



Withlacoochee Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

Meeting Minutes taken May 13, 2023

The Meeting was called to order at 10:32 AM by President David Hitchcock

The Invocation was given by Assistant Chaplain Richard Trout J.

The Pledge of Allegiance, SAR Pledge and American Creed was recited by all.

The President introduced guests Mark and Christine Barie

May birthdays were recognized for Bill Ferguson, Charlie Lukas, Tom Hellem, Richard Trout Jr., Robert Thomas, Russ Gibson, Dave Hitchcock, Stephen Hohman, William Teater, John Carey, Doug Brock and James Payton.

President Hitchcock offered a prayer and additionally asked for a silent prayer for soldiers that are in harms way.

Bill Stone gave an informative speech on the George Washington Fund which is an endowed fund of the SAR. This fund returns 80% of the interest money back to the fund and uses 20% for grants to state SARs, local chapters and committees. To become a fellow in this fund a member must donate \$1000 to the fund. This fund was able to distribute \$50,000 back to Chapters in the last year. There are several awards given to State societies for the number of newest Fellows and one for the most increase over three years. Please see Bill Stone if you are interested in becoming a Fellow.

**Treasurer's Report by Richard Bailey:** Income was \$747.66. Expenses were \$1452.13 which gave a total of a minus \$704.47. The biggest expenses were for awards. A motion was made and passed unanimously to accept the Treasurer's report. Passed unanimously.

**Secretary's report by Tom Bowen:** Minutes from the meeting on April 15, 2023, were presented. Additions and corrections were called for and hearing none a motion was made and passed unanimously to accept the minutes. Passed unanimously.

**Color Guard Report by Bob Thomas:** Bob reported that he attended the Battle of Pensacola on March 8 and received another streamer. We now have 75 streamers. Upcoming events are a DAR dedication of a historic schoolhouse, a Memorial Day event at the Hills of Rest Cemetery at Floral City and several summertime events. Contact Bob Thomas for further details.

**Scouting Report by Bill Ferguson:** Bill has been in contact with all of his troops and has been busy with his scouting activities.



**Registrar's report by Tom Hellem:** Tom reported 22 applications being worked on, 2 applications approved and 2 waiting to be approved. The new Genealogist General has reduced the applications down to around 4 months as comparison to the 10 to 12 months previously. We currently have 91 members as reported by Richard Bailey.

**Education and Fund-Raising Committee by Steve Hohman:** Nelson advised that the first fund raising event for the Chapter will be a steak dinner at his house on June 30<sup>th</sup> with a \$40 to \$50 per head charge. These fund raisers are for this chapter to continue to do good works, contribute to scholarships etc. He asked for members to check to make sure their information is correct on our member so information can be properly transmitted.

President Hitchcock introduced our featured speaker Mark Barrie who has written several books and gave his entertaining and informative speech on the possible causes of the explosion of the USS Maine in Havana Harbor.

President Hitchcock reminded members that he is sending out a daily email on Revolutionary War history and if you are not getting an email to notify him. Treasurer Bailey also reminded members that he sends out an email regarding our monthly meetings and to get him your email so you can select your lunch.

The President discussed a major event on April 11, 2025, at Chinsegut with a dinner and reenactment. Details to be forthcoming. The President announced the next EBM on August 26 and the next regular meeting on September 9. He also discussed a potential change of venue for our meetings at Chinsegut.

The SAR recessional was recited by all, and the meeting adjourned at 12:01 PM.

Minutes taken and respectfully submitted by Tom Bowen – Secretary.

General Meeting Attendees: Jeffery Amundsen, Richard Bailey, Mark Barie, Christine Barie, Jimmie Barnes, Paul Belter, Thomas Bowen, Douglas Brock, John Carey, John Elley, Bill Ferguson, Russ Gibson, Tom Hellem, David Hitchcock, Stephen Hohman, Mark Johnson, John Longacre, Charlie Lukas, William Moorehead, Nelson Peters, James Peyton, Chauncey Reich, Bill Scheiterle, Bill Stone, Franny Stone, David Stoughton, Bill Teater, Robert Thomas, Richard Trout, Chuck Wilson