



# The Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

## Fort Lauderdale Chapter Newsletter



website: [www.fortlauderdale.sar.org](http://www.fortlauderdale.sar.org)

Facebook page: [Fort Lauderdale Chapter Sons of the American Revolution](https://www.facebook.com/FortLauderdaleChapterSonsOfTheAmericanRevolution)

May 2024

Fort Lauderdale Chapter chartered December 8, 1966

Volume 55 Number 5

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Compatriots and Friends,

My message this month is about our youth programs and the successes we have had to date in carrying out our 2024 program.

We have previously reported on the reinstatement of the Sgt Moses Adams Memorial Brochure Contest. Thanks to the efforts of Compatriot Kevin Shurte, 359 middle schoolers, mostly from Ramblewood Middle School, participated with entries, submitted on March 1, 2024. The Chapter's judging committee selected the three top entries on March 18, 2024, and cash awards and certificates were presented to the students on April 9, 2024. The entry from the first place winner on the Bill of Rights will be entered in the statewide contest being judged at the spring BOM on May 17-18, 2024.

At the beginning of April, we initiated communications with the JROTC senior instructor at each of the 31 Broward schools and academies offering the JROTC program. In previous years, Joe Motes has coordinated this annual SAR medals award program, and has attended the ceremonies as best as he could. This year we were successful in securing nine Chapter representatives that committed to attend the various awards ceremonies. This has allowed us to increase our presence at these ceremonies with 71% (22 out of 31) schools covered. Big thanks and a shout-out to our Compatriot JROTC representatives: Jim Blakeslee, Tom Carpenter Jr, Jim Clark, Steve DePaul, Jim McHugh, Paul Moore, Barry Moss, Kevin Shurte, & Mark Snider. This SAR annual youth program will officially be in the books for 2024 when the final Good Citizenship Medals are awarded to the top two Sea Cadets recognized by the Fort Lauderdale Division of the Navy League.

The month of May is also when those individuals residing in South Florida who have achieved the rank of Eagle Scout over the prior annual period are recognized at a ceremony conducted by the South Florida Council of the Boys Scouts of America (BSA). Coordinated by myself for Broward and by Wm Lee Popham for Miami-Dade, 145 SAR Certificates of Recognition will be presented to these scouts at the dinner and ceremony being held on May 19, 2024. Among the 145, sixty-three of these scouts are from troops located in Broward County and each will receive their certificate from the Fort Lauderdale Chapter SAR. The BSA was originally organized in the United States in 1910. In conjunction with its 115<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the recently approved name "Scouting America" will become effective on February 8, 2025.

For many years, the Chapter has provided senior advisory and financial support to the local Swamp Fox Society C.A.R. In addition to Joe Motes, who now participates remotely, Kevin Shurte and I represent the Chapter as senior advisors.

The 2023-2024 program ends this month. Representatives of the Swamp Fox Society will summarize their annual report which will be given at our meeting of May 25, 2024. We look forward to our continued participation when the 2024-2025 C.A.R. program starts back up in September 2024.

On membership, the recent new addition also focuses on youth. As a new junior member, the application from Matthew David Scott was approved last month by SAR, and Matthew will be inducted at our meeting to be held on May 25, 2024. At this time, we only have one remaining new member application in the SAR pipeline which is the junior application of Braeden Ray Shurte with his approval anticipated shortly. As of April 30<sup>th</sup>, our 2024 membership is now at 81 having started the year with 75 members. Two of these members are juniors and one more will shortly be added to that membership category.

The most current information on upcoming meetings follows this article. For links to archival information on previously published newsletters, meeting minutes and other Chapter documents, visit us at [www.fortlauderdale.sar.org](http://www.fortlauderdale.sar.org).

I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Chuck Adams  
President, Treasurer and Registrar/Genealogist  
Fort Lauderdale Chapter SAR

### NEXT MEETING - May 25, 2024

**Davie Outback Steak House**  
2725 South University Dr. Davie, Florida 33328

#### Future Dates:

Saturday, 06/15/2024

Saturday, 07/27/2024

Saturday, 09/21/2024

Saturday, 10/19/2024

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

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL: 954-345-6276  
or e-mail Chuck Adams at: [chuckadams1808@gmail.com](mailto:chuckadams1808@gmail.com)

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING SUMMARY –  
APRIL 20, 2024**

At our April 20, 2024, meeting we had 17 members and 2 guests for a total attendance of 19. Members (17): Steve DePaul, Vice President & Sergeant-at-Arms; Mark Snider <sup>ca</sup>, Secretary; Kevin Shurte <sup>ca</sup>, Historian; Tim McLane <sup>ca</sup>, Chaplain; Tom Carpenter Jr; Jim Clark; Ted Duay; Herb Gardner; Ronald Goodale; Martin Hollick; Jim Lohmeyer; John Lohmeyer; Jim McHugh; Paul Moore <sup>ca</sup>; Barry Moss; Lincoln Pero; and John Sauerwald. Prospective Members / Guests (2): Liana Carpenter; and Shelley Gardner. The superscript <sup>ca</sup> records compatriots attending in colonial attire and participating in the Color Guard.

Color Guardsmen Tim McLane, Paul Moore, Kevin Shurte, & Mark Snider presented the colors with Steve DePaul leading the assembly in the SAR Pledge and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Steve DePaul said that Chuck Adams was unable to attend the meeting. He said that Chuck is working with Bob Walsh who wishes to apply for dual membership, maintaining the New Hampshire Society as his primary affiliation. He said that Chuck is close to submitting a family application for Jason Milgram and his son Benjamin, and a 2nd supplemental application for Martin Hollick. Currently, we have the second supplemental application submitted by Kevin Shurte pending SAR approval, and the junior member application for Matthew D. Scott and Kevin's grandson, Braeden R. Shurte. Our Chapter began 2024 with 75 members and we are currently at 80 members.

Steve DePaul reminded all that the spring BOM will be held May 17-18, 2024, at Kissimmee, FL. He congratulated Chuck Adams for his nomination to become the new SE Regional Vice President. Steve DePaul reported that verbiage for the dedication plaque has been finalized. We will get pricing for a 12" x 12" bronze plaque and start setting dates.

Mark Snider stated that the Executive Committee met via zoom with a quorum present on April 15, 2024. He said that Chuck Adams announced that Ken Williams had resigned for family health reasons and that he had appointed Paul Moore to replace him as the member-at-large. The following actions were approved by unanimous consent of the members present: 1) the 2024 calendar was amended to change the July meeting date to July 27, 2024; and 2) for expiring terms of trustees on the Board of Trustees of the Fort Lauderdale Trust Fund: 1) Steve DePaul to succeed retiring Pete Stevenson for the two-year term, and 2) Paul Moore to replace Steve DePaul for the one-year term.

Mark Snider stated that 1391 points have currently been accumulated by the Chapter for the 2024 Stark Awards Program.

Mark Snider reported on the status of the JROTC / Sea Cadets bronze medal awards program. He stated that to date we have made presentations at 2 high schools and have close to 30 more coming up. He noted that Chuck and Joe have put a lot of time and effort into contacting and organizing representation at all upcoming high school ceremonies. Any members interested in representing the Chapter should let us know. There are opportunities to participate all across Broward.

Steve DePaul gave the Status of Fund Report as of March 31, 2024. He stated that the April 2024 Newsletter has been circulated. It includes the Member Profile of our new dual member, James K. Blakeslee.

Kevin Shurte gave the 250 Anniversary Recognition Report on *The Midnight Ride of William Dawes - April 18, 1775*, which is also published in the April 2024 Newsletter.

On the Middle School Brochure Contest, Kevin said that on March 18, 2024, the Chapter judging committee selected the three Ramblewood Middle School brochure contest winners: Giana Mann, 1<sup>st</sup> Place; Alicia York, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place; and Kailani Quintana, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place. There were 359 entries and the winners were selected from the top ten entries given to the judging committee after review by Kevin and the teachers at Ramblewood Middle School. The entry for the first-place winner, Giana Mann, will be submitted at the May 2024 BOM for the State contest whose winner will be selected at that event. The winner of the State contest will be submitted for judging at the 134<sup>th</sup> National Congress being held in July 2024 at Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

On other youth programs, Kevin Shurte stated that the next C.A.R. meeting will be held on April 21, 2024, from 2-4pm and will be a tour of "Paws for Liberty" located in Lake Worth which trains service dogs for veterans. He stated that representatives of the Swamp Fox Society C.A.R. will attend our meeting on May 25, 2024, to give their prior year report.

Kevin Shurte reported that the Color Guard attended the April 13, 2024, Honor Flight originating from and returning to Fort Lauderdale. Compatriot John Sauerwald went on that trip, and he said that it had been a tremendous experience.

Steve DePaul stated that on April 14, 2024, the Color Guard represented by Chuck Adams, Steve DePaul, Tim McLane and Paul Moore attended the second day of the Patriots Day Celebration at the Pearce Homestead located in Fort Bassinger, FL. Our Color Guard joined the Okeechobee Chapter and Highland Chapter guardsmen in the presentation of colors.

Steve DePaul recognized Kevin Shurte for his initiative and leadership in reintroducing the Sgt Moses Adams Memorial Middle School Brochure Contest starting this year with the Ramblewood Middle School and the C.A.R. Swamp Fox Society. Steve DePaul presented Kevin Shurte a Certificate of Appreciation and SAR Education Challenge Coin. Kevin Shurte recognized the six Compatriots that served as committee judges in selecting the three winners from the ten finalists. He presented Certificates of Appreciation and SAR Education Challenge Coins to: Steve DePaul, Mark Snider, Tim McLane, and Paul Moore acknowledging that Chuck Adams and Ed Sisson also served as judges but could not attend this meeting.

To read the complete set of the minutes of general members meeting held on April 20, 2024, open the document sent to you by e-mail, or review it at the archive's subpage for minutes and agendas which are maintained at the Chapter website: [www.fortlauderdale.sar.org](http://www.fortlauderdale.sar.org).





April 20, 2024 Lunch Group with Kevin Shurte Giving 250 Anniversary Program Report.



Certificate of Appreciation Awarded to Kevin Shurte (left) by Steve DePaul (right) for leadership and coordination of the 2023-2024 Sgt Moses Adams Memorial Brochure Contest.



April 20, 2024 Fort Lauderdale Color Guard, Left: Kevin Shurte, Paul Moore, Steve DePaul, Tim McLane, Mark Snider.



Certificate of Appreciation Awarded by Kevin Shurte (center) to the judges of the top entries to the Chapter's 2023-2024 Sgt Moses Adams Memorial Brochure Contest. Left: Tim McLane, Paul Moore, Kevin Shurte, Steve DePaul, & Mark Snider. Not present: Chuck Adams & Ed Sisson.



Fort Lauderdale Color Guard and Members who Attended the April 13, 2024, Honor Flight Welcome Home. From left: Jim Clark, Paul Moore, Tim McLane, Mark Snider, & Kevin Shurte. Center front: participating veteran, John Sauerwald. Not present, Chuck Adams & Braeden Shurte.





**AMERICA 250 ANNIVERSARY**  
**CAPTURE OF FORT TICONDEROGA – MAY 10, 1775**  
 By Kevin Shurte

In 1775, the newly renamed Fort Ticonderoga stood as a symbol of British military might and as a reminder of its hard-fought victory over the French at Fort Carillon in 1759. Although it remained a heavily-armed, strategic fortress located between Albany and Quebec at the juncture of lakes George and Champlain, its state of readiness had declined. Understaffed with only 48 British regulars protecting the fort and laden with valuable artillery, it was a choice target for a young rebellious nation in need of armaments and victory.

Aware of Ticonderoga's military value, Connecticut Militia Captain Benedict Arnold successfully petitioned the Massachusetts Committee of Safety for the authority to prepare and coordinate a plan of capture. The provisional government granted him a colonel's commission, one hundred pounds, and authorized him to raise an army of four hundred men for the "secret" mission. Before setting out for Ticonderoga, Colonel Arnold mustered a force of forty Massachusetts militiamen.

However, Arnold's mission did not remain as secretive as he might have hoped. Learning of his activities, the Connecticut Committee of Correspondence authorized funds and the raising of its own militia. Hence, twenty Connecticut recruits also began their march toward the fort.

Even more frustrating for Arnold was the knowledge that Ethan Allen, with a small force of approximately one hundred Green Mountain Boys, had begun the northward trek with his own design on capturing Ticonderoga. Thirsty for glory, Arnold raced his horse to catch up with Allen whose forces were fifty miles ahead of his own. After "much discussion," the pair reluctantly agreed to share command of the covert operation.

On May 10, 1775, co-commanders Benedict Arnold and Ethan Allen led the predawn raid to capture Fort Ticonderoga. Small boats ferried the initial company of Green Mountain Boys across Lake Champlain from what is today Vermont to the sleeping fort. Fearful that they would lose the element of surprise if they delayed longer, Arnold and Allen agreed to launch the assault immediately with this 83-man force.

The 4 A.M. raid was a British rout. Unaware of the outbreak of war in the East, the 48-man British garrison commanded by Captain William De La Place was understaffed and ill-prepared. Reports indicate that of the forty-eight men garrisoned at Ticonderoga, forty-seven of them slept while a lone sentry stood watch over the fort by night, and the south gate was left unlocked.

The strike team entered the fort and overpowered the lone night-watchman, who ran toward the parade ground desperately trying to raise the alarm, while Arnold and Allen bickered in pursuit. Upon reaching the parade ground, Arnold along with Allen (or Allen along with Arnold) commanded the troop to reform into two ranks. In their exultance over having entered the fort, the troops let out three exuberant "Huzzahs" which further roused the

sleeping British garrison. Alerted by the shouts, a second British sentry frantically plunged his bayonet, slightly injuring Green Mountain Boy, Gideon Warren. Coming to Warren's aid, Allen slashed at the side of the sentry's head with his saber, causing slight injury and forcing the sentry to drop his musket in defeat. The British commandant quickly surrendered the garrison without further bloodshed. Thus ended the brief skirmish in the raid on Fort Ticonderoga.

Ticonderoga marked the first victorious American offensive of the war. The victory boosted morale, opened the corridor to Montreal and Quebec, and netted the Continental Army 80 pieces of much-needed artillery that General Washington would soon use to force the British withdrawal from Boston.

**Works Cited:**

1. "The Capture of Fort Ticonderoga - Leaders, Facts & Significance." *History.Com*, A&E Television Networks, www.history.com/topics/american-revolution/capture-of-fort-ticonderoga. Accessed 7 Apr. 2024.
2. "Fort Ticonderoga (1775)." *American Battlefield Trust*, www.battlefields.org/learn/revolutionary-war/battles/fort-ticonderoga-1775. Accessed 7 Apr. 2024.
3. Isaac Makos. Isaac Makos is an Interpretive Supervisor at George Washington's Mount Vernon. "History of Crown Point (1734-1783)." *American Battlefield Trust*, 4 June 2021, www.battlefields.org/learn/articles/history-crown-point-1734-1783.
4. Macrae, Jane, et al. "Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold Capture Fort Ticonderoga, 1775." *New England Historical Society*, 16 May 2022, newenglandhistoricalsociety.com/ethan-allen-benedict-arnold-capture-fort-ticonderoga-1775/.
5. "Patriot Raid on Fort Ticonderoga." *Warfare History Network*, 14 July 2022, warfarehistorynetwork.com/article/patriot-raid-on-fort-ticonderoga/.
6. Rust, Randal. "Fort Ticonderoga, Battle, Capture, Facts, Summary, Significance, 1775." *American History Central*, R.Squared Communications, LLC, 20 Feb. 2024, www.americanhistorycentral.com/entries/battle-of-fort-ticonderoga-1775/.
7. A Spotlight on a Primary Source by Henry Knox. "Dragging Cannon from Fort Ticonderoga to Boston, 1775." *Dragging Cannon from Fort Ticonderoga to Boston, 1775 | Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History*, www.gilderlehrman.org/history-resources/spotlight-primary-source/dragging-cannon-fort-ticonderoga-boston-1775. Accessed 7 Apr. 2024.

**C.A.R. MEETING & PAWS FOR LIBERTY EVENT**



Kyle Peterson and Braeden Shurte

The Swamp Fox Society of the Children of the American Revolution (C.A.R.) held its monthly meeting at the Paws for Liberty facility in Lake Worth, Florida on Sunday, April 21, 2024. Amanda Barnes, a senior advisor of the Swamp Fox Society, organized the event with Heidi Spirazza, founder of Paws for Liberty., and arranged that Swamp Fox would hold its April meeting at the Lake Worth facility. Paws for Liberty is a privately owned, non-profit organization that provides and trains service dogs for disabled military veterans suffering from PTSD. Since its inception in 2006, Paws for Liberty has assisted more than 250 disabled veterans, pairing them with supportive canine pals, and helping them to readjust to civilian life.

During the outing, Ms. Spirazza provided all attendees with a guided tour of the training facility. C.A.R. members then had the opportunity to sit and chat with several veterans and to meet their four-legged friends. Swamp Fox President, Kyle Peterson, led the meeting and discussed C.A.R.'s history, goals, and activities. Before ending the day, Swamp Fox donated a new American flag to Paws for Liberty. Kyle Peterson and fellow C.A.R. member Braeden Shurte hoisted the new flag and led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance. The pair then ceremoniously folded the aged flag for which Braeden Shurte is arranging a proper retirement.

**IN THE NEWS**

**GET WELL VISIT**



From left: John Lohmeyer, Joe Motes, & Jim Lohmeyer.  
Not shown: Tommy Lohmeyer.

During April 2024, Joe Motes battled for several weeks a severe case of double pneumonia. On April 24, 2024, Compatriots Jim Lohmeyer, son John Lohmeyer, and grandson Tommy Lohmeyer visited Joe at his new home in Middleburg, Florida to wish him well. We are glad to report that Joe is on the mend and back in the saddle.

**REBURIAL FUNERAL OF U.S. ARMY CORPORAL FRANK V. BENAK**

On April 12, 2024, the reburial funeral was held for U.S. Army Corporal Frank V. Benak, 24, of Scottsville, Michigan, who was reported missing in action on December 5, 1942, near what today is Papua, New Guinea, while on a combat patrol near Buna Creek. His remains were finally accounted for on February 2, 2024. The funeral was held graveside with full military honors in the Veterans Garden at Vista Memorial Gardens in Miami Lakes, Florida. Compatriot Steve DePaul represented the Chapter and the SAR.

**HONOR FLIGHT SOUTH FLORIDA WELCOME HOME**

The Fort Lauderdale Color Guard along with other Chapter Compatriots and friends showed up in numbers at the April 13, 2024, Welcome Home ceremony for veterans returning from the flight coordinated that day by Honor Flight South Florida. The Samuel Nicholas Camp #23 Color Guard plans to attend future flights as they are scheduled.



From left: Jim Clark, Tim McLane, Mark Snider, Paul Moore, Chuck Adams, Kevin Shurte, & Braeden Shurte. Not shown: Amanda Barnes, Donna Clark, Dr. Bernard Hecht, Lois King, & Carmen Snider.

**HERITAGE FESTIVAL CELEBRATION AT LIVE OAK TREE, FORT BASINGER, FL**

Representatives of the Fort Lauderdale Color Guard were in attendance on the second day of the two day Heritage Festival held on April 13 and 14, 2024 at the Pearce Homestead located in Fort Basinger, Florida. This event also celebrated national Patriot's Day, which for this year, was observed on April 15, 2024. The historic house and remaining ranch property dates back 150 years. The Chapter Color Guard participated with guardsmen from the Okeechobee and Highlands counties chapters in the presentation of colors at the opening of the event on April 14th.



From left: Dowling Watford, Brian Brat, Tim McLane, Kevin DePuy, Paul Moore, Chuck Adams, Shawn Stoffer, & Steve DePaul.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES – JIM LOHMEYER**

Compatriot Jim Lohmeyer celebrates his 94th birthday on Sunday, May 19, 2024. Jim has been a member of the SAR and the Fort Lauderdale Chapter since September 9, 2004. Over nearly 20 years, he has continuously contributed to the maintenance and development of the Chapter including service as: 1) President, 2007 & 2009; 2) Vice President, 2006 & 2008; 3) Secretary, 2014 to 2017; 4) Genealogist/Registrar, 2017 & 2018; and 5) Chaplain, 2021 to 2023. He was awarded the Chapter's Bronze Meritorious Service Medal at the general membership meeting held on June 17, 2023. Happy 94th Birthday, Jim!

**JROTC & SEA CADET AWARDS PROGRAM**



Kevin Shurte at Stranahan High School

During April, May and early June 2024, the Chapter has or will award 28 JROTC medals, and 6 Good Citizenship medals to 34 JROTC cadets at 28 schools. In addition, we have or will award a Good Citizenship Medal to a cadet at the Pines-Miramar Unit of the Civil Air Patrol and a Good Citizenship Medal to two cadets of the Fort Lauderdale Division of the Navy League. Coordinated by myself with transition assistance from Joe Motes, nine Chapter representatives (named in the page 1 President's Message) attended or will attend ceremonies at 23 schools or organizations to present the SAR medals.

In previous years, a photo history of these awards were made available. This year a few members were able to get photos as follows.



**IN THE NEWS (cont'd)**

**JUST IN – 2024 SPRING BOM**



Jim McHugh at Fort Lauderdale High School



Paul Moore at Boyd Anderson High School



Jim Blakeslee at Hallandale High School



Tom Carpenter Jr at Cooper City High School

The FLSSAR Spring BOM was held May 17-18, 2024, in Kissimmee, Florida. The conference was classified as a national event due to the attendance of Treasurer General, Michael J. Elston, representing President General, John I. Dodd. Pertinent to the Chapter and some key takeaways:

1. The Fort Lauderdale Chapter won first place (as a medium sized chapter) in the 2023 Americanism Chapter Challenge.

2. The Fort Lauderdale entry for the middle school brochure contest won first place at State. Miss Gianna Mann’s brochure on The Bill of Rights will now be judged at the 134th National Congress held in Lancaster, Pennsylvania on July 10 – 16, 2024.

3. Kevin Shurte, who chaired the FLSSAR Youth Education Ad Hoc Committee, made an excellent presentation with his team encouraging more chapters to sponsor SAR recognized youth education programs. The BOM adopted at its business meeting a motion to restore youth education to a standing committee and an increase in its budget for the remaining year.

4. Kevin Shurte received the Youth Education Award for giving 15 approved patriotic lessons to youth groups. He also received a bronze cluster for the 15 additional lessons that he gave.

5. Chuck Adams was elected to a one-year term as FLSSAR S.E. Regional Vice President.

6. Steve DePaul was appointed to a five-man ad hoc committee named The First Amphibious Assault Memorial Committee. This committee will explore the feasibility of constructing a monument on public property commemorating the first amphibious land assault by the newly formed Continental Marines which occurred on March 3, 1776, with the attack of Nassau, Bahamas and was led by then Captain Samuel Nicholas. The battle occurred about 200 miles southeast of our north Broward shoreline.

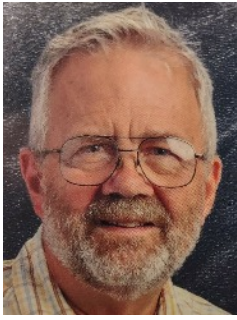
7. Kevin Shurte was appointed to a five-man ad hoc committee named The Congress Surplus Allocation Committee. It will make recommendations on the disposition and reallocation of \$37,000 of surplus monies left in the fund for the 133rd National Congress.

8. Chuck Adams, Steve DePaul and Kevin Shurte each participated in the presentation of colors at one or both banquets.

Key takeaways: A) Chapters are being urged to initiate or expand their sponsorship of SAR recognized youth education programs and contests; and B) Chapters are asked to promote recurring 250 Anniversary events, to track member and non-member participation, and attempt to at least award Bronze Medal Certificates to as many members as possible by the end of this year.

**SAR MEMBER PROFILE - THOMAS R. CARPENTER JR**

Interview by Chuck Adams



Q. Ok Tom, tell us a little bit about yourself.

A. I was born in 1955 in Washington, DC. As a child growing up in that city, I was witness to many key events that marked America. My earliest memories include playing among the monuments and around government buildings, President Kennedy's funeral parade, Civil Rights demonstrations, and Vietnam War rallies. My fellow students in public school were sons and daughters of government leaders. In that environment and coming from a family

with military service going back many generations, it was natural for me to develop a strong sense of patriotism.

Q. Did you serve in a branch of the military?

A. After one year of college, I enlisted in the U.S. Navy during the final years of the Vietnam War. I served on aircraft carriers and in helicopter squadrons as a combat search and rescue diver. Later, during the height of the Cold War, I participated in many missions strengthening US and NATO defenses in Europe, the Mediterranean, and North African regions.

Q. What was your occupation?

A. I graduated in 1983 from Trinity Baptist College in Jacksonville, Florida. My degrees are in theology, business, and education, so my resume is a colorful pastiche of competing interests ranging from working as an analyst in the Tomahawk cruise missile program to service as an ordained minister. I founded three companies in three different industries and have taught at bachelors and graduate levels. Presently, I am doing some of my most rewarding work as a public school teacher at an elementary and middle school in Hollywood.

Q. Tell us about some of your recreational interests?

A. As an avid outdoors man and conservationist, I enjoy hunting, fishing, hiking, camping, and scuba diving whenever possible. I also manage a website and underwater adventure organization. When I cannot be doing it, I write about it. My most recent book was a biography and story of faith that traces the providence of God through a family across three centuries.

Q. How about your family?

A. My wife, Liana, and I recently celebrated our 20<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. My wife has three daughters and I have two children from previous marriages. It was through the work of my daughter, Angela, that I learned of the Sons of the American Revolution. She is an active member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Mayflower Society. Her husband, Austin Primiano, and my grandson, Mason, are SAR and SAR Junior Members, respectively, both with our chapter. Also SAR members are my father, Thomas, Sr, who lives in West Virginia, and my son, Thomas III, who lives with his wife, Katelyn, and my granddaughter, Shiloh, in Virginia.

Q. Who is your Patriot ancestor?

A. My Patriot ancestor is Nathaniel Carpenter (1744-1826). He was born in and died in Massachusetts. He enlisted in February 1777 and served for eighteen months as a private in an independent company of New Hampshire Rangers. More information on him can be found in his revolutionary war pension file S.34148

Q. Do you plan to help in Chapter development, retain and attract members, or recognize others consistent with SAR programs?

A. In the past two years, I have seen how much a part our chapter plays in our community, in service to veterans, in promoting patriotism and American values in schools and youth organizations, and in supporting other organizations that keep our nation strong. I welcome the chance to represent our chapter in JROTC assemblies, color guard appearances, and whenever we have the opportunity to participate in civic affairs.

Thanks, Tom, for sharing.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

May 08, 2024	Battle of Pensacola Commemoration, Pensacola, FL
May 17-18, 2024	Spring BOM, Kissimmee, FL
May 27, 2024	Pompano Beach Memorial Day Parade
Jun 01, 2024	Honor Flights of South Florida, FLL International Airport
Jun 29, 2024	Battle of Alligator Creek, Callahan, FL
Jul 10-16, 2024	134 <sup>th</sup> National Congress, Lancaster, PA
Sep 07, 2024	Honor Flights of South Florida, FLL International Airport
Seo 23-24, 2024	SAR Fall Leadership, Louisville, KY
Oct 11-12, 2024	Fall BOM, Kissimmee, FL
Oct 26, 2024	Honor Flights of South Florida, FLL International Airport
Dec 05, 2024	Fort Lauderdale Yuletide Parade
Dec 21, 2024	Wreaths Across America, Pompano Beach, FL

**2024 CHAPTER OFFICERS****PRESIDENT / TREASURER - CHUCK ADAMS**

1808 NW 124 Way  
Coral Springs, FL 33071-7887  
954-345-6276

**VICE-PRESIDENT / SGT-AT-ARMS - STEVEN DE PAUL**

11240 SW 21 Street  
Miramar, FL 33025-6634  
954-232-5008

**REGISTRAR / GENEALOGIST - CHUCK ADAMS**

1808 NW 124 Way  
Coral Springs, FL 33071-7887  
954-345-6276

**SECRETARY - MARK SNIDER**

3051 NE 47 Court Apt 210  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308-5377  
317-748-3651

**HISTORIAN - KEVIN SHURTE**

460 NW 52 Street  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309-3231  
954-588-2908

**CHAPLAIN - TIMOTHY McLANE**

400 NE 20 Street  
Wilton Manors, FL 33305-2043  
305-395-9526

**EDITOR - JOSEPH MOTES**

1816 Sherwood Dive  
Middleburg, FL 32068-3823  
954-559-3202