a flag or musket are not required to render a salute, all others are.

SUGGESTED FUNERAL RITUAL FROM

The President or one of the VP's enters the room, followed by the Color Guard, bearing the American Flag, the Society Flag and any other Colonial period flags. The Color Guard is posted with the American Flag at the head of the Casket and the Chapter Flag at the foot. All other flags and Color Guard members are to be posted in a semi-circle in front of the casket, with all members facing forward. **The use of muskets in the Color Guard MUST be cleared with the next of kin and the church leader.**

PRESIDENT or one of the VP's or Color Guard Commander:

"Compatriots, we have suffered the loss of a loyal and valued member. We are gathered to pay our tribute in his memory, and to express our grief at his passing from our ranks, and to dedicate ourselves anew to the continuance of the service to the country which he in his lifetime so well performed. Let us resolve that we are pledged again to cherish, maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom, to foster true patriotism, and love of country, and to aid in securing for mankind the blessings of liberty. Our Chaplin (or someone designated by the presiding officer) will now lead us in prayer."

CHAPLIN:

"Our heavenly father, we thank Thee for our Country, for its glorious past and its promising future, and for the lives that have loved this land and have served it. We commend to thee the soul of our departed Compatriot, who in his lifetime gave to his native land the testimony of his sincere patriotism. Amen."

The President then calls the Color Guard to attention and leads them to the back of the hall. **OR the following may be used depending on the desires of the next of kin.**

PRESIDENT:

"It is now our will that our deceased Compatriot may continue to wear the insignia of our order." President places an SAR Rosette on the coat of the deceased if there is an open coffin. If the coffin is closed the SAR Rosette is placed atop it.

"We leave with you the symbol of our order. This is a tribute from those who mourn you. It is finally our will that the Flag our Compatriot loved be placed on his casket.

The President then places a small American Flag, in a base, upon the casket.

The President then calls the Color Guard to attention and leads them to the back of the hall.

BREVARD CHAPTER HISTORIC FACTS

January 25, 1967 - The first organizational meeting was held in the dining room of the Brevard Hotel in Cocoa. Compatriot V. Winthrop O'Hara, President of the FLSSAR attending this meeting and Julian M. Ellington was elected as the first President.

July 25, 1969 - Marshall E. Barton, President of the FLSSAR, signed the official Charter for the Brevard Chapter.

1975-76 Under President Markle, Chapter was on the BREVARD COUNTY BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE and we were instrumental in having the flag painted on the Cocoa water tower.

December 2002 - The Chapter authorized the minting of our First Chapter Medal dedicated to the Crew of the Spaceship Columbia. It was named the "HAIL COLUMBIA!" medal.

July 4, 2003 - The Chapter dedicated its First LIBERTY TREE and Monument at the Brevard Veterans Center in Merritt Island.

July 5, 2004 - The Chapter dedicated its Second LIBERTY TREE and Monument at the Liberty Tree Museum's Veteran's Garden in Melbourne.

July 4, 2005 - The Chapter dedicated its Third LIBERTY TREE and Monument at the Veteran's Memorial Park in Titusville.

PAST PRESIDENT - BREVARD CHAPTER

1967	Julian M. Ellington	1987	Francis R. Perry
1968	Porter Frierson	1988	Lawrence A. Rodecker
1969	Philip I. Eschbach	1989	Abram M. Thomas
1970	Benjamin E. Wiggins	1990	Richard L. Jones
1971	James T. Stevenson	1991	George C. Schepm
1972	James T. Lane	1992	Carl Green
1973	John M. Marshall	1993	Daniael P. Kennedy, Jr.
1974	Addison V. Dishman	1994	Frederick G. Siegrist, Jr.
1975	Durward J. Markle	1995-96	John F. Roach
1976	Frank E. Cockerham	1997	Wayne A. Wilson
1977	James R. Miles, Sr.	1998	James E. Wilson
1978	Robert T. Shafer	1999	Benjamin M. DuBose
1979	James F. McClanahan Sr.	2000	John "Jack" Dibble
1980	Samuel T. Stevenson	2001	Frank A. Smith
1981	William H. Riggs	2002	George S. Darby
1982-83	Richard Irvin, Jr.	2003	Donald D. Buchanan
1984	Lunsford O. Healy	2004-05	John Davenport
1985	Charles E. "Gene" Claghorn	2006-2010	Steve Williams
1986	Howard "Russ" Ford		

FLSSAR PRESIDENTS FROM BREVARD

1981-82	James F. McClanahan, Jr.	1987-88	Lunsford O. Healy
1985-86	James R. Miles, Jr.	1889-90	Richard Irvin, Jr.
		1991-92	Howard "Russ" Ford

BREVARD PATRIOT MEDAL RECIPIENTS

1982	James E. McClanahan	1989	Howard "Russ" Ford
1983	James R. Miles Sr.	1991	Charles E "Gene" Claghorn
1986	Lunsford O. Healy	1998	Abram M. Thomas
1988	Richard Irvin, Jr.	2006	Benjamin M. DuBose

BREVARD COUNTY HISTORICAL FACTS

Archaeological excavations using carbon-dating show Stone Age Indians lived here over 7,000 years ago.

Brevard first appeared on a chart called the "Cantino Map" as early as 1502. In a distorted rendering of Florida this area appeared as a large bump on the east coast that represented Capo de Canaveral, or "Cape of Wild Canes."

The Spanish claimed this area in 1565 and called the Indian River the "River of Ais" after a local tribe.

In 1763 Florida became an English Colony. Five years later the first major Developer, a Scottish Physician named Andrew Turnbull, established a settlement of 60,000 acres, stretching from New Smyrna to Cape Canaveral.

During the American Revolution Brevard was the scene of several naval battles that were fought along the St. Johns River. Our Southern forces attacked the loyalists who had deserted from Georgia and the Carolinas and settled here to help set up supply lines for the British. Since the Seminoles sided with the enemy the Continental forces never won a single land engagement here.

The last naval battle of the Revolutionary War took place on March 10, 1783 off the coast of Cape Canaveral. Capt. John Barry, in command of the **ALLIANCE**, was returning from Havana with the **LUZERNE**; both filled with funds headed for Congress to start the new Bank of America. They were challenged by some British ships and Barry and his crew defeated the **HMS SYBILLE** in what was to become **THE LAST NAVAL BATTLE OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**. The following first hand report was written by John Kessler a Mate on the Alliance. It comes from "THE SPIRIT OF `SEVENTY-SIX: THE STORY OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION AS TOLD BY PARTICIPANTS" - Edited by Henry Steele Commager and Richard B. Morris, pub. Harper & Row, N.Y., 1958 and reprinted in 1967. If you are looking for the best and most informative book on the American Revolution this is it!

From Pages 962 - 963:

-----"March 7, 1783.

Sailed after taking on board a large quantity of dollars and in the company with the Continental ship **Luzerne** of 20 guns, Captain Green, who also had a quantity of dollars on board for Congress. We left the Havana for the United States, after having taken on board between one and two hundred thousand dollars (specie) for Congress.

(My Note: "specie is defined in Webster's New Universal Unabridged Dictionary as: "n. [the ablative form of *L. species*, and so used as an English word probably from its occurrence in the frequent phrase paid in specie] gold, silver, and other coin, as distinguished from paper money; hard money, in specie.)

On the passage one morning when it became light we discovered three frigates right ahead within two leagues of us. (My Note: a "league" is about 3 Nautical miles) The **Alliance** and **Luzerne** hove about and the three frigates gave us chase. The **Alliance** left them and the **Luzerne** fast, and Captain Barry, seeing they were gaining on the Luzerne, we Lay by for her to come up. The enemy immediately lay by. When the **Luzerne** came up Captain Barry told Captain Green to heave his guns overboard and put before the wind, while the **Alliance** would be kept by the wind that the **Luzerne** might escape. It was not probable that the enemy would attend most to the Alliance, and the **Alliance** was out of danger in consequence of her superior sailing. Captain Green threw overboard all her guns but two or three, but instead of bearing away he got on our weather bow. A sail being observed on our weather bow standing towards us, Captain Barry hoisted a signal which was answered, and thereby, Captain Barry knew her to be a French 50-gun ship from Havana, and he concluded to permit the enemy to come up, under the assurance that the French ship would arrive and assist.

Two of the enemy's ships kept at a distance on our weather quarter as if waiting to ascertain about the French ship, while the other was in our wake with topsails only and courses hauled, as was also the case with the **Alliance**. The French ship approaching fast, Captain Barry went from gun to gun on the main deck, cautioning against too much haste and not to fire until the enemy was right abreast. He ordered the main topsail hove to the mast that the enemy (who had already fire a bow gun, the shot of which struck into the cabin of the **Alliance**) might come up as soon as she was abreast (sic), when the action began, and before an half hour her guns were silenced and nothing but musketry was fired from her. She appeared very much injured in her hull. She was of thirty-two guns and appeared very full of men, and after an action of forty-five minutes she sheered off. Our injured was, I think, three killed and eleven wounded (three of whom died of their wounds) and one sail rigging cut. During all the action the French lay as well as the enemy's ships.

As soon as the ship which we had engaged hove from us, her consorts joined her and all made sail, after which the French ship came down to us, and Captain Barry asked them why they did not come down during the action. They answered that they thought we might have been taken and the signal known and the action only a sham to decoy him. His foolish idea thus perhaps lost us the three frigates, for Captain Barry's commencing the

action was with the full expectation of the French ship joining and thereby not only be able to cope, but in fact subdue part, if not the whole, of them. The French captain proposed however, giving chase, which was done; but it soon appeared that his ship would not keep up with us, and the chase was given over."

The 107th Congress during its 1st Joint Session on 1/30/2001 passed HJ 6 IH **Recognizing Commodore John Barry as the first flag officer of the United States Navy. And agreed he won the last sea battle by defeating the HMS Sybille on March 10, 1783.**