

## The Death of Dr. Joseph Warren



By John Turnbull

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Mission Statement: The Sons of the American Revolution honors 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 CFLSAR Compatriots,

I sincerely hope that everyone is having a safe and enjoyable summer.

As we close in on the 249<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the USA, activities in our chapter are increasing. We've done a total of five Honor Flight arrivals since we started in late September 2024, with at least seven more between now and the end of the year. Although the color guard is the most recognizable part of the chapter, you do not have to be in the color guard to attend an Honor Flight. The veterans appreciate everyone that turns out.

We have a good, solid core of compatriots and non-compatriots, which we can count on to attend events and represent the chapter. The problem is that it is small group. We need to increase the number of people in the chapter that can be counted on to represent the chapter and the SAR in the days leading up to July 4, 2026 and after. On Memorial Day the Color Guard participated in two separate activities in two different locations. That sort of thing will likely increase as we get closer to the 250<sup>th</sup>.

Please consider stepping up and joining us in being the face of the CFLSAR.

Patriotically Yours,

Central Florida Chapter SAR



49<sup>th</sup> Chapter President (2025 – 2027)

## 2025 – 2027 Officers

**President/Historian/Recording Secretary** – Robin Preston

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**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President/Treasurer** – Don LaJoie

[grazingbuffalo94@gmail.com](mailto:grazingbuffalo94@gmail.com) - (912) 580-9433

**Treasurer (in training)** – William Morgan

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**Corresponding Secretary** – Gary Smith

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**Member-at-Large/Chaplain/Parliamentarian** -

Randal Allen

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**Immediate Past President** – Scott Cook

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**Sergeant-at-Arms** – Michael Meyer

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**Patriot Medal Winner/Color Guard Commander** –

Phil Markoe

[markoevikingsfan@aol.com](mailto:markoevikingsfan@aol.com) - (407) 350-8143

### ---OPEN POSITIONS---

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Recording Secretary, Genealogist, Registrar, Webmaster

*If you are interested in any of the above vacant positions, please contact one of the officers and let him know.*

***Volunteer today and make your Patriot proud.***



## Committee News, CFLSAR Committees

The following are chapter committees. Some are in need of Chairmen, all of them are in need of members.

### AMERICA 250 COMMITTEE – Robin Preston Chairman

We need volunteers, who need America 250 points, to present the America 250 minutes during the next year. If you present the short A250 minute you get 10 points, and being at the meeting will score you an extra 3 points, for a total of 13.

### FLAG COMMITTEE – Chairman Randal Allen

The Flag Committee is the custodian of the Chapter flags, except those flags assigned to the Chapter Color Guard.

The Flag Committee shall present SAR Flag Certificates to homeowners and business owners that have noteworthy American Flag displays.

Since the last newsletter the flag committee awarded one flag certificate.

- John Naylor – Chick-fil-A owner



## Committee News, continued

### JROTC/ROTC COMMITTEE – Chairman Phil Markoe

### PROGRAM COMMITTEE – Chairman TBD

This is the committee that arranges the meeting and program and as required, special meetings. There will be times when the program may be arranged by another member or committee of the Chapter such as the Patriots' Day, Law Enforcement, Eagle Scout, or National Defense (including ROTC), and Joseph S. Rumbaugh Oration Contest. If you are interested on being on this committee, please let Robin Preston, know.

### VETERANS COMMITTEE – Chairman TBD

### YOUTH EDUCATION OUTREACH COMMITTEE – Phil Markoe Chairman

He shall try to run as many SAR youth programs as possible each season.

These programs include, but are not limited to the Eagle Scout Program, Joseph S Rumbaugh Oration Contest, George S & Stella M Knight Essay Contest, Sgt Moses Adams Memorial Middle School Brochure, Youth Video, Elementary School Poster, Car Activity Award, and Good Citizenship Awards.

**BECOME AN ACTIVE PART OF THE CHAPTER and  
JOIN A COMMITTEE TODAY. YOUR CHAPTER  
NEEDS YOU.**

**Make your Patriot Proud.**

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## America 250

With the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary (semiquincentennial) of the adoption of the *Declaration of Independence* coming in little over a year, we as a chapter, are likely going to be fairly busy. There is little doubt that we will be called upon to help support various semiquincentennial events. Now, more than ever, we can use as many volunteers as possible. If you are interested in volunteering for one of the chapter committees or the color guard by all means please let me or one of the other officers know.

By attending meetings or events in which the SAR America 250 flag is present and/or there is an America 250 related topic, you can earn points toward a Bronze, Silver, or Gold America 250 medal. Members and non-members are eligible to earn the medals.

As of June 24, we have the following distribution of medals within the chapter

### *Compatriots*

(7.9% of Chapter Membership have medaled)

- **Bronze – 10**
- **Silver – 2**
- **Gold – 6**

### *Non-Compatriots*

- **Bronze – 1**
- **Silver – 2**
- **Gold – 2**

Chris Washler, the FLSSAR President has thrown down the gauntlet and set a goal of the State Society being the number one state in the country in Gold Medals by the 2026 Spring Board of Management meeting. Currently Florida is the second largest state in the SAR in membership, but ranks 7<sup>th</sup> in the gold medal count. But we are only 20 Gold Medals behind first place Virginia.

Our chapter currently ranks third in the state with the number of people who have medaled. Hopefully we can get more people with medals before the anniversary next year. The easiest way to earn the medals is by attending meetings.

## Service to our Vets

Every year we scramble at the end of the year to get the USS Stark Memorial report completed. If you have done something in the service of a veteran or veterans, no matter how small you believe your contribution was, let us know anyway. Small contributions turn into big points by the end of the year. In 2024, contributions made by chapter members added up to over 22,000 points. We were the second ranked chapter in the state in total points. Please send an email to Phil Markoe and let him know what you have done.

Stark Report points are granted for the following types of service to Veterans.

1. Chapter member appointed to VA Hospital Council, Voluntary Service or Center for Development and Civic Engagement.
2. Each hour served in VA Hospital.
3. Each SAR Member visiting a Veteran in a Hospital, Nursing Home or private home, or taking one or more Veterans on an outing.
4. Each GIFT (personal care item) donated to Veterans
5. Each DOLLAR donated to a State Veterans Hospital or State Veterans Nursing Home, or other organization whose primary clients are Veterans.
6. Each PUBLICATION donated to Veterans organization whose primary clients are Veterans.
7. Participation in the SAR Wounded Warriors Program.
8. Activities recognizing or supporting Veterans in cooperation with other organizations.
9. A. Decorating Veterans' Graves and removing decorations. B. Participation in a Veteran's funeral
10. New or used men's and women's clothing donated to an organization whose primary clients are Veterans.
11. New or used but working items, such as TV's, Computers, etc., donated to an organization whose primary clients are Veterans.

2025 Points to date are 8906.

*If you are a veteran and have not received a Service Medal, please let Robin Preston know so that we can get you the medal you deserve.*

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### Color Guard



The Battle of Thomas Creek

### Color Guard

The Color Guard is the most visible part of our organization. A great example of that visibility took place on Memorial Day when the CFSAR Color Guard was seen on the Orlando ABC and CBS TV affiliate stations.

There is no such thing as a color guard unit that is too big. With the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence coming soon, there will be a big need for color guards. If you would like to be a member please contact the Color Guard Commander, Phil Markoe. We'd love to have you in our ranks.

Don't worry if you have never marched before. As you can probably tell, many of us haven't either.



### Memorial Day Service

#### Veterans Memorial Park – Sanford

R to L – Randal Allen, Michael Meyer, Robin Preston, Phil Markoe



### Memorial Day Flag Raising

L to R – Phil Markoe, Robin Preston, Andrew Showen, Michael Meyer, Randal Allen



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**HONOR FLIGHTS**

Honor Flights are a great way to give back to Veterans who have given us so much. We are fortunate in the Orlando area in that we have Honor Flights arriving at two area airports; Orlando International and Orlando-Sanford International. Below are the scheduled flights for the remainder of the year.

Most flights arrive back from Washington D.C. at about 9:15 p.m. If you are attending an Honor Flight at Orlando International, Fast Park offers free parking and transportation to and from the airport.

If you attend an Honor Flight in a colonial uniform it is worth 20 Color Guard points. As long as the America 250 flag is present it is worth 3 America 250 points if not in uniform and 8 America 250 points if you are in uniform.

**ORLANDO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

Space Coast – Saturday June 28 – Southwest  
Space Coast – Saturday, September 6  
Mission #35 – Saturday September 20  
Space Coast – Saturday, October 11  
Space Coast – Saturday, November 8

**ORLANDO-SANFORD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

Mission #67 – Wednesday, October 1 - Allegiant  
Mission #68 – Wednesday, October 29 – Allegiant



**MAY 28** – This Honor Flight was at the Sanford Airport. Due to mechanical issues the flight didn't arrive until 11:15, but it was well worth the wait to be able to greet the 66 heroes.



**MAY 28** - Phil Markoe, Randal Allen, and Robin Preston posing with one of the Veterans as they arrived from a day in Washington D.C.



**MAY 28** – More photos with the Heroes as they arrived at the Sanford International Airport



## Americanism Report

Every year, we as a chapter are supposed to submit a report letting the State and National Societies know what we have done throughout the year. We are graded in categories such as;

- Media Publicity,
- Speakers Bureau,
- CAR-DAR Support,
- Youth Programs,
- Public Service Programs,
- Historic Sites,
- Grave Markings,
- Color Guards,
- Medals and Awards
- National Society Service
- Membership
- Meeting Attendance.

The 2024 Americanism Report was submitted to the State and National Societies at the end of February. Total points in the twelve categories were 6,060.

A change made this year is keeping track of the Americanism points on a more real time basis instead of working to put the report together toward the end of the reporting period. As of June 24, we have accumulated 4,165 points toward the 2025 report.

## Mentoring Program

“Okay, I’m a member, now what do I do?” Exactly. What do you do? We need a mentoring program. Every new member of the chapter should have someone that could inform them about what is available to them in the SAR in general and the chapter in particular.

I would like for us to get to a point that when we learn of a new Compatriot in our chapter, that new Compatriot can be assigned a mentor. The mentor can supply them with the basics of SAR membership and can be consulted if there are questions during the first couple months of membership.

If you are interested in becoming a mentor to a new Compatriot, please let Milton Mersinger know.

## The Club Express Corner



### ***SOMETHING NEW HAS ARRIVED!***

Club Express is an application used by chapter in several states within the SAR. The Central Florida Chapter began using Club Express at the end of April. It is a multi-faceted program which you will be seeing more about each month in this newsletter.

Club Express is a program which members can use to **pay your annual dues** online. Once paid the dues are automatically divided between National, State, and Chapter. The chapter will receive the paid dues at ten-day intervals. While you can still pay your dues via check, it is recommended that you pay via the Club Express app or website.

You will receive emails from Club Express beginning in September about paying your annual dues. You will also receive emails if you have not paid your dues.

Club Express will also host the chapter **website**. Although it hasn't been set up yet, we hope to have it operational this year.

There is an **events calendar** that when fully operational will be a single place where members can go to find out what events, meetings, or other activities are scheduled to transpire.

There will be some “how to” training coming soon.

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Compatriots of the Central Florida Chapter,

The Memorial to the 1<sup>st</sup> Amphibious Assault that you see above does not yet exist. The picture is an artist rendition of what it will look like when completed. The Florida Society is one of the primary drivers behind making this memorial happen and the society needs your help if you can.

Help in the way of money. They are more than halfway there but more is needed.

The ability to donate directly to the 250 Amphibious Brigade is available through the Club Express online payment.

Proceed to <https://sar.clubexpress.com/> and then scroll down until you come to the "DONATIONS" icon. Click on the 'picture' and a presentation of the "[Florida \\$250 for the 250th Campaign](#)" will be available.

You will need to logon in order to complete the transaction.

If you need access or to reset contact Matt Mathews [emathewsjr@comcast.net](mailto:emathewsjr@comcast.net) for password reset or help logging in.



## The 1<sup>st</sup> Amphibious Assault

The 1<sup>st</sup> Amphibious Assault by Continental Marines (predecessors of the U.S. Marine Corps) happened on March 3-4, 1776. Five companies of Continental Marines landed on New Providence Island in the Bahamas and successfully seized British gunpowder and munitions.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Commemoration of this significant event in American history will take place on Saturday, March 7, 2026 at the Fisher Family Pier in Pompano Beach.

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## CHAPTER MEETINGS

### Winter Park Elks Club

4755 Howell Branch Road – Winter Park

- Sat, September 13, 2025 – 11:00am – 1:00 pm
- Sat, October 11, 2025 – 11:00am – 1:00 pm
- Wed, November 12, 2025 – 6:00pm – 8:00 pm
- Wed. December 10, 2025 – 6:00pm – 8:00 pm
- Sat. January 10, 2026 – 11:00am – 1:00 pm
- Sat. February 14, 2026 – 11:00am – 1:00 pm
- Wed. March 11, 2026 – 6:00pm – 8:00 pm
- Sat. April 11, 2026 – 11:00am – 1:00 pm
- Wed. May 13, 2026 – 6:00pm – 8:00pm

## Social Media

**Facebook Page** – [www.facebook.com/cflsar](http://www.facebook.com/cflsar)

The CFLSAR Facebook page has something new every day. Check out our page for yourself and get family and friends to check it out too.

Total Post since inception (15NOV2023) - **828**

Views since inception (15NOV2023) – **23,969**

Views in 2023 **403**

Views in 2024 – **8,515**

Views in 2025 – **15,051** (as of June 24)

Average views per day – **43**

Average views per post – **28.9**

**Instagram** Account Name - centralfloridasar

## Non-Chapter Meetings or Events

- Sat, June 28, 2025 – 8:00am – 5:00pm
  - ✓ Commemoration of the Battle of Alligator Creek Bridge
- Sat-Fri, July 12 – 18, 2025 – SAR 135<sup>th</sup> Congress
  - ✓ Uncasville, CT – Mohegan Sun Resort and Casino
- Fri. Sat. October 17, 18, 2025
  - ✓ FLSSAR Fall Board of Management Meeting
- Sat. December 6, 2025
  - ✓ 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Lakeland DAR Chapter
  - ✓ Color Guard Event
- Sat. December 13, 2025
  - Wreaths Across America

## SAR University

### Time to Learn about the SAR

All members are encouraged to complete the SAR University training. The training is broken down into two general sections; General Training and Officer Training.

The 20 modules that make up SAR University can be found on this link: [SAR University – National Society Sons of the American Revolution](#)

If you have completed the SAR University, please let Robin Preston know.

## CFLSAR Book Club

The book to be reviewed during the July meeting of the CFLSAR Book Club is *Ethan Allen: His Life and Times* by Randall. For questions, please contact Randal Allen.

The book for August is *The Battle for the Fourteenth Colony* by Anderson.

The book for September is *Benedict Arnold's Army: The 1775 Invasion of Canada* by Lefkowitz.

**The Book Club meets via ZOOM on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the Month. All are welcome. If you need the ZOOM link please contact Randal.**

## Name our Newsletter

Now is your chance to name the newsletter for the chapter. Let's name it something catchy that harkens back to the revolutionary days of old.

If you have a catchy name for the new newsletter, please send it to Robin Preston at [rpreston0306@gmail.com](mailto:rpreston0306@gmail.com). We will vote on the name at the first fall meeting.

## SEND IN YOUR PHOTOS

If you have gone or plan to go somewhere REVOLUTIONARY this summer send your photos to Robin Preston with an explanation of what the subject of the photo is and it will be posted in a future issue of this newsletter.

# Open Casting Call!!!!

## *American Revolution Musical*

**Script Read Through - July 20, 2025 at 1:30 p.m.  
- approx. 3:00 p.m.**

We now have all three venues scheduled for our performances, so SAVE THESE DATES: March 5, 2026 - we will perform the show for the FSSDAR State Conference at the Omni Resort at Champions Gate. May 2, 2026 - we will be performing the show at the Orange County History Center. This will open their America 250 celebration. June 6, 2026 - we will perform the show at the Orlando Garden Club. Both the May & June performances will be open to the public.

The Orange County History Center has graciously invited us to hold our July 20, 2025 Script read-through at the History Center. Here is the information that you will need for that day: 1) Please email me with the name(s) of all that will be attending, as you will need to check in, by name, at the desk at the History Center where they will direct you to our space. 2) Free parking is available in the parking lot directly across from the Central Library at 101 E. Central Blvd, Orlando 32801. Make sure to bring your parking ticket to the History Center for validation. 3) Plan to arrive around 1:15 p.m. so everyone can get checked in and receive their script. That way we can begin promptly at 1:30 p.m. 4) Bring a pencil for marking on your script.

We are still looking for performers, women, men, and children. It's going to be a lot of fun and what a great way to work together with DAR, SAR, and CAR to celebrate America's 250th birthday! Please feel free to pass this information to anyone who is interested.

Email me by July 15th; to let me know you'll be at the History Center for the Script Read Through. Your name must be on the master list to be admitted free of charge to the venue that day. Make sure to list the names of all that will be attending. I want to have enough scripts and seats for everyone!

**Please don't hesitate to contact Debbie  
Cook with any questions.**

[debbiecDAR@gmail.com](mailto:debbiecDAR@gmail.com)

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**Patriot of the Month**

Our Patriot for the month of June is **Dr. Joseph Warren**. He lost his life on top of Bunker Hill (really Breed's Hill) 250 years ago this month on June 17, 1775.

Warren was present at the Boston Massacre, and the Boston Tea Party. He is the person that dispatched Paul Revere on his midnight ride to warn the country-side of the advancing British Army towards Lexington and Concord.

The British commanders stationed in the colonies referred to him as "the famous Dr. Warren, the greatest incendiary in all America."

Warren was chairman of the Massachusetts Committee of Safety—a provisional body of government in charge of military matters.

Joseph Warren was born in Roxbury, Massachusetts on June 11, 1741. He began Harvard in mid-August 1755: at the age of fourteen, he was one of the youngest boys in his freshman class. He graduated from Harvard on July 18, 1759. By the late spring of 1763, Warren opened his own medical practice after having completed an apprenticeship.

Joseph married Elizabeth Hooten in 1764. The couple had four children before Elizabeth died in 1772. Warren never remarried but at the time of his death he was reportedly engaged to Mercy Scollay. There were reports that he had an affair with Thomas Gage's (Commander-in-chief of British Forces in America) wife, Margaret Kemble Gage and that he received insider information as a result. Some historians doubt that affair.

Joseph Warren was one of the leading rebels in Massachusetts. He was just as active and, in some cases, more active than

Samuel Adams, John Adams, and John Hancock. He was one of the driving forces behind the First Continental Congress. Warren was also responsible for the Suffolk Resolves.

During the day on April 19, 1775, Warren was one of the many hundreds of people who engaged the British as they desperately worked to get back to Boston. On May 21, Warren fought in the skirmish at Grape Island. Just a few days later he fought at the Battle of Noddle's Island.

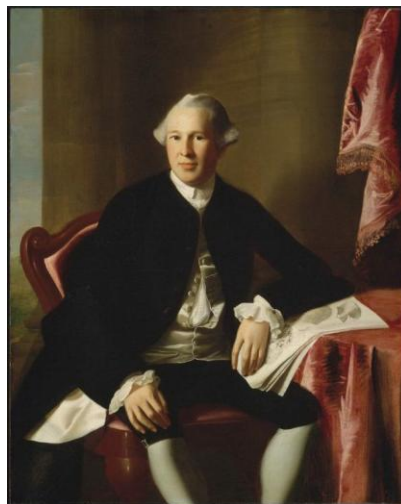
On June 14, the Third Provincial Congress made Joseph Warren a major general. On the 15<sup>th</sup> he was in the Provincial Congress when it was decided to possess Bunker Hill.

On June 17<sup>th</sup>, against the advice of others, Warren grabbed his musket and headed to Breed's Hill when he heard the cannon fire from the British. His presence bolstered morale and almost certainly helped prevent a premature mass retreat by the provincials. He stayed in the redoubt through the three assaults, again against the advice of other. Warren was covering the retreat of others when he was struck just under his left eye by a fatal shot that ripped through his face and exited out the back of his head.

His body was abused by the British once they discovered who he was. His body stayed in a shallow grave before it was identified by his brother and buried properly. Dr. Joseph Warren died as a true American hero, at the age of 34.

Source: Founding Martyr, by Christian Di Spigna.

*If you know your Patriot's story share it with us. Forward your story to Robin Preston and see it in a future chapter newsletter. [Ripreston0306@gmail.com](mailto:Ripreston0306@gmail.com)*



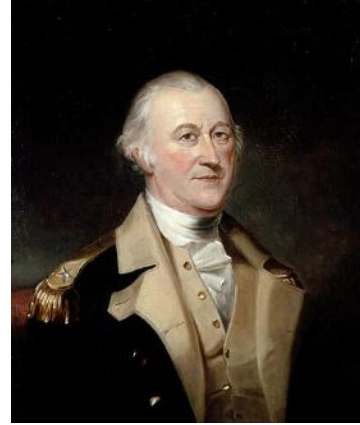
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Thomas Johnson



George Washington



Artemis Ward

**AMERICA 250 Minute**  
**JUNE 1775**

Now, the war was really starting to ramp up and there were two major events that happened in June 1775. One event was the Battle of Bunker Hill. The other one was the selection of George Washington as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army.

Every good army needs at least one good general. That one good general turned out to be a GREAT general. He actively campaigned for the job. One thing he did from the beginning of his time in the Second Continental Congress was to wear his blue and buff Fairfax militia uniform every day. It apparently worked.

On June 15, 1775, Thomas Johnson of Maryland nominated Washington. He had military experience, was from Virginia, and was a head taller than any other delegate. An added plus was, since he had a military uniform already, he would save Congress money. He was approved unanimously by Congress. Washington's only serious competition was John Hancock who was hobbled by gout. Congress voted to pay Washington \$500 dollars per month. He declined the pay and said that all he wanted was to be reimbursed for his expenses.

Before leaving Philadelphia, the 6'2", 175 pounds, Washington bought a tomahawk, several cartouche boxes and five books on the military art.

Besides Washington, Congress appointed eight additional generals to the newly created Continental Army – two major generals, an adjutant general, and five brigadier generals. One of the major general positions went to Artemis Ward, who had been the man in charge, in Boston, since day one of the siege.

As it turned out, Washington was not a great general as a military strategist, although he did lead at least two very impressive retreats. He lost more battles than he won. What made Washington great was his ability to hold an army together through the course of an eight-year war. An army made up primarily of everyday citizens. An army that was poorly paid and poorly supplied. An army that, at least at the beginning, was untrained, undisciplined, and inexperienced. Besides holding his army together, members in Congress and his own general staff made efforts to undermine him throughout the course of the war. Few people can argue against George Washington being the right man, for the right job, at the right time.

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# HAVE A HAPPY and SAFE



## 4<sup>th</sup> of JULY

God Bless America

## The LAND that WE LOVE