

SAR Americanism Elementary School Poster Contest 2019 - 2020

Theme:

The Battle of Thomas Creek

Guidelines: See Poster Contest Guidelines (Attached)

Eligibility: The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) invites all 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students interested in the American Revolution to participate in the Americanism Elementary School Poster Contest. The contest is open to public school, parochial, home schooled, Scouting, or Children of the American Revolution member students in that same grade range. Young artists with an enthusiasm toward art, a love of American history, or a passion in creative expression can submit their posters to their local SAR chapter for competition.

Judging levels: School, SAR Chapter, Florida SAR State Society, SAR National Society

Judging Time Constraints: School Level – **Determined by School**
Chapter Level – **Determined by Chapter**
State Level – May 2020
National Level – July 2020

Entries/School: – Each school, or individual, submits one entry to be judged at the Chapter level.

Supplies: 22"x28" Poster Board will be supplied by, **(Contact your local SAR Chapter)**

Awards:

Chapter SAR level – 1st Prize award **determined by each Chapter**
Good Citizenship Certificate
Chapter winner goes to State for judging

Florida State SAR level (May 2020) Cash awards TBD plus certificate
State Winner goes to National Congress judging

National SAR level – 1st Place Cash award, Blue Rosette, Certificate, and displayed at SAR National Headquarters for one year.
2nd Place Cash award, Red Rosette, Certificate
3rd Place Cash award, White Rosette, Certificate
(July 2020)

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Judging Information

- Judging of the SAR Poster Contest at the school level will be conducted by school personnel. Your choice as to the selection of judges.
- Select one (1) winning poster based on the SAR Rules and Guidelines.
- **It is extremely important to remember that posters exhibiting in three dimension will be disqualified. Students should use original drawings, i.e., no computer generated artwork; or direct copy of computer content.**
- Fill out the lower half of the Florida Society Poster Contest Entry Form (Student, teacher, school information), and attach to the student poster with a paper clip.
- Call me, **Chapter Contact**, at **Chapter Contact Phone or Cell Number**, when the winning poster has been selected and is ready for pick-up – **Cut-off Date Determined By Each Chapter**. An SAR member will come to the school or other location and pick up the poster.
- Members of each Local Chapter of the SAR will judge all posters submitted and select three posters (1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners).
- The poster selected as the 1st place award winner at the Chapter level will be transported to the Florida SAR Board of Management meeting for judging at the State level in May 2020.
- You will be kept informed regarding the Chapter level award ceremonies to be held in, **Date determined by each Chapter**, as well as the State and National winners.

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Some things to keep in mind

- Posters must be on 22" x 28" poster board (Supplied by the Sons of the American Revolution). Contact your local SAR Chapter.
- **Three dimensional posters will be disqualified, as well as the issue below.**
- **Encourage students to be original - no computer generated clip art or direct copy of computer content.**
- Students may use any media they choose: i.e., pencil, color pencil, watercolor paint, acrylic paint, crayons, color markers, and ink, etc.
- Posters will be judged using the following criteria:
 - Does the poster express the annual theme?
"The Battle of Thomas Creek"
 - Is it neat and visually appealing?
 - Shows originality by the student?
 - Shows artistic merit and creativity?
 - Shows evidence of research?
 - Does the poster accurately reflect the historical subject or person?
- Only one entry will be allowed per school or individual – this entry will be judged relative to all other posters submitted at the Chapter level.
- Attach the completed SAR State entry form to the back of your winning poster with 2 pieces of tape.

In (County Name) County, contact (Name), at (Email Address) or at (Phone Number).

**FLORIDA SOCIETY
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
AMERICANISM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL POSTER CONTEST**

FLORIDA SOCIETY POSTER CONTEST ENTRY FORM

Sponsoring Chapter _____

Chapter President _____

Chapter Poster Contest Chairman _____

Chairman's Address _____

City _____ **State** FL **Zip** _____

Number of Posters Judged by Chapter _____ **E-Mail** _____

Name of Student _____ **Age** _____ **Grade** _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** FL **Zip** _____

Teacher Contact & School Information

Teacher's Name _____ **Number of Students** _____

School's Name _____

City _____ **State** FL **Zip** _____

Number of Posters Competing at School _____

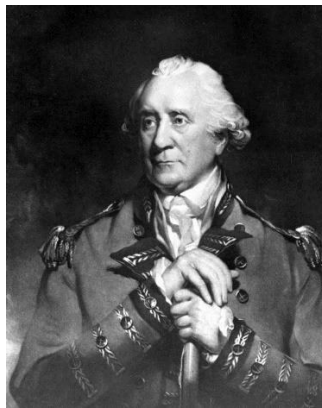
E-Mail _____

This Day in History - May 17, 1777

The Battle of Thomas Creek ends the Second Florida Expedition

On this day in history, May 17, 1777, the **Battle of Thomas Creek** ends the **Second Florida Expedition**, an attempt by Georgia patriots to invade British East Florida during the American Revolution. After the **French and Indian War**, eastern Florida was ceded to Great Britain by Spain. It became a separate colonial province with its capital at Saint Augustine.

East Florida had a very small population, but Saint Augustine became an important British military base. When the Revolution began, it remained loyal to the Crown and thousands of Loyalists fled there to escape persecution. The influx of people brought about a food shortage and raiding parties into Georgia were established to confiscate food and wreak havoc on Georgia patriots. In addition, the Creek Nation to the southeast was allied with the British and aided the raiding parties into Georgia.



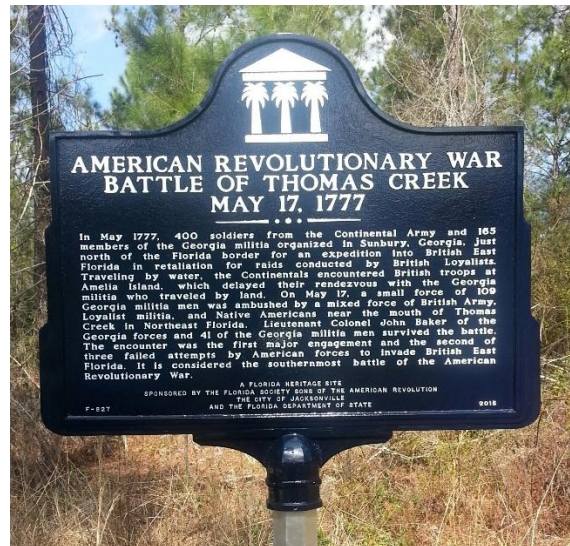
Governor Patrick Tonyn

Tonyn was the governor of East Florida at the time of the Battle of Thomas Creek.

In response to all this, three attempts were made by Georgia to capture Saint Augustine. All three failed and were plagued by infighting. The first expedition in late 1776 failed due to food shortages and the recall of Continental Army General **Charles Lee** back to the main army. The third expedition, in the spring and summer of 1778, failed due to infighting of the leaders of different militia factions and a superior British opposing force.

The **Second Florida Expedition** ended in disaster and the death of Button Gwinnett, a Georgia signer of the [Declaration of Independence](#). As President of Georgia in early 1777, Gwinnett planned an expedition against Saint Augustine. He had no military experience, so command of the mission was given to Brigadier General **Lachlan McIntosh**, Gwinnett's chief political rival. Both tried to lead the mission, causing unnecessary delays. Their constant fighting caused the General Assembly to call them both back to Savannah after they had already left on the mission, command of which was given to Colonel **Samuel Elbert**. McIntosh and Gwinnett would famously fight a duel over who was to blame for the mission's delays and Gwinnett would be mortally wounded.





Castillo de San Marcos Saint Augustine, Florida Castillo de San Marcos guarded British Saint Augustine at the time of the Battle of Thomas Creek and the Georgia patriot attacks on British East Florida

Colonel Elbert continued the expedition to East Florida, sending the cavalry over land and taking the rest himself down the coast in ships. The cavalry arrived first at the Nassau River, but were forced to wait for days for Elbert's flotilla. Meanwhile, East Florida governor, **Patrick Tonyn**, sent 200 Loyalists and Creek to ambush the approaching patriots. On May 14, Indians captured some of the patriots' horses, but one of the Indians was caught and allegedly tortured and killed by the militia, which outraged the Indians.

On May 17, the cavalry reached the Loyalists who were hiding in wait at **Thomas Creek**. When they were fired upon, the surprised Georgia militia turned to flee, only to run right into more Loyalists who had come up behind them. A handful of Georgia patriots were killed or wounded, but more than 30 were captured. Unfortunately, the Creek Indians tortured half of them to death in retaliation for the alleged murder of their compatriot a few days before. The rest of the Georgia militia escaped and made their way to rendezvous with Colonel Elbert. When Elbert discovered what happened at the **Battle of Thomas Creek**, he called off the mission. They were already deep inside enemy territory, many had already been killed or captured, they suffered from food shortages and a fleet of British ships was nearby. The Americans would not attempt another invasion of East Florida.

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The British forces in Saint Augustine would later play an important part in the overall British strategy to reclaim the south during the latter part of the Revolution. The entire

East Florida would eventually be ceded to Spain by Britain at the end of the war and would not become part of the United States until 1822.



This illustration shows British rangers and Banditti harassing an American homestead. During the Revolution, these two groups raided farms and fortifications in Georgia and North Florida. The most common plunder was cattle and other livestock.

The Battle of Thomas Creek

On-line References

The Jacksonville Historical Society:

<http://www.jaxhistory.org/portfolio-items/battle-thomas-creek/>

- Cashin, Edward (1999). *The King's Ranger: Thomas Brown and the American Revolution on the Southern Frontier*. New York: Fordham University Press. ISBN 978-0-8232-1907-0. OCLC 246304277.
- Heitman, Francis (1892). *Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army During the War of the Revolution*. Nichols, Killam & Maffitt. OCLC 2823069.
- Jones, Charles Colcock (1883). *The History of Georgia, Volume 1*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin. OCLC 1816720.
- Nester, William (2004). *The Frontier War for American Independence*. Mechanicsburg, PA: Stackpole Books. ISBN 978-0-8117-0077-1. OCLC 260092836.
- Pennington, Edward (July 1930). "East Florida in the American Revolution, 1775–1778". *The Florida Historical Society Quarterly*. Florida Historical Society (Volume 9, No. 1): 24–46. JSTOR 30149717.

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- Siebert, William (October 1943). "Privateering in Florida Waters and Northward in the Revolution". *The Florida Historical Quarterly*. Florida Historical Society (Volume 22, No. 2): 62–73. JSTOR 30138486.

On-line References

The Battle of Thomas Creek

- "Florida Historical Markers Program – Nassau County". Florida Department of State. Archived from the original on 1 November 2010. Retrieved 2010-10-12.
- "Thomas Creek Preserve". City of Jacksonville, FL. Archived from the original on 2012-04-20. Retrieved 2010-10-12.

Fort Tonyn:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Tonyn

Additional References:

https://ipfs.io/ipfs/QmXoypizjW3WknFiJnKLwHCnL72vedxjQkDDP1mXWo6uco/wiki/Battle_of_Thomas_Creek.html

Chapter Four: Frontier War 1777 – 1778

https://books.google.com/books/about/The_King_s_Ranger.html?id=vWmBxHo12JkC&printsec=frontcover&source=kp_read_button#v=onepage&q&f=false

July 26, 2019