



# THE NAPLES CRIER

FLORIDA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

**SINCE 1975 - NAPLES CHAPTER NEWSLETTER- OCTOBER 2016**

## Luncheon Schedule 2016-2017 Season

**Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup>** will be held at The Club at Longshore Lake 11399 Phoenix Way, Naples FL. 34119. **Social Hour @ 11:30 – 12:00 noon;** **Meeting begins at 12:00 noon**  
**Program:** Presentation of “Years of Service Pins” to the members.

**Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup>** will be held at The Club at Longshore Lake 11399 Phoenix Way, Naples FL. 34119. **Social Hour @ 11:30 – 12:00 noon;** **Meeting begins at 12:00 noon**  
**Program:** Annual Recognition of Law Enforcement, Fire and Emergency Service.

**Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>** will be held at Country Club of Naples 185 Burning Tree Drive Naples, FL 34105. **Meeting begins at 6:00 pm.**  
**Program:** Joint evening meeting with the DAR

**Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup>** will be held at The Club at Longshore Lake 11399 Phoenix Way, Naples FL. 34119. **Social Hour @ 11:30 – 12:00 noon;** **Meeting begins at 12:00 noon**  
**Program:** Undetermined.

**Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup>** will be held at The Club at Longshore Lake 11399 Phoenix Way, Naples FL. 34119. **Social Hour @ 11:30 – 12:00 noon;** **Meeting begins at 12:00 noon**  
**Program:** Annual JROTC Recognition.  
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## PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

As my last season as President begins, we are looking forward to seeing all of you again. Our first meeting is on October 13th at the



Club at Longshore Lake, where we met last year (see the Luncheon Schedule for the address). We will be recognizing all compatriots with five or more years of service in the SAR with certificates and “Years of Service” pins. We have not done this in the past so we have some catching up to do. We look forward to seeing all of you there for this recognition.

As a reminder, we will be having our joint session with the DAR on Friday, December 9th at 6:00 p.m. This should give those people who cannot make the luncheon meetings an opportunity to join us. The meeting will be held at the newly refurbished Country Club of Naples located at 185 Burning Tree Drive in Naples. We look forward to the opportunity to see all of you there.

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Our Election team which is under the

**Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup>** will be held at The Club at Longshore Lake 11399 Phoenix Way, Naples FL. 34119. ***Social Hour @ 11:30 – 12:00 noon;***  
***Meeting begins at 12:00 noon***  
**Program:** Officer elections and Charter Day.

**Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup>** will be held at The Club at Longshore Lake 11399 Phoenix Way, Naples FL. 34119. ***Social Hour @ 11:30 – 12:00 noon;***  
***Meeting begins at 12:00 noon***  
**Program:** Undetermined.

**Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>** will be held at The Club at Longshore Lake 11399 Phoenix Way, Naples FL. 34119. ***Social Hour @ 11:30 – 12:00 noon;***  
***Meeting begins at 12:00 noon***  
**Program:** Undetermined.

direction of Jim Meerpohl has been very involved in the elections. This important group has brought much needed income to our Chapter.

I want to thank all who have been involved.

I look forward to seeing you all on October 13th.

*Michael Garey, President*

## Dates in History

### AUGUST 7th

On August 7, 1782, General George Washington created the Purple Heart, the oldest American military decoration. Originally called the Badge of Military Merit, it was to be given to soldiers who displayed “singularly meritorious action”. The badge was to be worn on the left breast of the recipient, and it consisted of a heart made of purple cloth and edged with narrow lace.

During the American Revolution only three soldiers, Elijah Churchill, William Brown, and Daniel Bissell, were able to win this prestigious badge of honor. Following the Revolutionary War, the medal fell out of use, but was revived in 1932 to celebrate George Washington’s birthday. It continues to be awarded today, but it is now awarded for a different purpose. Any service members who have been wounded or killed in action receive the Purple Heart.

### AUGUST 23rd

On August 23, 1784, four counties from Western North Carolina broke off from their state and declared their independence as the State of Franklin. They immediately petitioned congress for statehood, but the vote fell short of the necessary two-thirds majority needed to pass. In defiance, Franklin decided to become an independent nation. Franklin established its own constitution, created a system of barter as opposed to currency, and even negotiated treaties with Indians.

However, after a few years, the economy of Franklin began to decline rapidly, prompting Governor John Sevier to ask the Spanish Government for aid. Unfortunately, the plan for Spanish aid was never able to come to fruition as the State of Franklin withdrew back into North Carolina. The decision to return to North Carolina was not an easy one, but the increasing attacks of hostile Indians were taking a toll on Franklin's settlements. A move back to North Carolina, which had a state militia to protect the frontier, eventually became necessary.

### **AUGUST 27th**

On August 27, 1776, the Battle of Brooklyn, also known as the Battle of Long Island, was fought during the American Revolution. Following his taking the city of Boston after a lengthy siege, Continental Army commander George Washington decided to move his men down to the strategic city of New York. Washington knew that New York City would be an irresistible British target because of its large harbor, which the redcoats assuredly recognized as the ideal place for a naval base.

Just as Washington predicted, in July of 1776 the British dropped anchor off the coast of Staten Island, and over the next month more and more ships began to pile into the Lower New York Bay, until, to one patriot observer, it looked as if "All London was afloat." On August 22, the British sidestepped Washington, who had anticipated an all-out attack on Manhattan and therefore concentrated the bulk of his forces there, by landing instead on Long Island. For five days, Howe waited, eventually building up a force of 20,000 troops both British and Hessian.

While this was happening the Americans were also building up their forces; by the time of battle, more than 10,000 patriots were on Long Island. Then the British got an extraordinary stroke of luck. They were told by Loyalists that there was a completely unguarded path around towards the American's rear. Howe quickly formulated a plan. He, along with 10,000 troops under his command would take this flanking route and come down squarely on the Patriot rear. The only problem was that this route lay far to the east, meaning it would take them quite a bit of time to get there. This was all time in which the patriots could discover and foil their plan.

That is where General James Grant came in. He, along with 4,000 British and Hessian Troops, would create a diversion and lead the patriots into thinking that Grant's column was the main assault. The plan worked perfectly. Just before midnight Grant began his assault and the fighting began in earnest. The fighting against Grant's column was by far the fiercest of the day, with vicious hand to hand combat ensuing. In the end the Patriots were sent reeling, and at the worst time, as almost simultaneously the British flanking column smashed into the panicked troops. In sense the battle then turned into a mad dash for the last strategic American held positions on the Island, Brooklyn Heights.

### **SEPTEMBER 12th**

On September 12, 1777, during the American Revolution, Continental Congress, located in Philadelphia, received a devastating message from George Washington saying that he had been soundly defeated by the British in a massive battle outside of the city. The previous day at a place called Brandywine Creek, Washington's army was defending the critical waterway from an attack by British General William Howe who was intent on taking the American capital of Philadelphia.

The patriots thought they were repelling the enemy, as wave after wave of British troops were turned back by their stalwart defense. What they didn't know was that they were only engaging half of the British force, and that the other half was poised to attack their undefended right flank. The flank attack devastated the American army, forcing Washington to order a full scale retreat. In an almost exact replay of the Battle of Long Island a year prior, the Americans had once again been soundly defeated by the British. Nothing now stood between the redcoats and the capital of Philadelphia. As soon as Congress got the news, they wasted no time in escaping the city. They knew what the British would do to men who in their eyes had committed treason. Within days, Congress had reassembled in York, Pennsylvania, and Philadelphia had been taken with no patriot opposition.

### **SEPTEMBER 16th**

On September 16, 1776, the Battle of Harlem Heights was fought during the American Revolution. Following the disastrous American defeat at the Battle of Long Island, the Continental Army under General George Washington was sent fleeing across the island of Manhattan, eventually establishing a defensive position near the critical high ground of Harlem Heights on the northern end of the island. British troops quickly arrayed themselves against the Americans on the heights.

On the morning of the 17th, Washington sent forward a group of rangers under the command of Captain Thomas Knowlton to scout the British positions and, if possible, lure them into a fight. Knowlton and his men promptly engaged the redcoats, attacking them from the front. While this was going on, Washington sent another force to attack the British flank, catching them off guard and driving them back. In the end, the battle cost the Continentals 70 men killed or wounded, including Captain Thomas Knowlton, who was killed at the head of his men. However, the battle was a huge morale booster for the American Colonists, who after the debacle at the Battle of Long Island had understandably low spirits.

### **SEPTEMBER 17th**

On September 17, 1787, the United States Constitution was signed in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania after the weeks of debate and compromise that had been the Constitutional Convention. The battle to produce the document had been a difficult fight. Every time the delegates thought they had the Constitution ironed out, another subject was put up for debate. But the delegates were steadfast and the Constitution was narrowly ratified. Only the minimum amount of states, nine out of thirteen, initially voted to ratify the document.

### **The Naples Crier - Established 1975**

Newsletter for members of the Naples Chapter,  
Florida Society, Sons of the American Revolution

Email: [NaplesSAR@gmail.com](mailto:NaplesSAR@gmail.com)

Website: [NaplesSAR.org](http://NaplesSAR.org)

### **Naples Chapter of the FLSSAR Officers (2016-2017)**

President: Michael E. Garey\*  
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Naples Crier Editor:  
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### **Naples Chapter Committee Chairmanships 2016-2017**

Awards Ceremonies .....Michael E. Garey  
Charter Day 2017 .....John L. McCullough  
Chapter Database/Email .....J. Edward Lary  
Color Guard .....Donald B. Cahill  
Crier Newsletter Editor.....Mario Ashley  
DAR Liaison .....Robert S. Withey  
Eagle Scout .....Leonard Crame  
Election Worker Coordinator....Anthony "Jim"  
Meerpohl  
Flag Display .....John L. McCullough  
Good Citizenship.....John L. McCullough/Michael  
E. Garey  
Law Enforcement .....Acey Edgemon  
Membership .....J. Edward Lary  
Membership Directory .....Michael E. Garey  
Middle School Poster Contest....John L. McCullough  
Nominating/Slate.....John L. McCullough  
Rumbaugh Oration Contest.....John L. McCullough  
Publicity .....Thomas Woodruff  
Reservations .....Leonard Crame  
J.R.O.T.C .....John L. McCullough  
Sunshine .....Robert C. Matthews, Jr.  
Webmaster .....I. Harris Tucker  
Yearbook Editor..... Michael E. Garey

*\*Board of Directors for (2016-2017)*

<sup>1</sup> At-Large Member Board of Directors for (2016-2017)



October 2016

<http://www.Naplessar.org>

Visit the Naples Chapter website for information about the chapter, events calendar and the members. Current and past issues of *The Naples Crier* may also be found on the website. Your comments and suggestions will be most welcomed.

Email correspondence may be addressed to [NaplesSAR@gmail.com](mailto:NaplesSAR@gmail.com)

#### LUNCHEON MEETING

#### **RESERVATIONS required for Thursday October 13th @ 11:30 AM**

The Club at Longshore Lake is very accommodating and will provide special diet meals, if advised a week in advance. To enable The Club at Longshore Lake to better accommodate us for both room size and meal quantities, we are asked to provide them with the number of reservations a few days before each meeting. Accordingly, compatriots and others planning to attend the luncheons are asked to let us know by telephone, **email** or by completing the reservation form below and

#### **Mailing your check payable to Naples Chapter SAR:**

c/o Leonard Crame, Assistant Treasurer, P.O. Box 990190, Naples, FL 34116-6067  
Tel: (23) 455-7295; Email: [cramelw@embarqmail.com](mailto:cramelw@embarqmail.com)

\_\_\_\_\_ Luncheon (s) @ \$23 = \_\_\_\_\_

Your name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Sugar dessert \_\_\_\_\_

Guest names (Print) \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Sugar dessert \_\_\_\_\_

Additional names: \_\_\_\_\_

**Send your reservation & payment to be received by Thursday October 6th, 2016**