



THE VALLEY FORGE FIFER

FIFER GEORGE WEISSENFELS SOCIETY
Children of the American Revolution
Palm Beach County, Florida

Issue 51

February 2006



Mark Your Calendar

Tuesday, February 28, 2006, all contests for state and national must be postmarked. State chairmen must make displays featuring their entries.

- ☑ Friday-Sunday, March 31-April 2, 2006, State Conference in Orlando area at Altamont Springs. (Please see the Orange Blossom website for registration forms). Hotel reservations: 1-800-226-4544. (The conference agenda may be viewed on page).
- ☑ Friday-Sunday, March 31-April 2, 2006, State Conference in Orlando

A word from our president



Dear Fellow Society Members,

I can't believe I'm already writing the last installment of this year's news! Everything has flown by so fast! This has been an amazing year and I'm pleased to say that I had a great time and learned a lot of new things.

First of all, I am told the state field trip to Homosassa Springs was a huge success in every sense - not to mention an attendance of over 70 members and family! Although the weather was a fairly cold, those brave enough still took the plunge with the many manatees in the area. Mrs. Swan said the swimmers were actually close enough to pet the 'gentle giants' and some of the younger children wanted back in the boat after being so close. You can hardly blame them; an 1800-pound manatee would be a bit intimidating! As some of you are aware, my family was forced to cancel our trip at the last minute, so I'm sorry I couldn't give you all a more personal review! Kudos goes to our fellow member, April Pearson, for her attendance for the weekend.

We had our very own opportunity to view manatee right here at home on February 5 at the FPL Power Plant in Riviera Beach. Our speaker, Ms. Winifred Perkins told us all about the manatee and other aquatic life that gather

in the warm water the power plant provides. We had a full house for our last meeting of the year and special guests

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HONORING THE DEFENDERS OF OUR FREEDOM!

The local Veteran's hospital sent 2 lovely letters to our society thanking each of you for the magazines and books, and personal items collected. They also thanked us for the lap quilts. These letters will be part of our scrapbook which you can see at the state conference!



A Homosassa Springs park ranger demonstrates the trusting nature of the Homosassa Springs' most famous residents—the manatee.

In the afternoon, those who were going to swim with the manatees on Sunday had to get fitted for their wet suits. Sunday morning came a bit earlier than people might have wanted, because those swimming had to get up at 6 AM.

Many people loved the swim, but unfortunately, April Pearson, your humble reporter, sprained her ankle on Saturday afternoon and could not go. After the swim, everyone had breakfast together before they left to go back home.

Homosassa Springs Manatee Encounter

By April Pearson

(HOMOSSASSA SPRINGS) The



January
Florida
State
Children
of the
American

Revolution Society conducted a meeting in Homosassa Springs. Members participated in many events, and there was also a wonderful meal prepared by Mrs. Swan when the tired travelers arrived on Friday night.

On Saturday morning, everyone went to the Homosassa Springs State Park. Members were instructed by a park ranger about manatees while he swam with the gentle giants and gave them their vitamins.

Afterwards, everyone gathered under a pavilion for a cold and windy lunch. Then we saw the other animals in the park including a hippo, eagles, snakes, otters, and many other creatures.

***Continued From Page 1***

from Fort Brookes Society. Kelly Herreid, 1st State VP, Chrissy Herreid, State Curator and Mrs. Charlene Herreid, State Sr. 1st VP. Our pee-wee members, Courtney Carhart and Kristen McKenna, did a great job with an Indian presentation and we all signed thank you cards for the troops. We can be proud of our membership for all of the great questions that were asked and our range of knowledge. Mrs. Pike worked very hard for us to have this event and it certainly was a huge success!

While we are on the subject of manatee madness...we have six new additions to our adopted manatee family. Kaylee Legan has adopted Elsie, a Tampa Bay manatee; Tyler Smith has adopted Deep Dent, Pamela Mora has adopted Floyd, Shea McKenna, a prospective member, has adopted Whiskers, Priscilla Fitch has adopted Phyllis, all four of Blue Springs. Ms. McCarthy, my Marine Science teacher, adopted the last manatee named Lorelei, who frolics in the waters of Homosassa Springs. I wonder if Lorelei was there for the swim! If you would like to adopt a manatee there is still time before our calendar year is over, just log onto www.savethemanatee.org. *If you do adopt, please let Mrs. Pike know ASAP.*

State Conference is right around the corner. Several of our members already have plans to attend and three are running for state officer positions. We wish the best of luck for their success! Your being there could make the difference for our representation at the state level. If you haven't made your reservations for this event, please do, I am hearing that it will be well attended and hope to be there for the dinner/dance and award ceremonies. Information is available in the Orange Blossom.

In closing, I would like to let you know about a couple of upcoming events for the NSDAR chapters that help to support FGW. Spirit of Liberty will be holding its Nite-Lite Golf Tournament on March 11, 2006. I will be there volunteering my time to give back to the chapter that is always there for us! Anyone needing information should contact Mrs. Pike or Mrs. Davis. Seminole chapter will hold their annual spring fashion show in March also; Fifer George has donated baskets of goodies for the societies fundraising efforts. I have enjoyed my interaction with the DAR and SAR groups; they serve as a great example for us and we appreciate their support on our behalf!

Well, that's about all for now, hope to see you all soon at the conference!

Fifer George Weissenfels Society
President 2005-2006
Nikki Chimato



A rescued bald eagle at the hospital. Some can never be returned to the wild.



The state President's project was well attended and more than 70 state members and families participated.



State Pee-Wees gather for fun at the campsite. The event was a success and attendees loved swimming with the manatees (even if some Pee-Wees did think they were a little too big to swim with for very long!).

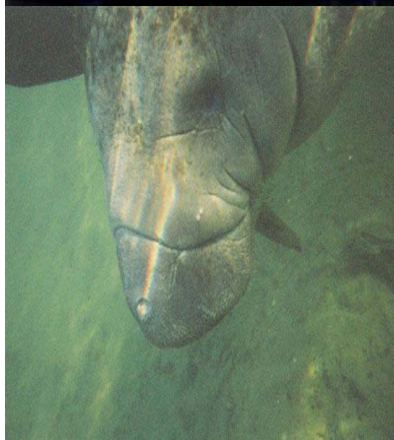


Tuesday, February 28, 2006, all contests for state and national must be postmarked. State chairmen must make displays featuring their entries. Please use a science-style display board which can be purchased at a school supply store.

Swimming with the manatees at Homosassa Springs



F.S.C.A.R. State theme &
State President's Project
"Making Manatees Count"
Homosassa Springs, FL
January 13-15, 2006



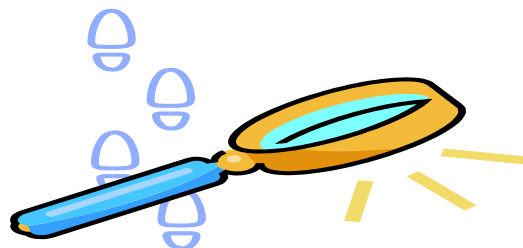
**FEBRUARY**

Brandyn Emsweiler – 2/7/92
Samantha Mouring – 2/8/97
Charles Curry Isiminger – 2/14/92
Alexandria Harrison – 2/19/01
Rachel Howell – 2/19/97
Marcus Migut – 2/20/98
Katherine Louise Warwick – 2/27/90
Peyton Elizabeth Reeves – 2/27/98

MARCH

Douglas Robert Ferrell – 3/2/91
Rebecca Lee Marlowe – 3/3/85
Kylie E. Starling Smith – 3/6/97
Meredith Baker Schott – 3/7/98
Amanda Bogart – 3/13/92
Sebastian Rhane Taylor – 3/15/00
Lee Richard Rodriguez – 3/17/89
Courtney Lavon Carhart – 3/21/96
Pamela Fitch Mora – 3/22/99
Kelly Yarbrough – 3/25/84
Connor Elkin – 3/29/96
Alexander Philip Ciffo – 3/30/87
Fredrick James Smith – 3/31/89

If your name has been mistakenly omitted,
please contact Mrs. Pike at:
hiptub2@aol.com

**Where in the world is Pam Mora and Pamela Fitch Mora?**

Carmen San Diego found the Pam Mora and her mother in Virginia at the winter campgrounds of General George Washington... VALLEY FORGE! Way to honor the defenders of our freedom! And what a terrific National Park to visit, too.



Only a few remain! Call for your project pin today!
(561) 792-7861



**By Sarah Sedgwick**

In July, my cousins, Alex and Taylor and I were lucky enough to swim with a manatee. At the Jupiter Beach pier we saw something coming up every thirty seconds. At first we thought it was a rock in the water. But as we got closer it began to look rubbery and smooth.

Alex, Taylor and I put on our goggles and stuck our heads under. A massive round tail was slowly moving with the tide. We swam with it for hours looking in awe at its funny face and massive tail.

There were many fishermen fishing and the pier throwing bait into the water, which attracted other sea creatures near where we were swimming. Mom called us out of the water because she heard someone say, "Shark!" We all left the beach happy we got to swim with a manatee.

K U D O S

- ◆ Emily Struve is the newest member of the Henry Morrison Flagler Chapter DAR. She is currently in her third semester at University of Central Florida and loves it.
- ◆ Congratulations to Kaylee Legan, Tyler Smith, Pam Mora, The McKenna Family, Nikki Chimato, The marine science class at Dwyer High School, The Davis and Carhart families, and others—for the adoption of manatees through "Save the Manatees" program!
- ◆ Kaylee Legan was on the Dean's List, fall semester, at Leadership Academy.
- ◆ Congratulations to Emily Elkin for making her Reconciliation. She will make her First Communion in April, at St. Christopher's Catholic Church in Hobe Sound.
- ◆ Kudos to our own State 2nd VP, April Pearson, who has been asked to play the harp with the South Florida Youth Symphony
- ◆ Kudos to Nikki Chimato for being such an involved president this year!
- ◆ Congrats to Zachary Pike who earned his Blue Belt in Tae Kwon Do in January and was promoted to Wolf in scouts in February during recognition ceremony. He earned badges and belt loops this year including heritages, music, soccer, marbles, astronomy and swimming.



Nikki Chimato welcomes the Herreid Family L-R: Kelly, Dr. Charlene, and Chrissy, from Fort Brookes Society to the Feb. "Making Manatees Count" meeting at FPL.

**F.S.C.A.R.
Executive
Officers
2005-2006**

President:
Robyn Carroll
1st Vice

President:
Kelly Herreid
2nd Vice

President:
April Pearson

Chaplain:
Kelly Knight

Recording
Secretary:

**Susanna
Sovran**

Organizing
Secretary:

Kaylee Legan
Corresponding
Secretary:

Brooks Tolbert
Treasurer:

**Valerie
Bagenski**

Registrar:
John Parrish

Historian:
Sara Grant

Librarian:
Max Molloy

Curator:
**Christine
Herreid**

Parliamentarian:
**Christine
Miller**

Sr. State
President:

Lois Swan
loisswan@comcast.net



Pee Wee Patriot Page

American Flag Beaded Safety Pin

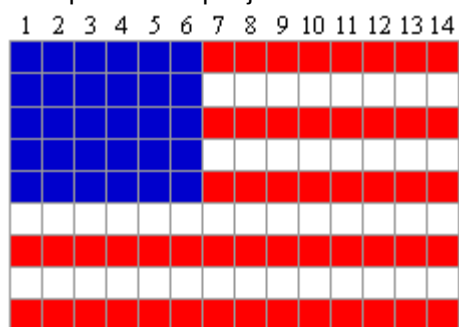
Use this free American Flag pattern to make beaded safety pin jewelry.

Materials Needed:

- 14 - 1 1/16 inch Safety Pins
- 1 - 2 inch Safety Pin
- Seed Beads (see picture below for colors needed)

Instructions:

Follow this pattern and the basic directions on the [safety pin jewelry page](#) to complete this project.



© 2000 Sherri Osborn
familycrafts.about.com

Each number column represents a pin; for example, your first pin will have 5 blue, 1 white, 1 red, 1 white, and then 1 red bead on it. Your second pin will have the same. When you thread these beaded pins onto your larger pin, start with pin number 1.

<http://familycrafts.about.com/cs/beadedsafetypins/l/blspamflag.htm>

Other Fun Websites to check out:

Patriotic Crafts

http://www.daniellesplace.com/html/patriotic_crafts.html#

Benjamin Franklin Crafts

<http://www.daniellesplace.com/html/benjamin%20crafts.html>

Native American Activities and coloring pages

<http://www.dltk-kids.com/world/native/>

Learn the PREAMBLE the fun way!

<http://www.school-house-rock.com/Prea.html>

Drumming Up Your Support to RECRUIT, Recruit, Recruit!



Needed—New Members who love to wear patriotic *colors* or look good in red, white, or blue.

Must enjoy fireworks and the Forth of July.

Should know something about George Washington or be willing to learn.

Must enjoy one of the following:

American History,
Conservation, American Indians, American Heritage, Government Studies, Helping other Kids, Helping Schools, Reading magazines and newsletters, marching in parades, carrying flags and banners, supporting our soldiers, or swimming with manatees!

If this sounds like something you like to do, then contact:

Brenda J. Pike

Sr. President

Fifer George Weissenfels Society

Blocked for security

(301) 727-7801

or email me at:

hiptub2@aol.com



WWII Soldier's Last Letter Makes it Home

POOLE, Neb. (AP) – It took more than 60 years, but the final letter of a soldier killed in World War II finally made it home.

Gary Mathis bought a box of old newspapers at a yard sale in Kansas, and discovered the letter inside a newspaper from 1915. The letter's envelope has a military post office marking dated March 6, 1944.

It was addressed to W.J. Krotz of nearby Poole, about 120 miles west of Lincoln. Mathis placed an announcement and picture of the latter in the Ravenna News, hoping someone might know the family.

Louise Kisling said she heard about her brother's letter through word of mouth. Clinton Krotz, an infantry soldier in Italy during the war, was killed in action on May 8, 1944. The letter was the last one he sent home.

In the letter, her brother thanked his parents for a wristwatch they had sent as a birthday gift, as well as some candy and nuts.

Kisling said her only disappointment was that her parents never got the chance to see the letter. An envelope within the letter was postmarked by the Poole post office, Kisling said. She was not sure how it ended up in Kansas.

Mystery aside, Kisling is grateful.

"We sure appreciate the man that saved it," she said. "It's amazing a letter can come back after all these years."

Colonial Mail Factoid:



Milestone marker placed by Benjamin Franklin 1753 on what is known as the Boston Post Road. Franklin was the nation's first Postmaster General.

Ben Franklin's 300th Birthday



Each stamp features a collage representing one of four aspects of Franklin's life, career, and personal interests.

The stamp honoring **Franklin as a printer** with a new portrait of Franklin in a printer's smock by illustrator Michael Dooling; issue of the Pennsylvania Gazette; an edition of "Poor Richard's Almanack"; and a five-pound currency note printed by Franklin in 1760.

The stamp honoring **Franklin as a scientist** includes a lithograph depicting Franklin and his son performing the legendary electricity experiment with a kite; his book "Experiments and Observations on Electricity" depicting water spouts and a "magic square"; a schematic drawing of Franklin's "three-wheeled clock" from the late 18th-century book "Select Mechanical Exercises" by James Ferguson; and a depiction of Franklin at a writing desk. The stamp honoring **Franklin as a postmaster** includes a graphic device used by the Boston Post-Boy newspaper, a colonial postal cover on a letter, colonial-era date postmark, and a late 18th-century painting of Franklin by Charles Wilson Peale. Text across the bottom of the stamp reads "B. Free Franklin, Postmaster," a reference to Franklin's personal franking signature. The stamp honoring **Franklin as a statesman** includes a detail from John Trumbull's famous painting of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, a copy of Franklin's 1754 "Join or Die" political cartoon, the top of a printed copy of the Declaration of Independence, a pastel portrait of Franklin by Joseph-Siffred Duplessis, and the French side of the 1778 Treaty of Alliance with France, which was negotiated and signed by Franklin.

http://www.usps.com/communications/news/stamps/2005/sr05_054.htm



KIDS ARE QUICK—and here is a page of chuckles for our Quick C.A.R. Kids!

(Thanks to the Laniers for the contribution)

TEACHER: Maria, go to the map and find North **MARIA:** Here it is.

TEACHER: Correct. Now class, who discovered America?

CLASS: "MARIA!"



TEACHER: Why are you late Frank?

FRANK: Because of the sign.

TEACHER: What sign?

FRANK: The one that says, "School ahead. Go slow."



TEACHER: John, why are you doing your multiplication on the floor?

JOHN: You told me to do it without using tables.



TEACHER: Ryan, what is the chemical formula for water?

RYAN: H I J K L M N O

TEACHER: Ryan, what are you talking about?

RYAN: Well, yesterday you said it was H to O.

TEACHER: Hunter, name one important thing that we have today that we didn't have 10 years ago?

HUNTER: Me !



TEACHER: Greg, how would you spell "crocodile?"

GREG: K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L

TEACHER: No Greg, that's incorrect.

GREG: Maybe it's incorrect, but you asked me how "I" spelled it.



TEACHER: Beth, give me a sentence starting with "I".

BETH: I is.....

TEACHER: No, Beth....Always say "I am".....not "I is."

BETH: All right....."I am the ninth letter of the alphabet."

TEACHER: Parker, what do you call a person who keeps on talking to people who are no longer interested?

PARKER: A Teacher



TEACHER: George Washington not only chopped down his father's cherry tree, but also admitted it. Now Alex, do you know why his father didn't punish him?

ALEX: Because George still had the ax in his hand.



TEACHER: Daniel, your composition on "My Dog" is exactly the same as your brother's composition. Did you copy off of him?

DANIEL: No teacher, it's the same dog.



TEACHER: Adam, why do you always get so dirty?

ADAM: Well, I guess it's because I'm a lot closer to the ground than you are.



Grandpa's Hands

Grandpa, some ninety plus years, sat feebly on the patio bench. He didn't move, just sat with his head down staring at his hands.

When I sat down beside him he didn't acknowledge my presence and the longer I sat I wondered if he was OK. Finally, not really wanting disturb him but wanting to check on him at the same time, I asked him if he was OK.

He raised his head and looked at me and smiled.

"Yes, I'm fine, thank you for asking" he said in a clear strong voice.

"I didn't mean to disturb you, grandpa, but you were just sitting here staring at your hands and I wanted to make sure you were OK" I explained to him.

"Have you ever looked at your hands" he asked.

"I mean really looked at your hands?"

I slowly opened my hands and stared down at them.

I turned them over, palms up and then palms down.

No, I guess I had never really looked at my hands as I tried to figure out the point he was making. Grandpa smiled and related this story:

"Stop and think for a moment about the hands you have, how they have served you well throughout your years. These hands, though wrinkled, shriveled and weak have been the tools I have used all my life to reach out and grab and embrace life. They braced and caught my fall when as a toddler I crashed upon the floor. They put food in my mouth and clothes on my back. As a child my mother taught me to fold them in prayer. They tied my shoes and pulled on my boots. They held my rifle and wiped my tears when I went off to war. They have been dirty, scraped and raw, swollen and bent. They were uneasy and clumsy when I tried to hold my newborn son.

Decorated with my wedding band they showed the world that I was married and loved someone special. They wrote the letters home and trembled and shook when I buried my parents and wife and walked my daughter down the aisle.

Yet, they were strong and sure when I dug my buddy out of a foxhole and lifted a plow off of my best friend's foot.

They have held children, consoled neighbors, and shook in fists of anger when I didn't understand.

They have covered my face, combed my hair, and washed and cleansed the rest of my body.

They have been sticky and wet, bent and broken, dried and raw.

And to this day when not much of anything else of me works real well these hands hold me up, lay me down, and again continue to fold in prayer.

These hands are the mark of where I've been and the ruggedness of my life.

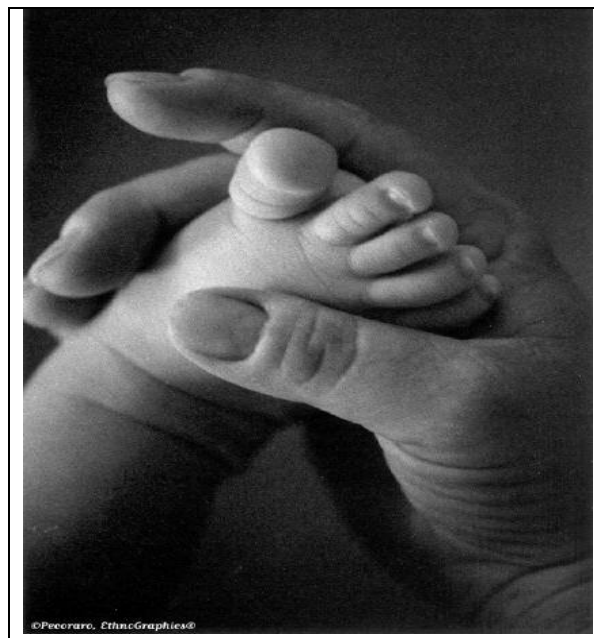
But more importantly it will be these hands that God will reach out and take when he leads me home.

And with my hands He will lift me to His side and there I will use these hands to touch the face of Christ".



I will never look at my hands the same again. But I remember God reached out and took my grandpa's hands and led him home. When my hands are hurt or sore or when I stroke the face of my children and wife I

think of grandpa. I know he has been stroked and caressed and held by the hands of God. I, too, want to touch the face of God and feel His hands upon my face.





The original oil painting of this Ais chief, by artist Ted Morris, now hangs at the Indian River County Main Library in Vero Beach, Florida. It was donated by the Indian River National Bank of Vero Beach.

Florida's Indigenous People

Ais—Observations on the appearance, diet and customs of the Ais at the end of the 17th Century are found in Jonathan Dickinson's *Journal*. Dickinson and his party were shipwrecked, and spent several weeks among the Ais in 1696. By Dickinson's account, the chief of the town of Jece, near present day Vero Beach, was paramount to all of the coastal towns from the Jaega town of Jobe (at Jupiter Inlet) in the south to approximately Cape Canaveral in the north (that is, the length of the *River of Ais*). The Ais did not survive long after Dickinson's sojourn with them. Shortly after 1700 settlers in Carolina started raiding the Ais to capture slaves. By 1743, when the Spanish established a mission among them, the Ais numbers were declining due to slave raids, disease and rum. The Ais were gone from the area by 1760.

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~flindian/ais.htm>

Florida's Native Americans

Tribal Name	Range
Ais	Florida
Apalachee	Florida
Apalachicola	Georgia, Florida
Calusa	Florida
Chacato	Florida
Chisca	Florida
Cusabo	coastal Florida
Guacata	Florida
Guale	coastal Florida
Hitchiti	Georgia, Alabama, Florida
Jaega	Florida
Jobe	Florida
Mayaimi	Florida
Mikasuki (Miccosukee)	Florida
Mococo	Florida
Movila	western Florida
Oconee	Georgia, Florida
Pensacola	Florida
Pohoy	Florida
Seminole	Florida; Oklahoma
Tequesta	Florida
Timucua (Utina)	Florida
Tocobaga	Florida
Topachula	Florida
Yamasee	Florida

To find out more about the Native Americans in Florida log on to:

<http://www.answers.com/topic/classification-of-indigenous-peoples-of-the-americas>

**Members wanted
Taking Applications**



Remember...

Fifer George Weissenfels Society = FGWS = Fun Goes Without Saying!

A WORD FROM the

Senior Society President

It has gone very quickly!

Each one of you has played an important role in guiding the children toward lives of service in the future. Thank you for letting me play a small part to that end. Patriotic values are important because they instill a common bond between us. More than 225 years ago a 19-year-old boy was taken prisoner on a British Man-o-War and served hard labor and was regularly beaten. He never renounced his cause or his country. Three years later he was released miles from home and walked back to his native Virginia. He raised a God-fearing, educated family of more than 30 children, and he refused to take a government pension for his service because the country was young and not yet financially solid. This is my first patriot, John Follin, one of only 11 Revolutionary War soldiers interred at Arlington National Cemetery. In a time when Palm Beach County Schools choose to award boys for failing to show respect for the selflessness of our original patriots—as well as those who have served selflessly since—it seems we all must examine the price paid and the simple homage due to founders and all past and present patriots. It is time to remove hats, stand, place hands over hearts and honor our common bond. Our flag symbolizes that bond—it symbolizes the noble selfless spirit that began this country and those who continue to strive towards that ideal. We stand because we honor their vision for us all—and the price they have paid with blood. Let's continue to teach our precious young this valuable truth! Adieu...



Fifer George Weissenfels Society members gather at the warm water outflow area where manatees congregate in winter. Members held their "Making Manatees Count" meeting on Sunday, Feb. 5, 2006, at Riviera Beach FPL facility.