

Sons of the American Revolution

Tampa Chapter

Monthly Membership Meeting

January 17, 2015

The January meeting of the Tampa SAR Chapter was held at its usual meeting place in the Piccadilly Cafeteria on Dale Mabry Drive in Tampa, Florida at Noon on Saturday, January 17, 2015.

- President Dick Young called the meeting to order at approximately 12:00 Noon.
- Compatriot Dr. John Goolsby gave the invocation.
- Compatriot Cy Gambler led members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
- Compatriot Terrell Sessums led members in the SAR Pledge.
- Each member and guest introduced themselves.

Members present: Chuck Bearss, Alan Bell, Glenn Clapper, Robbins Denham, Bob Denham, Gilbert Doan, Paul Ergler, Paul Farley, Bill Floyd, Mike Foley, Brian French, Charlie Foster, John Goolsby, Charles Klug, Marty Miller, Ed Neugaard, John Sessums, Terrell Sessums, Ken Skillman, Brett Thomas, Jerry Walters, Robert Yarnell and Dick Young.

Guests present: Colton Crews, Deborah Foley, CAR - Mimi Leroy Marler, Judy Walters, Lissette Young.

Past Presidents were recognized by President Dick Young.

President Dick Young gave a health update on June Bolen wife of Compatriot Jack Bolen. A get well card for June was circulated. Given this circumstance, Jack Bolen will not be handling ROTC recognition duties. Compatriot Terry Doan has graciously assumed the leadership of this committee and needs chapter volunteers for ROTC and JROTC certificate presentations.

Report from the Board of Governors

Presidents Report:

- President Dick Young noted that the Tampa SAR Chapter had a local BOM meeting prior to this meeting.
- President Dick Young explained the importance of increasing the number of members in the Tampa SAR Chapter Color Guard. It was suggested that that some of the uniform elements may be shared by existing Color Guard members.
- President Dick Young will be attending the Florida BOM meeting in Orlando Jan. 30-31 2015.
- President Dick Young discussed the need for a volunteer location for Tampa SAR Flag Certificate in which the Chapter earns recognition for the proper flying and care of the US Flag.
- The following are initiates of SAR President General Lindsey C. Brock's Goals for 2015:

- Southwest Asia - Persian Gulf War Veterans Corps Task Force
 - Collecting of Notable Speeches by SAR Members. The purpose of this committee is to compile an archive of speeches delivered by Compatriot members at various SAR or civic events.
 - SAR Patriot Ancestors' Biographies Committee. Creation of database patriot bio's submitted by SAR compatriot members.
 - SAR Center for Advancing America's Heritage. Donations and fundraising.
- Jerry Walters was appointed Veterans Committee Chair.
 - State SAR is sponsoring a marker for Thomas Creek Battlefield.

Officers Reports:

President Dick Young announced Secretary Brian French has collected dues for 2015 SAR Tampa Chapter and the appropriate allocation will be delivered to state.

Treasury Report:

Treasurer Paul Ergler gave the treasurer report and noted a Tampa SAR Chapter balance as on January 17, 2015 of \$5,076.94. Inflow of \$5,577 (dues collected) and an outflow of \$4,094.45 (paid National and State dues).

Registrar Report:

Registrar Alan Bell noted that Mike Foley and Jonathan Oglio's SAR membership applications were approved and several are pending at national. He is working with Ed Neugaard (past registrar) on prospective and pending SAR member applications.

At approximately 12:35pm President Dick Young recessed the meeting for lunch.

At approximately 1:00pm President Young reconvened the meeting.

Chapter Awards

President Dick Young announced that Mike Foley and Jonathan Oglio were approved for SAR membership.

Jonathan Oglio was not in attendance.

Mike Foley was awarded his SAR Certificate and was sworn in by President Dick Young as a SAR member. Mike's wife Deborah was in attendance.

Speaker:

Vice President Charles Klug introduced Mike Odell and Jim Fletcher of the Vietnam Veterans Association as the speaker for the meeting.

Mike O'dell shared with the Tampa SAR Chapter the following:

- Over 2 million American served in the Vietnam War.
- Many returning vets suffered from Post-Traumatic Stress Syndrome and had great difficulty in rejoining society after the War.
- Virtually all troops who were in the Vietnam theatre were exposed to toxic agent orange compounds that has had a devastating effect on the health of many vets.
- The Vietnam Veterans of America helps struggling vets who never received the proper "homecoming" after the war.
- The VV of America has a homeless program in which it collects household goods and used furniture donations to be given to homeless vets when they find a home.
- Unclaimed clothing items for Tampa airport are also collected for the "Clothe a Homeless Hero" program.
- They also sponsor needy vet families at Christmas and Holiday meals.
- The Vietnam Veterans of America presents JROTC awards at Hillsborough area high schools and has a Vietnam Oral History Book Program.
- The Vietnam Veterans of America has a upcoming Car Show fundraiser March 14, 2015 and invited members to attend. Location: Veterans Memorial Park in Tampa.
- The Vietnam Veterans of America chapter 787 needs volunteers for its household goods pick up service.

The speaker's presentation was warmly received by the Tampa SAR Chapter members.

President Dick Young informed the chapter about the Traveling Vietnam War Memorial Wall will be in Inverness, FL April 30th - May 3rd (2015). Speaker mentioned volunteers are needed for this event.

President Young reminded members that the next meeting will be February 21, 2015 and the President's Day speaker will talk about George Washington.

50/50 lottery was drawn.

President Dick Young led the members in the SAR Recessional.

Compatriot Dr. John Goolsby gave the benediction.

President Young adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:00pm.

Respectively Submitted

Tampa SAR Secretary, Brian French

January 17, 2015