



# THE WITHLACOOCHEE PATRIOT



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July – August 2005



**The Withlacoochee Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard** marched in the Florida Hills Memorial Gardens Memorial Day Parade. Pictured in the above photo Front Row left to right Miranda Pardee, Julia Pardee, and Paul Pardee. Back Row left to right are Richard Sumner, Jack Townsend, John Pardee, and Jerome Rawson

### Monthly Meeting

The Withlacoochee SAR Chapter does not meet in June, July, or August. The next scheduled meeting is September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2005.

### JULY

#### Birthdays and Anniversaries

Bill Teater celebrates his birthday on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Marie Dunn, wife of Walter, celebrates her birthday on the July 26. Celebrating anniversaries on the 17th are Eugene and

Dok-Kyn, and Clarence and Dottie Brauner.

### August

#### Birthdays and Anniversaries

Member August birthdays include Joe Hardiman on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, Leonard Crawford on the 10<sup>th</sup>, Charles Day on the 15<sup>th</sup>, and Jerome Rawson on the 30<sup>th</sup>. William and Carole Gemmill celebrate their anniversary on the 4<sup>th</sup>. Dorothy Day, wife of Charlie, celebrates her birthday on the 6<sup>th</sup>, Gloria Horning, wife of

Alvin, has a birthday on the 8<sup>th</sup>, and Luisa Crawford's birthday is on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

### Membership News

Associate member **Harley Nelson's** application was approved on June 21<sup>st</sup>. Congratulations Harley, and welcome aboard. Harley's application was the 4<sup>th</sup> approved for our chapter so far in 2005. Associate member **Bill Teater** has his documentation all in order and will be filing his application for membership very soon. **Transfer** - Compatriot Tom Tyler has moved from Dunedin to Inverness. He and his wife, Diana, live in Windemere. Tom is very active in the Dunedin Chapter and plans to continue his SAR work as a member of the Withlacoochee Chapter. Tom's request for transfer has been forwarded to the FLSSAR Secretary, Kevin Yarnell. **New Associate Member** – John Tucker has joined our chapter, and upon receiving a record copy from the DAR will be filing his application for SAR membership. John and his wife, Karen, live in Homosassa. Karen is the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President of the Local Annuttaliga DAR Chapter and will serve as it's next regent.

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### Treasurer's Report

Our Treasurer, Jack Townsend, reported the status of Chapter finances as follows:

Beginning Balance	\$ 813.08
Expenses	1,120.16
Deposits	973.00

Balance	\$ 671.92
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### Coming Events

September 10<sup>th</sup> – Next Regular Meeting

September 11<sup>th</sup> – Planting of Liberty Tree and Plaque Presentation

### Liberty Tree

Richard Sumner and John Camillo are making arrangements to have a Liberty Tree planted and Bronze Plaque installed at Veteran's Memorial Park on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2005. The plaque has been ordered and promised to arrive before August 10<sup>th</sup>. Richard obtained a donation of the tree from Jimmy Stewart, owner of Stewart Nursery, in Brooksville, FL. John obtained a granite stone upon which the plaque will be installed for a reduced price from Laperle Monuments.

### Cost of the Liberty Tree Project

Bronze Plaque	\$375.00
SAR Medal	70.00
Granite Stone	150.00
Misc.	15.00
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	\$610.00

### More Coming Events

Richard Sumner has made arrangements to set up a table with SAR and Chapter information at a meeting of the **Hernando County Genealogy Club** in the fall. John Camillo and his wife, Sue, have made similar arrangements with the **Citrus County Genealogy Society** for a joint SAR and DAR table at its meeting in October or November. Volunteers will be needed to help at both events.

### Walmart Grant

**\$1,000**

Walmart, through the Homosassa Walmart Store, has granted our Withlacoochee SAR Chapter a donation of \$1000.00. John Camillo prepared a catalog of the Withlacoochee Chapter that included newspaper clippings; thank

you letters from school officials and JRTOC Medal Recipients and instructors; a history of the SAR and the chapter's objectives. He met with the manager and personnel director of the Homosassa Walmart Store and made a presentation for a grant. The request was approved by the store manager and forwarded to Walmart's headquarters in Arkansas. July 11, John Camillo received a check for \$1,000.00, which he promptly deposited to our checking account

### **Vacation News**

Charlie Day and his wife, Dorothy, are spending this summer at their home, situated on a beautiful lake, in Maine.

Jack Townsend and his wife, Marlene, are visiting for 2 months in a cabin they rented in Minnesota. Jack reports it is too hot up there.

Joe and Bonnie Hardiman traveled for 3 weeks through Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, and Alabama to attend family reunions. They will be gone again July 26<sup>th</sup> through August 3<sup>rd</sup> to a Chasteen family reunion in Kentucky. Joe's mother, Ruby Chasteen Hardiman, has triplet brothers, aged 78, who live in Kentucky. Joe's sister has triplet granddaughters, aged 2, who live in North Carolina. The two sets of triplets will meet for the first time at this reunion. Joe joined the SAR under his mother's Chasteen surname.

John Pardee with his wife, Virginia, and children, Paul, Miranda, and Julia were in a 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade in a small town in New York. They dressed on their colonial outfits for the parade. John's Revolutionary War Ancestor, also

named John Pardee, founded the town where the parade took place.

Jack Stevenson and John Camillo with wives Evelyn and Sue vacationed in Washington D.C for a week. They visited the capital as VIP guests of Congresswoman Ginny Brown-Waite, the DAR National Headquarters and many other interesting sites. At Arlington National Cemetery they paid their respects to Evelyn's Uncle, Commander George Cregan, who was awarded the Navy Cross and Congressional Medal of Honor.

### **REVOLUTIONARY WAR**

**(Timeline Covers material that would have appeared in July and August Newsletter)**

#### **Conflict and Resolution**

**April 14, 1775 to July 4, 1776**

**April 14, 1775** - The British secretly order Massachusetts Governor Gage to enforce the Coercive Acts and suppress "open rebellion" among colonists by using all necessary force.

**April 18, 1775** - General Gage orders 700 British soldiers to Concord to destroy the colonists' weapons depot. That night, Paul Revere and William Dawes are sent from Boston to warn colonists. Revere reaches Lexington about midnight and warns Sam Adams and John Hancock who are hiding out there. At dawn on April 19 about 70-armed Massachusetts's militiamen stand face to face on Lexington Green with the British advance guard. An unordered 'shot heard around the world' begins the American Revolution. A volley of British rifle fire followed by a charge with bayonets leaves eight Americans dead and ten wounded. The British regroup and head for the depot in

Concord destroying the colonist's weapons and supplies. At the North Bridge in Concord, militiamen attack a British platoon. British forces then begin a long retreat from Lexington back to Boston and are harassed and shot at all along the way by farmers and rebels and suffer over 250 casualties. News of the events at Lexington and Concord spreads like wildfire throughout the Colonies.

**April 23, 1775** - The Provincial Congress in Massachusetts orders 13,600 American soldiers to be mobilized. Colonial volunteers from all over New England assemble and head for Boston, then establish camps around the city and begin a yearlong siege of British-held Boston.

**May 10, 1775** - American forces led by Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold capture Fort Ticonderoga in New York. The fort contains a much-needed supply of military equipment including cannons, which are then hauled to Boston by ox teams.

**May 10, 1775** - The Second Continental Congress convenes in Philadelphia, with John Hancock elected as its president. On May 15, the Congress places the colonies in a state of defense. On June 15, the Congress unanimously votes to appoint George Washington general and commander-in-chief of the new Continental Army.

**June 17, 1775** - The first major fight between British and American troops occurs at Boston in the Battle of Bunker Hill. American troops are dug in along the high ground of Breed's Hill (the actual location) and are attacked by a frontal assault of over 2000 British soldiers who storm up the hill. The Americans are ordered not to fire until they can see "**the whites of their eyes.**" As the British get within 15 paces, the

Americans let loose a deadly volley of rifle fire and halt the British advance. The British then regroup and attack 30 minutes later with the same result. A third attack, however, succeeds as the Americans run out of ammunition and are left only with bayonets and stones to defend themselves. The British succeed in taking the hill, but at a loss of half their force, over a thousand casualties, with the Americans losing about 400, including important colonial leader, General Joseph Warren.

**July 3, 1775** - At Cambridge, Massachusetts, George Washington takes command of the Continental Army which now has about 17,000 men.

**July 5, 1775** - The Continental Congress adopts the Olive Branch Petition, which expresses hope for a reconciliation with Britain, appealing directly to the King for help in achieving this. In August, King George III refuses even to look at the petition and instead issues a proclamation declaring the Americans to be in a state of open rebellion.

**July 6, 1775** - The Continental Congress issues a Declaration on the Causes and Necessity of Taking Up Arms detailing the colonists' reasons for fighting the British and states the Americans are "resolved to die free men rather than live as slaves."

**July 26, 1775** - An American Post Office is established with Ben Franklin as Postmaster General.

**November 28, 1775** - Congress establishes The American Navy. The next day, Congress appoints a secret committee to seek help from European nations.

**December 23, 1775** - King George III issues a royal proclamation closing the American colonies to all commerce and trade, to take effect in March of 1776. Also in December, Congress is informed

that France may offer support in the war against Britain.

**January 5, 1776** - The assembly of New Hampshire adopts the first American state constitution.

**January 9, 1776** - Thomas Paine's "Common Sense" is published in Philadelphia. The 50-page pamphlet is highly critical of King George III and attacks allegiance to Monarchy in principle while providing strong arguments for American independence. It becomes an instant best seller in America. "We have it in our power to begin the world anew...American shall make a stand, not for herself alone, but for the world,".

**March 4-17, 1776** - American forces capture Dorchester Heights, which overlooks Boston harbor. Captured British artillery from Fort Ticonderoga is placed on the Heights to enforce the siege against the British in Boston. The British evacuate Boston and set sail for Halifax. George Washington then rushes to New York to set up defenses, anticipating the British plan to invade New York City.

**April 6, 1776** - The Continental Congress declares colonial shipping ports open to all traffic except the British. The Congress had already authorized privateer raids on British ships and also advised disarming all Americans loyal to England.

**April 12, 1776** - The North Carolina assembly is the first to empower its delegates in the Continental Congress to vote for independence from Britain.

**May 2, 1776** - The American revolutionaries get the much-needed foreign support they had been hoping for. King Louis XVI of France commits one million dollars in arms and munitions. Spain then also promises support.

**May 10, 1776** - The Continental Congress authorizes each of the 13 colonies to form local (provincial) governments.

**June 28, 1776** - In South Carolina, American forces at Fort Moultrie successfully defend Charleston against a British naval attack and inflict heavy damage on the fleet.

**June-July, 1776** - A massive British war fleet arrives in New York Harbor consisting of 30 battleships with 1200 cannon, 30,000 soldiers, 10,000 sailors, and 300 supply ships, under the command of General William Howe and his brother Admiral Lord Richard Howe.

**June-July, 1776** - On June 7, Richard Henry Lee, a Virginia delegate to the Continental Congress presents a formal resolution calling for America to declare its independence from Britain. Congress decides to postpone its decision on this until July. On June 11, Congress appoints a committee to draft a declaration of independence. Committee members are Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, Roger Livingston and Roger Sherman. Jefferson is chosen by the committee to prepare the first draft of the declaration, which he completes in one day. Just seventeen days later, **June 28**, Jefferson's Declaration of Independence is ready and is presented to the Congress, with changes made by Adams and Franklin. On July 2, twelve of thirteen colonial delegations (New York abstains) vote in support of Lee's resolution for independence.

**July 4, 1776 - United States Declaration of Independence** - The Congress formally endorses Jefferson's Declaration, with copies to be sent to all of the colonies. The actual signing of the document occurs **on August 2**, as most

of the 55 members of Congress place their names on the parchment copy.

### **An Unlikely Victory – Part I July 1776 – September 1777**

**July 12, 1776** - As a show of force, two British frigates sail up the Hudson River blasting their guns. Peace feelers are then extended to the Americans. At the request of the British, Gen. Washington meets with Howe's representatives in New York and listens to vague offers of clemency for the American rebels. Washington politely declines, then leaves.

**August 27-29, 1776** - Gen. Howe leads 15,000 soldiers against Washington's army in the Battle of Long Island. Washington, outnumbered two to one, suffers a severe defeat as his army is outflanked and scatters. The Americans retreat to Brooklyn Heights, facing possible capture by the British or even total surrender. But at night, the Americans cross the East River in small boats and escape to Manhattan, then evacuate New York City and retreat up through Manhattan Island to Harlem Heights. Washington now changes tactics, avoiding large-scale battles with the British by a series of retreats.

**September 11, 1776** - A peace conference is held on Staten Island with British Admiral, Lord Richard Howe, meeting American

representatives including John Adams and Benjamin Franklin. The conference fails, as Howe demands the colonists revoke the Declaration of Independence.

**September 16, 1776** - After evacuating New York City, Washington's army repulses a British attack during the Battle of Harlem Heights in upper Manhattan. Several days later, fire engulfs New York City and destroys over 300 buildings.

**September 22, 1776** - After he is caught spying on British troops on Long Island, Nathan Hale is executed without a trial, his last words, "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country."

**September 26, 1776** - Congress appoints Jefferson, Franklin and Silas Deane to negotiate treaties with European governments. Franklin and Deane then travel to France seeking financial and military aid.

**October 9, 1776** - San Francisco is established by Spanish missionaries on the California coast.

**October 11, 1776** - A big defeat for the inexperienced American Navy on Lake Champlain at the hands of a British fleet of 87 gun ships. In the 7-hour Battle of Valcour Bay most of the American flotilla of 83 gun ships is crippled with the remaining ships destroyed

in a second engagement two days later.

**October 28, 1776** - After evacuating his main forces from Manhattan, Washington's army suffers heavy casualties in the Battle of Red Bank from Gen. Howe's forces. Washington then retreats westward.

**November 1776** - Victories for the British as Fort Mifflin on Manhattan and its precious stores of over 100 cannon. Gen. Howe captures thousands of muskets and cartridges. The Americans also lose Fort Mifflin in New Jersey to Gen. Cornwallis. Washington's army suffers 3000 casualties in the two defeats. Gen. Washington abandons the New York area and moves his forces further westward toward the Delaware River. Cornwallis now pursues him.

**December 6, 1776** - the British capture the naval base at Newport, Rhode Island.

**December 11, 1776** - Washington takes his troops across the Delaware River into Pennsylvania. The next day, over concerns of a possible British attack, the Continental Congress abandons Philadelphia for Lancaster.

Among Washington's troops is Thomas Paine, author of Common Sense, who now writes "...These are the times that try men's souls: The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of his

country: but he that stands it NOW deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like Hell, is not easily conquered. Yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph."

**December 25-26, 1776** - On Christmas, George Washington takes 2400 of his men and recrosses the Delaware River. Washington then conducts a surprise raid on 1500 British-Hessians (German mercenaries) at Trenton, New Jersey. The Hessians surrender after an hour with nearly 1000 taken prisoner by Washington who suffers only six wounded (including future president Lt. James Monroe). Washington reoccupies Trenton. The victory provides a much-needed boost to the morale of all American Patriots.

**January 3, 1777** - A second victory for Washington as his troops defeat the British at Princeton and drive them back toward New Brunswick. Washington then establishes winter quarters at Morristown, New Jersey. During the harsh winter, Washington's army shrinks to about a thousand men as enlistments expire and deserters flee the hardships. By spring, with the arrival of recruits, Washington will have 9000 men.

**March 12, 1777** - The Continental Congress returns to Philadelphia from Baltimore after Washington's successes against the British in New Jersey.

**April 27, 1777** - American troops under Benedict Arnold defeat the British at Ridgefield, Connecticut.

**June 14, 1777** - Congress mandates the flag of the United States consisting of 13 stars and 13 white and red stripes; John Paul Jones is chosen by Congress to captain the 18-gun vessel Ranger with his mission to raid coastal towns of England.

**June 17, 1777** - A British force of 7700 men under Gen. John Burgoyne invades from Canada, sailing down Lake Champlain toward Albany, planning to link up with Gen. Howe who will come north from New York City, thus cutting off New England from the rest of the colonies.

**July 6, 1777** - Gen. Burgoyne's troops stun the Americans with the capture of Fort Ticonderoga on Lake Champlain. Its military supplies are greatly needed by Washington's forces. The loss of the fort is a tremendous blow to American morale.

**July 23, 1777** - British Gen. Howe, with 15,000 men, sets sail from New York for Chesapeake Bay to capture Philadelphia, instead of sailing north to meet up with Gen. Burgoyne.

**July 27, 1777** - Marquis de Lafayette, a 19-year-old French aristocrat, arrives in Philadelphia and volunteers to serve without pay. Congress appoints him as a major general in the Continental Army. Lafayette will become one of Gen. Washington's most trusted aides.

**August 1, 1777** - Gen. Burgoyne reaches the Hudson after a grueling month spent crossing 23 miles of wilderness separating the southern tip of Lake Champlain from the northern tip of the Hudson River.

**August 16, 1777** - In the Battle of Bennington, militiamen from Vermont, aided by Massachusetts's troops, wipe out a detachment of 800 German Hessians sent by Gen. Burgoyne to seize horses.

**August 25, 1777** - British Gen. Howe disembarks at Chesapeake Bay with his troops.

**September 9-11, 1777** - In the Battle of Brandywine Creek, Gen. Washington and the main American Army of 10,500 men are driven back toward Philadelphia by Gen. Howe's British troops. Both sides suffer heavy losses. Congress then leaves Philadelphia and resettles in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

**September 26, 1777** - British forces under Gen. Howe occupy Philadelphia