The Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

Fort Lauderdale Chapter Newsletter

website: http://www.learnwebskills.com/sar/index.html

FEBRUARY 2017 | Fort Lauderdale Chapter chartered December 8, 1966 | Volume 50 Number 2

President's Message

My Fellow Compatriots,

I apologized for not having a guest speaker last month. I want to let you all know that finding interesting speakers for our meetings is a challenge. If you know of someone knowledgeable on a subject that might be interesting to our chapter, please let me know. I know historic subjects are preferred but we've had some interesting topics last year. I am looking forward to a fun and productive year.

The Guest Speaker for the February meeting will be Staff Sergeant Taedron J. Lopez.

We will be awarding this month the SAR Fire Rescue Commendation Award to BSO Captain David Erdman. Captain Erdman and his team have traveled around the state to train Florida's Law Enforcement Officers, Fire Fighters and EMS personnel about the Synthetic Drug Epidemic.

Also we will have a special guest attending our meeting Wm Lee Popham who is the SE Florida Regional Vice President and Florida Society, Sons of the American Revolution.

Next month's guest speaker is in the works and should be an Eagle Scout.

It should be an interesting meeting so please be sure to join us. Bring your spouse or a friend.

Best Regards,

Allen Manning
"To be prepared for war is one of the most effective means of preserving peace" - George Washington

January Minutes

Ft. Lauderdale Chapter Sons of the American Revolution meeting called to order by Patriot Allen Manning. Chaplin Ron Kramer gave invocation. Pledge to the Flag of the United States of America and Pledge to S A R was said by all.

Attendance

Guest: Mrs. Diane Lott and Mrs. Jan Sheppard

Members: Allen Manning, David Lott, Jeff Greene Bob Dooley, David Kramer, Joe Motes and Jim Lohmeyer..

Officer Reports:

President Manning States Fire Rescue will be Feb program. Also possible C A R will give a presentation I April.

Vice President Genealogist, Jell Greene has several applications pending...

Treasurer, Joe Motes reported 46 paid memberships 8 drops and 2 died Patriot F.D. Flannery and past President Patriot Ken Loomis.

Medals have been received for JROTC. Eagle Scouts certificates not received as yet.

Our bank account. stand at $2329.22.

Secretary Jim Lohmeyer Read post card from Bill Bollinger hopes to see us in February.

Thanks for the books and keep them coming.

We are contributing $50.00 to VAVS ": Wings for Vets:"
Certificates of appreciation presented to 2016 Officers.

Motion by Jeff Greene to adjourn, 2nd by David Kramer; Vote 9 yes and 0 no.
Chaplin David Kramer have a Benediction followed by SAR Recessional

Meeting Adjourned.

Jim Lohmeyer won 50/50

NEXT MEETING - FEBRUARY 18, 2017

Colony West Golf Club
6800 NW 88th Ave , Tamarac, FL 33321

Future Dates:

Saturday , 03/18/17
Saturday , 04/15/17
Saturday , 05/20/17

Time: 11:30 AM social gathering; Lunch at noon

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL: **954-559-3202**
or e-mail Joe Motes at: joemotes@aol.com

King George III

Early Life

King George III was born to Frederick, Prince of Wales, and Princess Augusta of Saxe-Gotha in 1738. In his lifetime, western society would be challenged by rebellious colonies, shook to the foundation by a revolution in France, and profoundly distorted by repeated bouts of insanity. Through all of his personal and political struggles, King George was a popular monarch, and the people of England were loyal to him during the nation's most trying times. His armies defeated the invincible Napoleon Bonaparte at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815, and proved to the world that constitutional monarchy was an enduring political system, outlasting the First Republic of France. In spite of his success, the reign of King George III has been a hotly debated issue among scholars, and his political decisions, particularly early in his rule, even more so.

When his father Frederick, Prince of Wales passed away in 1751, George inherited his father's title of Duke of Edinburgh. Three weeks after his father's passing, George the Duke of Edinburgh, was granted the title of Prince of Wales by his grandfather, King George II. Growing up, George was granted all the privileges the House of Hanover had to offer. As his father and grandfather were both born in modern Germany, George learned English and German. Indeed, in his formative years, George was a child of substantial erudition. George was particularly interested in natural science, but as a descendant of royal heritage, his tutors taught him to be a man of society. His lessons included French and mathematics, along with fencing and dancing.

In spite of his impressive educational accomplishments, George was reserved as a child. This was not helped by George's mother, Princess Augusta of Saxe-Gotha. She was overbearing, and imbued the young prince with rigid moral values. Lord Bute, a close friend of George's mother, helped George escape his shyness. Bute's opinion was valuable to George, as Bute advised him in his personal life, as well as his political decisions. In 1756, King George II offered George residency at St. James' Palace which George refused at the advice of Lord Bute. Again in 1759, when George was madly in love with Lady Sarah Lennox, Bute advised him against the marriage, and George begrudgingly took his advice.

But as King George II aged, it became apparent that an heir to the throne would have to be selected. If George, Prince of Wales was to be the heir apparent, he would have to learn how to overcome his inhibitions, and make meaningful decisions without the counsel of his mother, or favorite tutor. On October 25, 1760, King George II passed away, and George, Prince of Wales ascended to the throne. Now, King George III was the monarch of Great Britain and Ireland, and he would be forced to deal with the wars, religious struggles, and societal issues which plagued the empire.

In order to understand the reign of King George III, it is important to conceptualize the world prior to his ascension. The revolutionary developments of the Enlightenment, lingering religious antagonisms from the seventeenth century, and global conflict were all deciding factors in the way George governed his empire. But ultimately, he allowed his ministers to govern the empire at his advice, and this was what made him most effective. Throughout his reign, he would always share his opinion with his ministers, but in the end, he generally trusted their judgment. When commenting on the scope of the King's involvement in government, Lord Hillsborough quoted George as asking "Well. Do you choose it should be so? Then let it be."

Seven Years' War

When George, Prince of Wales, assumed the British throne in 1760, he inherited a troubled empire in the throes of a world war. Great Britain had been fighting a war on many fronts against a French, Austrian and Russian entente. In 1754, a skirmish at Fort Duquesne involving the Virginian George Washington sparked the conflict along the frontier in North America. But the more serious challenge to Britain came in the form of the European alliance.

Strategically, Britain leaned on the tried and tested tactic of relying on the land armies of continental European allies to do the bulk of the fighting, while the vastly superior Royal Navy would bottle up the ports of the adversary with crippling blockades. From the outset of the Seven Years' War, Britain relied on the support of Frederick the Great of Prussia to fight in the European theatre. In spite of Prussian military prowess, Frederick had his hands full, as the Austrians, Russians and French had the Prussians vastly outnumbered.

From the outset of the Seven Years' War, British commanders were forced to adjust their military strategy to combat the French. Having superior land forces at their disposal on the continent, and with an exposed eastern frontier, French commanders maintained a massive army on the home front to protect against hostile European powers. In doing so, King Louis XV abandoned his colonies in North America, leaving French colonists to fight off invaders.

King George II could not rely on his European army to compete with the Russian, French and Austrian forces. So instead, British commanders concentrated their armies in the North American theatre. While the British Amy ultimately proved successful in the French and Indian War, by 1759, Prussia was on the brink of collapse. For all the money the Royal Treasury poured into the Prussian State, Frederick II's army was dwindling with each successive battle, and the Russian and Austrian armies were closing in on Berlin. To make matters worse, in 1759, French military strategists shifted their gaze from the continent to the British Isles. They

amassed nearly 100,000 troops—an overwhelming force– in preparation for an invasion of Britain. French commanders planned to wait for a strong wind so they could quickly maneuver around the superior Royal Navy stationed in the English Channel.

Fortunately for the British Army, the plan never hatched. If the French made it across the Channel, they would have quickly outmaneuvered British forces, and ended the war in favor of France and her allies. Instead, on November 20, 1759, the Royal Navy caught the French fleet at Quiberon Bay, and ended all possibility of a French invasion. While this disaster was averted, it would not be the last time the French seriously considered an amphibious invasion of England. In spite of this, success in North America left Great Britain in a dominant position by the end of the war. In 1763, at the King's request, a peace was negotiated between Great Britain and the allies that William Pitt the Elder was decidedly against. This left the British Empire with vast territorial acquisitions in North America that had to be governed and defended against future aggressors.

Governing in the Shadows of the Glorious Revolution

Unlike his grandfather and great grandfather, George III was born and raised in England. His lineage hailed from the House of Hanover in modern day Germany. The first Hanoverian to assume the throne was King George I, who inherited the throne in 1714 upon Queen Anne's passing. While there were several Catholics who had a stronger blood connection to Queen Anne, the Act of Settlement in 1701 prohibited Catholics from assuming the throne.

From the early years of his inheritance, George I faced an underground movement that wished to restore the Stuart monarchical line which had been deposed during the English Civil War and Glorious Revolution. Supporters of the Stuart line referred to themselves as Jacobites, and the more radical elements of this movement wished to rekindle the flames of the English Civil War by reversing the tide of anti-Catholic sentiment.

In 1715, and again in 1745, the Jacobites rebelled against the authority of the House of Hanover. In 1745, Charles Edward Stuart, the "Young Pretender" was decisively defeated at the Battle of Culloden, effectively ending the Jacobite rebellions. But Catholic resentment simmered beneath the surface well into the eighteenth century. While there were English subjects who were dissatisfied with the Hanoverian monarchy, their grievances would advance from the religious to the secular realm.

By the end of the seventeenth century, European philosophers were positing new, radical ideas on government. In 1689, John Locke anonymously published the *Two Treatises of Government*. The *Second Treatise* was the most alarming to those kings who still clung to the concept of absolute monarchy. In particular, Locke's interpretation of the social contract, or the implicit agreement between subjects and the State, called into question the divine right of kings. This laid the bedrock for the Enlightenment which followed, as philosophes of the eighteenth century took the social contract to new heights.

The Enlightenment redefined the relationship between subjects and their rulers. The *Encyclopide*, edited by Denis Diderot, advanced the claims of Locke, as many of the articles were aimed at advancing the theory of natural rights. The theory implied that ancient ancestors had at one point or another entered a social contract with a monarch. In other words, to join society, the individual was forced to sacrifice liberties in order to enjoy the full privileges society had to offer. Locke referred to this as the state of nature, arguing that all men are created equal by God. With regard to the social contract, Locke asserted that subjects of a king possessed the right to rebel if the State was not governed according to the consent of the people.

These ideas from the late seventeenth and early eighteenth century were truly revolutionary, and throughout his reign, King George III would have to grapple with the realization of Enlightenment ideals. American colonists drew from Locke in their justifications for rebelling against the mother country, and establishing a republic in the wake of royal authority. Less than a decade following American independence, French citizens would draw on the concepts advanced by philosophes such as Voltaire, Rousseau and Montesquieu to rebel against their royal government. The belief that all subjects possessed natural rights, and that a social contract defined their relationship to the king provided eighteenth century citizens with the intellectual fodder for revolution.

Riots, Rogues and Rebellion

When King George III assumed the throne he still leaned heavily on the support of his tutors. Lacking political experience, George selected his tutor and mentor, John Stuart, the 3rd Earl of Bute to serve as his Prime Minister. Bute, like King George III, was politically inexperienced, but had ideas on how the British Empire should be governed. He advanced the concept of a king's divine right to rule his people irrespective of the social contract. For this, Bute was mistrusted by Parliament and the people of England.

John Wilkes, a Member of Parliament, was the most prolific government critic of the 1760's. On April 23, 1763, Wilkes published no. 45 of his newspaper the *North Briton*. In this paper, Wilkes criticized a speech delivered by King George III which applauded the Treaty of Paris that ended the Seven Years' War. For this, Wilkes was imprisoned for libel, and when Wilkes attempted to reprint the issue he was forced into exile, leaving for France in 1764. In addition, John Horn Tooke publicized Bute's alleged affair with the mother of King George III, the dowager Princess Augusta of Saxe-Gotha.

Bute could not take the pressure, and due to widespread public criticism, he resigned in 1763. Taking his place was George Grenville who immediately made efforts to reign in government spending, and collect revenue to pay for Britain's massive debt incurred during the Seven Years' War. Since Bute introduced the unpopular Cider Tax in England; Grenville instead looked to raise revenue from abroad. The North American colonies were an untapped source of funds–colonial legislatures only raised taxes locally to support provincial governments. Moreover, the average colonist only paid six pence in taxes per year compared with the yearly contribution of twenty five schillings from an average English taxpayer. Without much debate, the Sugar Act was passed through Parliament in 1764 as an improvement on the Molasses Act of 1733.

The Sugar Act reduced the tax of the Molasses Act from six pence per gallon, to three pence per gallon. By reducing the tax by half, Grenville believed the new act would reduce smuggling, and generate more revenue from the colonies. Instead, it did the opposite. The tax hit colonists during a period of economic recession, and while the tax was indirect, it was still felt by distilleries throughout North America. In flagrant violation of the Sugar Act, colonial merchants continued to smuggle molasses into the North American colonies from other parts of the world.

Following close on the heels of the Sugar Act was the passage of the Stamp Act in 1765. Printed goods such as legal documents, newspapers and pamphlets required a stamp in order to be valid. The King supported the passage of the Stamp Act, as did the general public. It seemed like an obvious solution: the colonies needed the British Army to protect them from their adversaries, and therefore the colonists should pay to support the British regulars stationed on the continent. The Stamp Act in no way violated the Bill of Rights passed in 1688 as part of the Revolution Settlement. Indeed, so unassuming was King George III and George Grenville that not a word passed in their correspondence about the act. Even British newspapers made little, if any mention of the Stamp Act.

In the North American colonies, news of the impending Stamp Act

Fort Lauderdale Chapter
Sons of the American Revolution
2133 NW 208 Terrace
Pembroke Pines FL 33029-2320

was met with violence. In Boston, leaders of the Loyal Nine encouraged a mob to destroy property belonging to government officials.

On August 14, 1765, Thomas Crafts and Thomas Chase of the Loyal Nine hung the Stamp Master Andrew Oliver in effigy from the Liberty Tree. By noon that day, Ebenezer Mackintosh led the mob to a warehouse owned by Oliver. The mob ransacked Oliver's property in search of the hated stamps, but turned up nothing. Later that day, the effigy of Oliver was burned in a bonfire atop Fort Hill, and shortly after, the mob attacked the residence of Andrew Oliver, not quitting until the early morning hours of August 15. Two weeks later, the house of Lieutenant Governor Thomas Hutchinson met the same fate.

In England, King George and Parliament faced opposition from government officials. Edmund Burke, William Pitt the Elder and Isaac Barre all expressed their opposition to Parliament's taxation of the colonies. It seemed impractical to collect revenue from a land over three thousand miles distant. In North America, colonists compared King George to Charles I for indiscriminately taxing the colonies without their consent. The implication was made by both parties that Britain could not keep the North American colonies in submission for much longer.

As the protests in North America intensified, Parliament continued to assert its authority over the colonies. In 1767, Lord Charles Townshend proposed to tax the colonies indirectly by placing a duty on goods such as lead, paint, glass, lead and tea. King George sanctioned the Act by royal assent on June 29, 1767 with barely a murmur of dissent in Parliament. While the people of Great Britain saw no reason why the colonists shouldn't pay their fair share in

2017 CHAPTER OFFICERS

PRESIDENT - ALLEN MANNING
8592 West Sunrise Blvd Apt 305
Plantation, FL 33322-4009
(954) 830-0746

VICE-PRESIDENT - JEFFREY GREENE
1058 Bluewood Terr
Weston, FL 33327-2056
(954) 304-0791

REGISTRAR / GENEALOGIST - JEFFERY GREENE
1058 Bluewood Terr
Weston, FL 33327-2056
(954) 304-0791

SECRETARY - JAMES LOHMEYER
15862 SW 14 STREET
PEMBROKE PINES FL 33027-2361
954-436-1156

TREASURER / EDITOR /
HISTORIAN / SGT-AT-ARMS - JOSEPH MOTES
2133 NW 208 TERRACE
PEMBROKE PINES FL 33029-2320
954-441-8735

CHANCELLOR - OPEN

CHAPLAIN - DAVID KRAMER
6241 SW 9th STREET
PLANTATION FL 33317-3962
954-584-2337

During our January 2017 meeting, Certificates of Appreciations were presented to 2016 Officers for their service. (L-R) James Lohmeyer, Allen Manning, David Kramer, Jeffrey Greene and Joseph Motes.

taxes, they were aware of the corruption and mismanagement inherent in Parliament. John Wilkes, the rogue publisher of the *North Briton*, became the de facto leader of early Parliamentary reformers.

After returning to England from exile, John Wilkes was again imprisoned for publishing an article in the *North Briton* which slandered the King. As a result of his imprisonment, riots ensued in Britain. On May 10, 1768, British troops intervened by first reading the Riot Act to the mob assembled, and then the soldiers proceeded to shoot and kill six people. The event became known as the Massacre of St. George's Fields, and this hardline approach to Parliamentary reformers would characterize the reign of King George III.

In 1780, a new wave of riots erupted with the passage of the Papists Act. Enacted in 1778, the act addressed the persecution of British Catholics that was officially sanctioned by the Popery Act of 1698. Lord George Gordon and the Protestant Association of London opposed the passage of the Papists Act. In 1780, Lord Gordon was granted an audience, and attempted to convince the king that the act would be destructive to his government, but King George was not persuaded.

On May 29, 1780, Lord Gordon called a meeting of the Protestant Association and together, they marched on the House of Commons to demand the repeal of the Papists Act. On June 2, almost 50,000 of Gordon's followers appeared outside Westminster in support of the Protestant Association. They carried banners proclaiming "No Popery", and wore the blue cockade of the Protestant Association in their hats. As Gordon presented the petition to the House of Commons, outside the Houses of Parliament, the ranks of the mob swelled and the protests turned violent. Members from the House of Lords, who were just arriving to take their seats in Parliament, were harassed and even physically assaulted as they tried to wade through the belligerent crowd.

The next day on June 3, the mob gathered again at Moorfields where they prepared for their next riot. That night, they attacked Newgate Prison and the Clink; allowing several inmates to escape and join the riots. The mob also vandalized the homes of several prominent Catholics and Catholic churches. By June 7, the mob was still sporadically rampaging when the British Army was summoned to quell the disturbance. When the riots ceased, 285 people were left mortally wounded.

Continued next month