# March 2025

Officers

President: Dwight McEntire
1st Vice President: Robert Anderson
2nd Vice President: Art Hays
Treasurer: Tom Hancher
Secretary: Warren Wilson
Sergeant-at Arms: Russell Pebworth
Genealogist- Walter Arnold
Registrar: Walter Arnold
Chaplain: Dr. Bob Cundiff
Historian/Publicist: Harry Fuller
Governors -at- Large: Bob Yarnell and James Grayshaw
Color Guard Commander-Robbie Robinson
Newsletter Editor- James Grayshaw –

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Our Inspiration is from the Past,
Our Duty is in the Present,
Our Hope is in the Future.

## SAR Mission Statement

***The Sons of the American Revolution honor our Revolutionary War patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities, and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our country.***

# From the President

Dear Compatriots,

We had a good representation at George Washington's birthday party held at the St Pete Yacht Club. You need to plan on going in 2026.

I am still looking for a person to help out in our school youth awards. For the remainder of this year, we will be approaching the larger private schools in our area.

There are a number of youth awards that are lying dormant because, we are not doing our jobs. If you know of a private high school in our area that we should be contacting, please let me know. So far, we have contacted Calvary Christian High School, Lakeside School and I will contact Westlake Christian School as soon as I return.
I will not be available the week of March 1st as I am leaving as soon as I finish this to attend a family funeral in Northwest Georgia.

We finished another Chapter meeting at Dunedin. The were some set up issues and I want to thank Bob Anderson for his timely response in correcting some of those issues. The issues were caused by our banquet manager Laurie Miller being out for a couple of weeks. Next time!! It was also very nice to have Bob's daughter, Tara, in attendance. She was a big help at the check in table.

We also have a number of flashlights still available and 2 of the new SAR ties. If you need a name tag please see Bob Anderson.

Your BOG and I are looking for volunteers to serve in the youth programs and also to serve as assistants to our elected officers. Please come and learn what we do. A reminder, all of our members are welcome to attend our Board of Governors meetings. They are held on the Monday before the Chapter Meeting at 10AM usually by Zoom. Please let me know if you wish to attend. Also, let me or any member of the BOG know if there is any item you wish us to discuss.

See you March 19.

In patriotic spirit,

Dwight McEntire

# Minutes of February's Meeting

| | |
|---|---|
| **Date and Time:** | 2/19/2025 11:30 AM |
| **Location:** | Dunedin Country Club |
| **Facilitator:** | Dwight McEntire |
| **Minutes Prepared By:** | Warren Wilson |
| **Attendees:** | All members |
| **Absent:** | |

| **Points Discussed** | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Number** | **Topic** | **Highlights** |
| 1 | Call to Order | President McEntire called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon followed by the opening invocation by Dr. Robert Cundiff. The chapter Color Guard presented the colors and the Pledge of Allegiance and SAR pledge were recited. God Bless America was sung by the members. President McEntire recognized all members who had birthdays in February before recessing for lunch. |
| 2 | Reconvened | The meeting was reconvened at 12:30 by President McEntire who introduced honored guests; DAR and Ladies Auxiliary attendees, visiting SAR members and mentioned Lori Coffey would be our guest speaker in March. |
| 3 | A 250 moment | 250 moment was held and President McEntire spoke on the origination of the Liberty Tree project and our intention as a chapter to dedicate one this year. |
| 4 | New Member | New member, Thomas Besore, was inducted. |
| 5 | Speaker | Compatriot Bob Yarnell spoke about John Dickenson, a relatively unknown but prominent member of the Constitutional Convention. |
| 6 | Announcements | Tim Shaner spoke on the plans for the April picnic and the cost per member of $5.00 this year to offset expenses. He was followed by Compatriot Art Hays who discussed his Patriot Ancestor, William Glover of Maryland. |
| 7 | 50/50 | 50/50 and gift basket was held followed by the closing benediction by Dr. Cundiff. |
| 8 | Recessional | SAR recessional was recited by members. |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 9 | Adjournment | Meeting Adjourned at 1:15 PM |
| 10 | | |

| Next Meeting | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Date** | **Location** | **Time** | **Objectives** |
| 3/19/2025 | Dunedin Country Club | 11:30 AM | |

# Photographs from February's Meeting

Clearwater Color Guard led by Art Hayes

The Color Guard

The Color Guard posts the colors

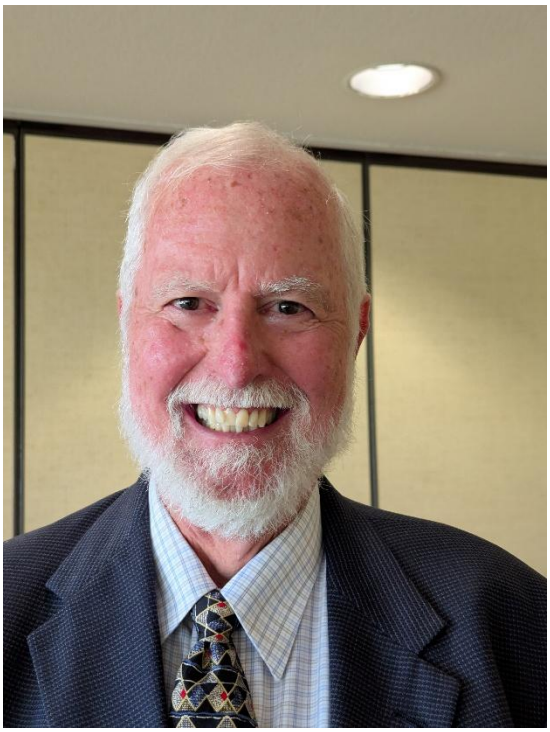
Chaplain Bob Cundiff gave the invocation and lead us in singing God Bless America

New member Thomas Besore with President MacEntire

Speaker Bob Yarnell

President MacEntire presents Certificate of Membership to Thomas Besore

# Attendees



Dean Chatlain

Mark Santoro

John Sagert

Warren Wilson

Eugene Girardi

Connie Rogers

Marilyn (Micky) Halstead and Parks Honeywell

Lori Coffey

Jacob Heiden with his grandparents

**Bob Anderson and his daughter Tara Keblish**

**Jim Grayshaw**

**Tom Hancher**

**Terry and Sharla Taylor**

**Art and Candace Hays**

**Margaret Harris**

**Russell Pebworth**

**Jim Koontz**

**Marjorie and Charles Wetherbee**

**Tim Shaner**

**Dwight McEntire**

**Robbie Robinson**

Bob Cundiff

**Marcy and Rob Moore**

Bob Yarnell

Mr and Mrs Thomas Besore

Dan Griffith

## Links & Resources:

**Our Chapter website:**
**http://clearwatersar.org/**

Our Chapter Facebook page
https://www.facebook.com/SARClearwater/

SAR National website :
**https://www.sar.org/**
SAR Florida website:
**http://www.flssar.org/FLSSAR/Tabs.asp**

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# NEW MEMBER

My name is Mark Santoro and I am honored to be a member of the Clearwater Chapter SAR.

I was raised in Old Bridge, New Jersey, and I graduated from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy & Science in 1986. I moved to Florida in 1990, and I retired from Publix Supermarket in 2023. I live in Lansbrook with my wife Jeanette, and step-daughter Charlotte Lynch. I have three adult children- Anthony, Natalie, and Domineck from a previous marriage.

My ancestor is Capt-Lt. Adna Penniman, 3rd Regiment N.H. Continental Line, and he is one of the 30 founding members of the Society of the Cincinnati in New Hampshire. He was in the battles of Fort Anne and Stillwater in 1777, in Monmouth in 1778, and at Newton in 1779. In addition, he wintered at Valley Forge in 1777-78.

# OUR DAR PARTNERS

Our Color Guard presented the colors at the Genealogical Seminar held by the Caladesi Chapter on February 6, 2025.

The following appeared in the Caladesi DAR Newsletter for February 19, 2025

SAR Clearwater Chapter invited our DAR members to their ANNUAL PICNIC on 19 April at noon. Bring a side dish to share to John Chestnut Park at shelter 10. The park is located at 2200 E Lake Rd South, Palm Harbor, FL 34685.

## *OUR ANNUAL PICNIC*

Saturday April 19th

11am – 3pm

John Chesnut Sr. Park

2200 East Lake Road Palm Harbor

Shelter #10

$5.00 (free for DAR members)

Hamburgers, hot dogs and water will be provided.

Iced tea and lemonade will be provided by DAR.

Please consider bringing a side dish to share.

Notify Tim at: trs68@verizon.net

Please bring fees to March and April's chapter meetings

Timothy R. Shaner

Past President

## Schedule of SAR Meetings 2025

March 19
April 16
May 21
September 17
October 15
November 19
December 17

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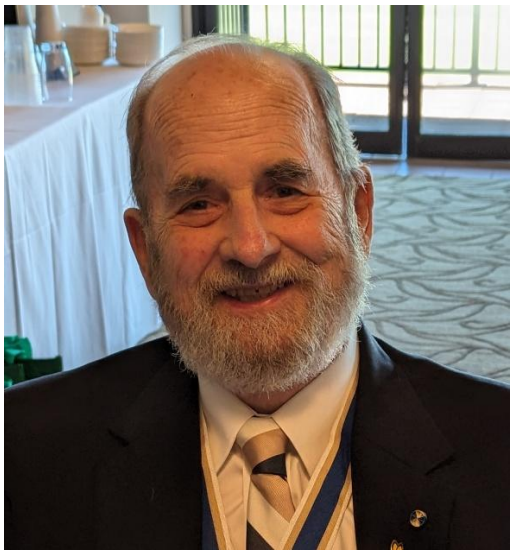
# Bob Anderson
# 1stVice President



Speakers for coming months are, **tentatively**,

**April**- Kurt Spehr-Battle of Lexington
**May**- James Grayshaw- American Military

Leaders of the War
**September**- Dwight McEntire- Battle of Kings Mountain

## Art Hays
## 2nd Vice President

## Tom Hancher
## Treasurer

## Walter Arnold
## Registrar/Genealogist

## Robbie Robinson
## Color Guard Commander

WANTED: Drummer who can be part of the SAR Clearwater Color Guard. Need to be able to march and has, or will get, a revolutionary uniform. No experience necessary. Current drummer unable to march now, but will teach you free. Great gig- be part of the band (currently a band of one), chick magnet (always the drummer), and having fun. See Rob Moore

# Book about the American Revolution

## Washington at the Plow: The Founding Farmer and the Question of Slavery by Bruce A Ragsdale

- **Publisher :** Belknap Press (October 12, 2021)
- **Print length :** 358 pages

This book is reviewed in great detail by Daniel J Kevies in the New York Review of Books, Vol. LXXII, number 2, February 13, 2025. The review is excellent and I highly recommend it if you have an interest in knowing more about this book- Editor

**Winner of the George Washington Prize**

**A fresh, original look at George Washington as an innovative land manager whose singular passion for farming would unexpectedly lead him to reject slavery.**

George Washington spent more of his working life farming than he did at war or in political office. For over forty years, he devoted himself to the improvement of agriculture, which he saw as the means by which the American people would attain the “respectability & importance which we

ought to hold in the world."

*Washington at the Plow* depicts the "first farmer of America" as a leading practitioner of the New Husbandry, a transatlantic movement that spearheaded advancements in crop rotation. A tireless experimentalist, Washington pulled up his tobacco and switched to wheat production, leading the way for the rest of the country. He filled his library with the latest agricultural treatises and pioneered land-management techniques that he hoped would guide small farmers, strengthen agrarian society, and ensure the prosperity of the nation.

Slavery was a key part of Washington's pursuits. He saw enslaved field workers and artisans as means of agricultural development and tried repeatedly to adapt slave labor to new kinds of farming. To this end, he devised an original and exacting system of slave supervision. But Washington eventually found that forced labor could not achieve the productivity he desired. His inability to reconcile ideals of scientific farming and rural order with race-based slavery led him to reconsider the traditional foundations of the Virginia plantation. As Bruce Ragsdale shows, it was the inefficacy of chattel slavery, as much as moral revulsion at the practice, that informed Washington's famous decision to free his slaves after his death

# Birthdays

**March**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **2** | Kuch | John | Eugene |
| **2** | Roney | Robert | Hill |
| **3** | LaPlante | Philip | Lawrence |
| **6** | Dauphinais | Harry | Lauren |
| **9** | Martin | Cary | Lane |
| **12** | Greene | Jason | Paul |
| **14** | Dietrich | Peter | Kohler |
| **25** | Stribling | James | Walter |

# OUR NEXT MEETING

**When: Wednesday March 19, 2025**
**Where: Dunedin Golf Club, 1050 Palm Blvd, Dunedin, Florida 34698**

**Time: 11:30 A.M. for in person dining only.**

**Menu: Salad, Corned Beef and Cabbage; Accompaniments: Rolls/ Iced Tea/coffee- Regular and Decaf**

**Note: If you have any dietary restrictions (such as gluten free, vegan, vegetarian, etc.), or questions, be sure to mention them when you make your reservation**
**Cost: $27**

**Program: Lori Coffey**
**Women in Revolution**

**For reservations contact Tom Hancher at 678-683-8121 or Bob Anderson at 727-221-4701 or Randerson2441@gmail.com.**

**Until we meet again, let us remember our obligations to our forefathers, who gave us our Constitution, the Bill of Rights, an independent Supreme Court, and a nation of free men.**

**The Sons of the American Revolution is a historical, educational and patriotic non-profit, United States 501 (c) 3 corporation that seeks to maintain and extend (1) the institution of American freedom, (2) an appreciation for true patriotism, (3) a respect for our national symbols, (4) the value of American citizenship, and (5) the unifying force of e pluribus unum that has created, from the people of many nations, one nation, and one people. We do this by perpetuating the stories of patriotism, courage, sacrifice, tragedy, and triumph of the men who achieved the independence of the American people in the belief that these stories are universal ones of man's eternal struggle against tyranny, relevant to all time, and will inspire and strengthen each succeeding generation as it too is called upon to defend our freedom on the battlefield and in our public institutions.**