



SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

# BREVARD BEACON

Vol 56:2 April-May-June 2024



## President's Message



This is the greatest time of the year for the Sons of the American Revolution. As I see it, Summer starts with Memorial Day and ends on September 30. In between, we get Flag Day on June 14, Independence Day on July 4, and Constitution Day on September 17. All are great opportunities to celebrate our patriot ancestors, march in parades, and picnic with compatriots and friends of

the SAR. It's also a great time of year to thank your neighbors for flying the American Flag! And we have much to be thankful for this year. Here in the Brevard Chapter we have over 120 dedicated, involved patriots whose efforts seem untiring. We have made great strides in helping and honoring veterans, reaching out to various youth organizations through our contests, and increasing awareness of the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The America 250 Program has three main areas of focus as described in their mission statement. "To celebrate America's 250th anniversary with Patriotic, Historical and Educational programs which raises the awareness of Americans about our past and help strengthen our democracy." A lofty goal indeed. Locally, we will support these goals in tangible ways.

1. By raising awareness of the SAR as a patriotic organization by being a fixture in our communities by having our color guard and compatriots at parades, wreaths across America, and other patriotic celebrations.
2. We will make the American Revolution and 'Our' colonial history relevant again. Never stop telling the public about our patriots and the events that happened 250 years ago.
3. Finally, we will make the Brevard Chapter of the SAR the main source of information about the American Revolution through educational / youth outreach and genealogical workshops.

Many hands make light work. We are looking for compatriots to join the chapter's America 250 committee. The committee ensures the America 250 flag is flown at our meetings, they promote earning the America 250 medals to our membership, and they make sure we have a minute at every meeting to commemorate the events of our nation's founding. Benjamin Franklin published a cartoon that said, "Join or Die!", it's not quite that serious but we can use your help.

If you are interested in this position or want to know how you can help move us forward in any capacity, please reach out to me or any of the executive committee. I wish everyone a safe and restful Summer and look forward to seeing everyone in September. Keep moving forward!

**In Patriotism,  
Christopher  
President, Brevard Chapter SAR, 2024-25**

## Next Meeting

21 September 2024

At Tides Collocated Club

1001 Florida A1A

Patrick SFB, FL 32925

Doors open at 11:00

Program starts at 11:30

Lunch Starts 12:00

Caesar Salad

Or

Hawaiian Pulled Chicken Sandwich

&

Cheesecake w/ berry compote

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# Brevard

## chapter

Our 2024 Meeting Schedule is as follows:

Note: Menu items subject to change

**October 12, 2024** — Tides: Price \$20;

Greek Salad  
or Grilled Steak  
and Fruit Tart

**November 9, 2024** — Tides: Price \$20;

Turkey, Mashed Potatoes, Stuffing  
or Roasted cauliflower w/ quinoa  
and Chocolate cake

**December 7, 2024** — Tides: Price \$20;

Ham, Mashed Potatoes,  
or Roasted vegetable wrap w/ hummus  
and Chocolate cake

Remember to mark your calendar for this year's meeting schedule

DOORS OPEN 11:00 AM - Meetings are at The Tides Collocated Club is open at 11:00, Meetings begin 11:30 sharp unless otherwise noted.

*Pay by check to*

**Mark Russell**  
275 Woodridge Drive  
Geneva, FL 32732  
[mark.russell@earthlink.net](mailto:mark.russell@earthlink.net)

*Or pay at meeting with cash or check*

*Coming in the Next Issue*

More History, Updates on chapter's activities, pictures, and events.

*National and State Events*

## National Events

134th Congress - 10 July

Lancaster, PA

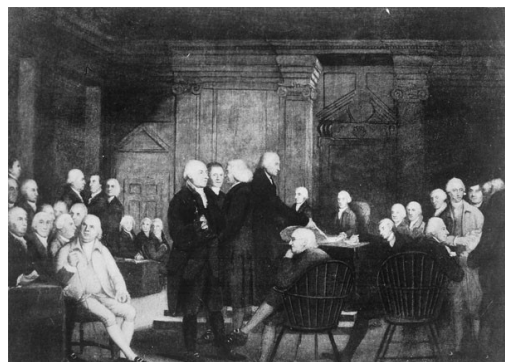
## State Events



Compatriots Hunt and Ward supporting scouting community engagement event

## *New or Reinstated Members 2024*

Member	Patriot
Robin Anthony	Joseph Anthony Jr.- 2nd Lt
James Pike	Jeremiah Pike - Cpl MA
Ernest Austin	Drury Austin - Soldier NC
James Williford	David Lee, Sr.- Mil Serv NC
Ethan Russell	William Fleming - Pvt NC



If you have anyone who is interested and you wish to help them or are working on their application, report their name and information to the Registrar so that we can assist when needed and to ensure that the application is completed correctly. National Genealogists report that there are sloppy applications being submitted by persons not familiar with the SAR application process and requirements.

Regular	101
Junior	11
Life	7
E-1	1
Active Duty/Military	1
Dual	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>122</b>

# Brevard

## chapter

### The 2024 Youth Awards Program

The chapter's 2024 Youth Awards Program for ROTC/JROTC, and Sea Cadets was again very successful. This year we recognized outstanding young people at 17 ceremonies by providing certificates and medals. These presentations were made by nine chapter volunteers who included compatriots: Bisset, Hunt, Jensen, Langan, Mihora, Miller, Russell, Scarpate, and Weaver. The members donated personal time to honor deserving individuals and provided awareness of our chapter through positive, community involvement.

The schools and organizations included:

- ROTC, Florida Institute of Technology
- JROTC, Cocoa High School
- JROTC, Rockledge High School
- JROTC, Satellite High School
- JROTC, Viera High School
- JROTC, Bayside High School
- JROTC, Heritage High School
- JROTC, Merritt Island High School
- JROTC, Astronaut High School
- JROTC, Palm Bay Magnet High School
- JROTC, Melbourne High School
- JROTC, Eau Gallie High School
- JROTC, Cocoa Beach High School
- JROTC, Space Coast High School
- JROTC, Titusville High School
- Sea Cadets, Courageous Division
- Sea Cadets, David McCampbell Division

Without major support from our compatriots and a strong relationship between us and these youth organizations, this opportunity to recognize deserving young people would not occur. The Brevard Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution is proud to be engaged in local, patriotic endeavors.



# Brevard

## chapter

# BECOME A GUARDS- MEN

We are looking for volunteers to join Commodore John Barry Camp #3 of the Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade.

It is preferred to have the same type of uniform or clothing in which your Patriot ancestor would have worn during the Revolution.

Continental Army, Navy, or Marine Uniform, is the traditional dress in a unit, however Militia personnel wore everyday clothes of the era.

Militia clothing consists of:

- Hat round or tricorn
- Shirt (White)
- Britches and Footwear

### Uniform Reimbursement Fund:

Please remember that the chapter will reimburse any member obtaining a Color Guard uniform/costume. It does NOT have to be a Military Uniform. The rate of reimbursement is:

- \$100.00 for a complete set — Hat to shoes.
- \$50.00 for 1/2 of the above set.

Contact the Color Guard Commander for information.

Thank you, Color Guard Members for your participation in past events. You helped us to Honor our Country, Military, Citizens, Patriots and Forefathers. I would like to extend a welcome to those of you who are new members. As you consider how you wish to participate in SAR, please consider joining the Color Guard. The events can be enjoyable and can be another outlet to meet with other Patriotic Americans. The Necessities for Color Guard uniform is a Colonial outfit and a Tricorn Hat. The outfit can be purchased or it can be made or modified from existing wear. There is also a refund for a part of the purchase price that can be issued. However you choose to participate, I hope you will enjoy your participation as well as the Fellowship of our

*Chapter Color Guard 2024*

## *Calendar of Local Events*

March 16 - LNB at the VMC

July 4 - Parade Merritt Island

August 7 - Military Order of the Purple Heart (VMC)

August 30-31—Battle of Eutaw Springs Commemoration (Eutawville, SC)

September 7—DAR Fall Forum (Orlando)

September 11 - Patriots Day and 9-11



## Award Spotlight

### 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution Recognition Program

The recognition program is designed to encourage and recognize those compatriots, chapters and societies that participate in local, state, national and international events which publicly educate, and recognize, honor, and celebrate the events and heroes of the period surrounding the American Revolution.

A compatriot may earn this award at the bronze, silver, or gold-level. Awards are based on activity and points are awarded for

# Last Navel Battle Ceremony

16 March 2024



# April Meeting



Hans Hunt receives bronze Service to Veterans medal

# May Meeting



Mark Russell receives a Certificate of Appreciation



Robbie Carlisle receives a bronze Roger Sherman Medal

# May Meeting Events (Cont)



Brian Jensen receives bronze Meritorious Service Medal



Christopher Ratzel receives bronze Distinguished Service medal



Doug Bisset receives Service to Veterans medal w/gold oak leaf cluster



Christopher Ratzel receives Silver 250th Anniversary



# May Meeting Events (Cont)



Christopher Ratzel takes over as new Chapter President



New Chapter Officers

# June Meeting Events



Well attended June meeting



David Garraway inducted into the Florida Society Veterans Battalion by State President James Gaskins



New member Robin Anthony inducted into the Florida Society by State President James Gaskins

# Veterans Upcoming Events

**3 Aug** - Annual Coast Guard BD & Family Day at Coast Guard Station Port Canaveral -10:00 -15:00

**4 Aug** - Annual Purple Heart Recognition Ceremony - VMC Gray Hall 1400-1600

**11 Sep** - Annual 9/11 Remembrance and Patriots Day Ceremony - VMC Plaza 1700-1830

**22 Oct** - Women Veterans Luncheon— VMC Gray Hall 1100-1300

**11 Nov** - Veterans Day Ceremony at VMC Plaza 0930-1100

**14 Dec** - Wreaths Across America— Cape Canaveral National Cemetery 100-1200

**For additional details and other events and updates see:**

<https://veteransmemorialcenter.org/upcoming-veterans-events/>



## Brevard Veterans Memorial Center

400 South Sykes Creek Parkway, Merritt Island



# Brevard chapter

## 2024-2025 Officers

President - Christopher Ratzel  
1st VP - Nic Mahora  
2nd VP - Carl Miller  
Secretary - Jeff Sizemore  
Recording Secretary - Vacant  
(Charles Pierce acting)  
Treasurer - Mark Russell  
Member-at-large: Doug Bisset  
Member-at-large: Donn Weaver

### *Committee Chairs:*

Registrar - Brian Jensen  
CG Commander - Nic Mihora  
Genealogist - Ray Norman  
Membership - Jeff Sizemore  
Webmaster - Robbie Carlisle  
Parliamentarian - Dale Bottom  
Editor/Publisher - Carl Oehmann  
ROTC / Youth - Jerry Scarpate  
Veteran's Affair - Doug Bisset, Donn Weaver  
Flag Committee - Nic Mihora  
If you would like to volunteer for a Committee position contact  
President Christopher Ratzel



Website: <http://www.brevardsar.org>

Email: [oehtmann49@gmail.com](mailto:oehtmann49@gmail.com)

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