



Withlacoochee Chapter Meeting

March 12, 2021

President David Hitchcock called the meeting to order at 10:30AM

Invocation was given

Pledge of Allegiance was held

The American Creed was read and recited by all.

President Hitchcock introduced the following guests: Susan Vicarrio, Troy Shepard, Sara Shepard, Benjamin Shepard, Anna Shepard, John and Leslie Seddon, Charles and Joanne Lukas, Robert Odom, Charlotte Odom, Beth Odom.

President Hitchcock announced the upcoming 87th birthday of Norman Fryer.

The President said a prayer for any members or family who are sick or need prayer and for any deployed soldiers and additionally asked for a silent prayer also.

Robert Odom, John Seddon and Charles Lukas were inducted by President Hitchcock.

Compatriots John Wilder and Robert Thomas were presented as new members of the Florida Battalion of the SAR by President Hitchcock.

President Hitchcock presented monetary awards as well as certificates for the winners of the George and Sara Knight Essay Contest.

1st place - Benjamin Shepard, 2nd Place - Anna Shepard and 3rd Place -Rebecca Shepard. Benjamin gave a speech on his essay.

President Hitchcock announced the SAR will be participating in a parade at Cloverleaf Farms with the Color Guard and asked for additional participants to carry the banner. Russ Gibson

Russ Gibson, Color Guard Commander, made several announcements regarding JROTC and bronze medal awards and SAR military veterans giving speeches in schools. He also asked for volunteers for the parade on March 17.

President Hitchcock introduced Robert Odom who gave us a brief history of his family emigrating to America in 1630 and then to Florida in 1848. His family were farmers and ran 20,000 head of cattle and had a large orange grove over the next 160 years or so.

President Hitchcock introduced our film " Virtual Map of the Southern Part of the American Revolution" an excellent history of the American Revolution in the southern colonies.

President Hitchcock presented Tom Bowen with a Certificate of Appreciation for speeches given in December and

January. Robert Odom was also presented a Certificate of Appreciation for his speech today.

Meeting adjourned for lunch and reconvened at 1:00 PM

Registrar Report given by Vicky/Stephen that we now have 80 members with one application approved and 8 recent contacts. We also have 2 juniors in the pipeline. Vicky also related an interesting story of one of her descendants who was at Yorktown and was at the surrender of Cornwallis. They had visited the Battlefield and spoke to Rangers there on her descendant.

Treasurer Richard Bailey gave his report of \$676 in income and \$1316.15. He also discussed the new menu at reduced cost to each member for our meetings.

Secretary Tom Bowen gave his report on meeting Carla Heimer in the presence of President Hitchcock. She brought extensive memorabilia and an interview was conducted with her on her father Harley Nelson. Harley's history of his life, SAR life and military service in the Pacific during WWII was written up and send to the National and State SAR quarterly magazines. He will attempt to get it in the Hernando Sun and Citrus Chronicle.

Old Business - None

New Business - A Financial review committee has been appointed and will meet and set a budget for 2023. A reminder of Harley Nelson's interment will on March 25, at 12:30 at Bushnell. The next EBM will be on March 26 at Beef O'Brady's. The next regular meeting is April 9th.

Happy Dollars was conducted. The SAR recessional was recited by all. The meeting was adjourned at 1:19 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Tom Bowen – Secretary

Attendees.

Douglas Brock, Chauncey Reich, Susan Vicario, John Attanasio, Charlie Lukas, Joanne Lukas, Sara Sheppard, Rebecca Sheppard, Blake Bell, Troy Sheppard, Benjamin Sheppard, Anna Sheppard, John Carey, Richard Bailey, Norm Freyer, Russ Gibson, Stephen Brown, Vicki Brown, Bill Scheiterle, John Seddon, Leslie Seddon, Robert Thomas, John Wilder, Chris Faust, Robert Odom, Charlotte Odom, Beth Bedee, Jimmie Barnes, Thomas Bowen, John Elley, Tom Hellem, David Hitchcock