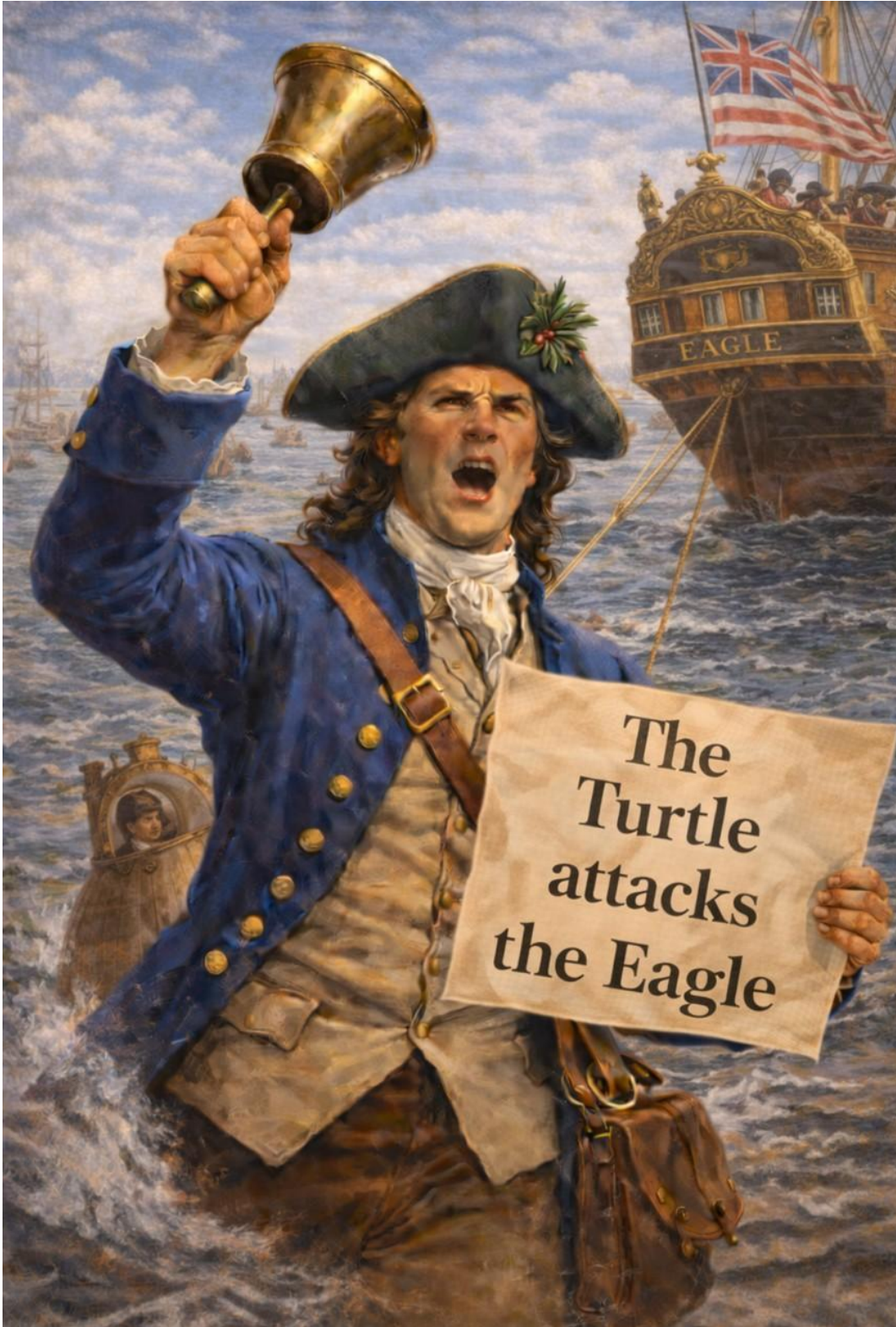






The Bell Ringer

page 2

2025 – 2027 Officers



President
Historian
RVP – East Central Region
Robin Preston
rlpreston0306@gmail.com
(832) 655-4173



Treasurer
William "Billy" Morgan
wsmorganv@outlook.com
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Chaplain
Recording Secretary
Parliamentarian
Randal Allen
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Patriot Medal Winner
Color Guard Commander
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(407) 350-8143



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Registrar - volunteer
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(407) 350-8143



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www.cflsar.org
www.facebook.com/cflsar

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Service to our Vets

If you have done something in service of a veteran or veterans, no matter how small you think your contribution was, please let us know. Small contributions add up to big points by year-end. We were the second-ranked chapter in the state in total points. Please email Phil Markoe or Robin Preston to let them know what you did.

If you are a veteran and have not received a Service Medal, please notify Robin Preston so that we can obtain the medal you have earned through your service to America.

2025 Points over 43,271

2026 Points over 9,780

Americanism Report

Every year, we as a chapter must submit a report to the State and National Societies detailing our Americanism activities.

2025 Points over 10,535

2026 Points over 10,520

America 250

Compatriots

Non-Compatriots

Bronze – 18

Bronze – 9

Silver – 13

Silver – 7

Gold – 5

Gold – 3

Next Chapter Meeting OCTOBER 10

Where: Winter Park Elks Club
4755 Howell Branch Road
Winter Park

Time: 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Meal Cost: \$25 per person (payable at the door)

Topic: Punishments used during the American Revolution

If you plan to attend, RSVP to Phil Markoe by voice or text at 407.350.8143 or by email at markoevikingsfan@aol.com.

Phil needs an accurate headcount for the caterer; otherwise, we may be charged more than necessary.

Dress Code: The official dress code is a SAR Blazer. The unofficial dress code is slacks and a polo shirt.

Facebook Page

www.facebook.com/cflsar

Chapter Website

www.cflsar.org

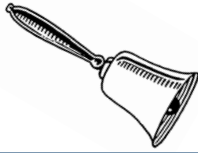
FLSSAR Website

www.flssar.org

Learn About the SAR at



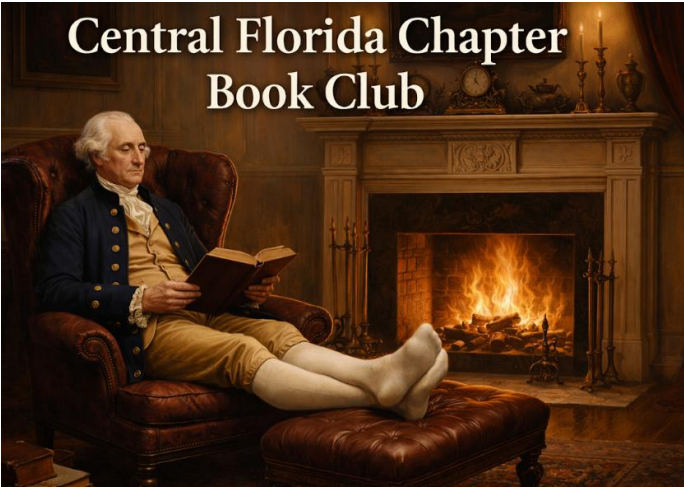
<https://www.sar.org/sar-university/>



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Central Florida Chapter Book Club



The Central Florida Chapter Book Club meets on the third Wednesday of each month from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.

You can earn 3 America 250 points by attending.

You don't have to have read the book to attend.

Join via ZOOM

Passcode: **415293**

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83529410287?pwd=fo4TRwmBBoE3mxZWmMvnWi8IGH6YpM.](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83529410287?pwd=fo4TRwmBBoE3mxZWmMvnWi8IGH6YpM.1)

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OCTOBER BOOKS

*Canadian Campaign– Battle of Lake Champlain
(Valcour Island) - Kelly*

*The Battle of White Plains – Washington and Howe
in Westchester- DeVillo*

YOUR 2027 DUES ARE DUE

**That's right! It is time to pay
your annual dues.**

We began collecting 2027 dues on September 1. We strongly encourage members to pay their dues by the end of November.

If you are a new member and were approved before September 1, those dues were for 2026. You are expected to pay new dues for 2027. If you were approved after September 1, the dues you paid with your membership count for 2026 and 2027.

REGULAR members pay \$90 in dues in 2027. That is \$50 for National, \$20 for State, and \$20 for Chapter. LIFE members pay \$40 in dues. E-1 members pay \$0. E-2 and E-3 members each pay \$50. JUNIOR members with a family member in the chapter pay \$0 in dues. Other Juniors pay \$5. All payments made before December 9 should be payable to the **CFLSAR**. Payments made after December 9 must be made by separate checks, each payable to NSSAR, FLSSAR, and CFLSAR, and, if the member has been dropped, they must be reinstated. There is a form for that, and it is emailed to the state secretary, with a printed copy included with the national and state checks mailed to the secretary.

Mail your Check to:

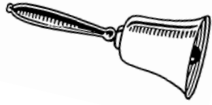
William Morgan

c/o Orange County History Center

65 E Central Blvd – 5th Floor

Orlando, FL 32801





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CFLSAR Chapter Meeting Wednesday, September 9, 2026



During our September meeting, we inducted 4 new members into the chapter. From left to right: Ed Sexton, Daryl Fullerton, mentor Gary Smith, mentor Randal Allen, Don Morrison, and Dwight Smith.



Arthur Bullock, Jane Bullock, and Marlene Lambiaso received America 250 Silver Certificates.



Compatriot Michael Neal was given a Certificate of Appreciation for his work on the chapter website (CFLSAR.org)



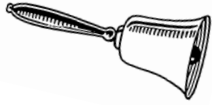
Andrew Sechler received the Bronze Henry Knox Medal this past May.



William Thompson received the Service to Veterans Medal with two oak leaf clusters this past May for his work on behalf of veterans. Chapter President Robin Preston presented Bill with the awards at the meeting.



Randal Allen was awarded the Bronze Color Guard Medal by Color Guard Commander Phil Markoe.



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CFLSAR Chapter Meeting

Wednesday, September 9, 2026



New inductees Daryl Fullerton and Donald Morrison were awarded the Military Service Medals and their membership certificates as members of the FLSSAR Florida Brigade. Daryl is a US Navy veteran, and Don is a US Army veteran.

Thank you for your service, gentlemen!

FSSDAR Fall Forum

September 11, & 12, 2026



Compatriots Michael Meyer, Randall Allen, Phil Markoe, and Robin Preston are standing in front of a quilt of George Washington crossing the Delaware.



Chapter Compatriots Michael Meyer, Robin Preston, James Hamilton, and Phil Markoe manned the table on the Saturday of the FSSDAR Fall Forum.

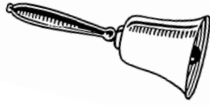


Madam Vice-Regent Holly Hamilton joined Compatriots Michael, Meyer, Robin Preston, and Phil Markoe for a photo during the Committee Showcase part of the Fall Forum.

Nebraska State Fair September 7, 2026



Brian Rapp, a Central Florida member who resides in Grand Island, Nebraska, marched in the Veterans Appreciation Day Parade at the Nebraska State Fair.



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Constitution Week 16 September 2026



Martha Washington (aka Barbara Fairchild) and George Washington (aka Burt Fairchild) spoke to children at the Maitland Library about the meaning of the Constitution and their roles in American History. Joining Martha and George were members of the Mary Virginia Cabell DAR chapter and the CFLSAR chapter. At 4:00 p.m., Phil Markoe marched the children outside, where they rang bells to celebrate the signing of the Constitution.

Constitution Week 17 September 2026



Phil and Kathy Markoe joined the ladies of the William P. Duval NSDAR Chapter at the Winter Park City Hall to help celebrate the 239th anniversary of the first reading of the Constitution

Wounded Warrior Coin Presentation 19 September 2026



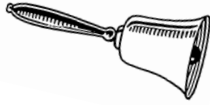
Randal Allen attended the Brevard Chapter meeting, where he presented John Allen, a Purple Heart recipient, with a Wounded Warrior Coin and Certificate.

Constitution Week Presentation 19 September 2026



Chapter President and RVP for the EC Region, Robin Preston, attended the joint meeting of the Brevard SAR Chapter and the Rufus Fairbanks Chapter NSDAR where he gave a presentation on the US Constitution.

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, ensure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish the Constitution of the United States of America.



The Bell Ringer

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This Month's Compatriot Spotlight is on Randal T. Allen



Starting this month, we'll highlight a CFLSAR Chapter Compatriot. In September, we're spotlighting Randal Allen.

If you are a reader of previous newsletters or attend a chapter meeting from time to time, you already know that **Randal Allen** does a tremendous amount of work for the Chapter, the State, and for National. He currently serves as Parliamentarian for the Chapter, State, and National.

He served as Chapter President from 2015 to 2017. Randy also serves as recording secretary for the chapter and the state. As a drummer, he is in high demand statewide for color guard events.

Randy has obtained a great many awards at all three levels, including: Gold Good Citizenship Medal, Compatriot Grave Marking Medal, Service to Veterans Medal, Gold America 250 Medal, Silver Color Guard Medal, Lafayette Volunteer Medal, Silver Good Citizenship Medal, Silver Meritorious Service Medal, Bronze Good Citizenship Medal, and several more.

1. When did you become a member of the SAR? Being from Chicago, I joined the SAR on 02 Oct 2007 through the Illinois Society. I transferred my membership to the Florida Society in 2009 when my father joined and was inducted into the Central Florida Chapter.

2. What first inspired you to join the SAR, and what part of the mission resonates most with you today? My aunt is a DAR member, so I had a head start. One year, I wasn't going to vote. My wife, Christine, reminded me a lot of people sacrificed their lives so I could vote. That sent me on my way. I would say, "patriotic activities" and "serving our communities" are the parts of the SAR mission that resonates with me the most.

3. What's one Revolutionary War figure or event you've always found especially interesting? As I discover new Patriot ancestors, knowing more about their contribution to the cause intrigues me, e.g., my recent Supplemental ancestor was at the Battle of Great Bridge in Virginia. Another thing I find interesting is, as we read the books through the book club, how many situations could have gone either way—due to a good/bad decision or environmental circumstances. The case for providence is strong.

4. What's a hobby or interest you enjoy outside of SAR activities? As most people know, I play the drums. I've been playing since 3rd grade. My other hobby is continuing to study material related to high-energy physics.

5. What's a favorite place you've visited (historical or otherwise) that left a lasting impression on you? Literally a lasting impression was when I visited the grave of Declaration Signer George Clymer and was hit/run in my rental car. My favorite place that I've visited is probably the north shore of Kaua'i, especially the Hanalei and Na Pali coast.

6. What's something you appreciate about being part of our chapter community? I've volunteered for a lot of non-profits over the last 20 years. Almost all of them had no appreciation for my contributions. That is 180 degrees in the opposite direction with the Central Florida chapter. By taking those other non-profits off my plate, I've created space to be more active with the chapter.





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- 26 SEP** - Compatriot Grave Marking
Glen Haven Cemetery – Winter Park
2:00 p.m. – Muster at 1:00 p.m.
- 30 SEP** - The Villages Honor Flight
Sanford Airport– Sanford
9:00 p.m. – Muster at 8:30p.m.
- 9 OCT** – Dedication Ceremony American Revolution
Marker – Adams-Onis DAR Chapter
Winter Garden – Breezeway Entrance Heller Hall
5:00 p.m. – Muster at 4:00 p.m.
- 10 OCT** – CFLSAR Chapter Meeting
4755 Howell Branch Rd. – Winter Park
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- 15 OCT** – Naturalization Ceremony
401 W. Central Blvd – Orlando, FL
10:00 a.m.
- 15 OCT** – Black Powder Training
Chuluota Gun Club – Chuluota FL
- 16, 17 OCT** – FLSSAR Fall Board of Management Mtg
Embassy Suites – Kissimmee, FL
- 17 OCT** – Orlando Honor Flight
Orlando Int’l Airport – Orlando, FL
Plane scheduled to land at 9:30 p.m.
- 28 OCT** – The Villages Honor Flight
Sanford Airport – Sanford, FL
9:00 p.m. – Muster: 8:30 p.m.
- 5 NOV** – Naturalization Ceremony
401 W. Central Blvd – Orlando, FL
10:00 a.m.

- 11 NOV** – CFLSAR Chapter Meeting
4755 Howell Branch Rd. – Winter Park
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- 11 NOV** – Leonard James McNeill – WWII MIA
Funeral Service – 9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
Carey Hand Colonial Funeral Home
2811 Curry Ford Road – Orlando, FL
- 11 NOV** – Veterans Day Program
Mission BBQ – Lake Mary
Time - TBD
- 10 DEC** – Naturalization Ceremony
401 W. Central Blvd – Orlando, FL
10:00 a.m.
- 19 DEC** – Wreaths Across America
Multiple Cemeteries
Time - TBD
- 6 MAR** – 251st Anniversary Battle of Nassau
Fisher Family Pier – Pompano Beach, FL
Time - TBD
- 3 – 7 MAR** – DAR Spring Conference
OMNI Hotel – Championsgate, FL
- 13 MAR** – 244th Anniversary of the Last Naval Battle
Merritt Island, FL
11:00 a.m. – Muster at 10:00 a.m.
- 3 APR** – 250th Anniversary Battle of Thomas Creek
Jacksonville, FL
11:00 a.m. – Muster at 10:00 a.m.
- 7 MAY** – 245th Anniversary Battle of Pensacola
Pensacola, FL
11:00 a.m. – Muster at 10:00 a.m.





The Bell Ringer

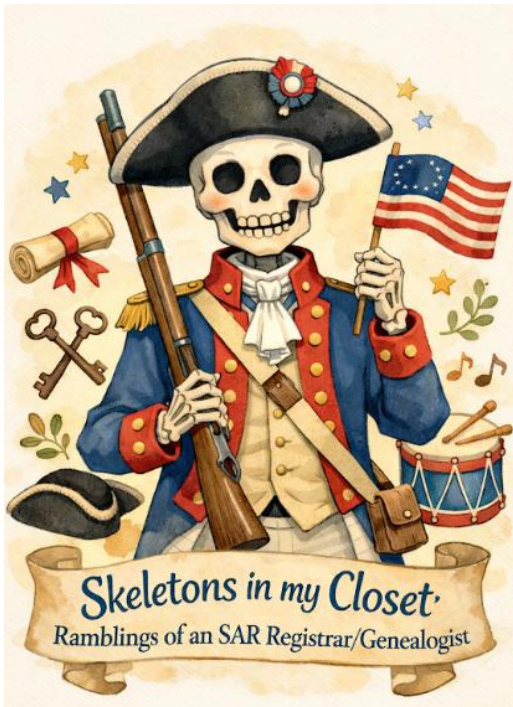
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Skeletons in the Closet

No. 4

Don't Shoot Your Chapter Registrar/Genealogist of SAR Staff Genealogist Reviewer: They are the Good Guys and Gals

By and with the permission of Harry L. Rinker



The SAR has focused on raising the genealogical proof standards it uses to review applications for over a decade. Because of these historically low standards, the SAR accepts only applications approved after January 1, 2012, as “proven applications” for future memberships. You must again prove the information on applications approved before that date. The SAR made this decision because it began implementing review standards on that date that match the higher-level Genealogical Proof Standards accepted by other lineage societies.

The SAR accepts DAR applications as “proven” if the DAR approved them after January 1, 1985. Although the SAR uses the same Genealogical Proof Standards as the DAR today, the DAR still refuses to accept any SAR application as proof, even those approved after January 1, 2012. The chances of this changing any time soon are nil.

Further, the DAR and SAR began reviewing older applications and questioning them because the proof was minimal or not properly documented. This led to applications being “flagged,” meaning they could no longer be used, no matter when they were approved.

Flagging occurs at two levels: generational data and service records. The SAR not only accepts and enforces DAR flaggings but has also started flagging some of its older applications on its own.

When I interviewed as a candidate for Genealogist General at last Spring's Leadership, I was asked whether I agreed with toughening SAR proof standards. I responded: “They are not tough enough.” Today's approved applications are tomorrow's legacy applications. They must meet the highest standards of proof to stand the test of time. If done properly, a modern application will never be questioned in the future.

This toughening of standards has not been met with universal approval. Many old-time chapter registrar/genealogist resent the crackdown. They dislike many of the new standards, such as questioning whether older family-printed genealogies are acceptable as proof. They would have the staff reviewers believe that these authors never published wrong information. Some resent the emphasis on documented spousal information, feeling that as long as the direct-line lineage is documented, it is enough. Forcing applicants to prove their Patriots lived in, at, or near where they served is difficult when Revolutionary War-era residential records are scarce. Making applicants distinguish between two or more individuals with the same name, living in the same area, at the same time is causing major research headaches. Finally, the need to resort to creating one or multiple proof arguments, often within a single application, when clear documentation is missing is a headache most chapter registrar/genealogists wish would go away.

State Genealogists are being urged to pressure chapter registrar/genealogists to “clean up their act.” They, in turn, are placing tougher document requirements on applicants to the point where “I did not know preparing an application would be so hard and require so much work” is a common lament from applicants and chapter registrar/genealogists

State Registrars are being told to stop “passing through questionable applications” to National and letting the Staff Review Genealogists become the “bad guys or gals”



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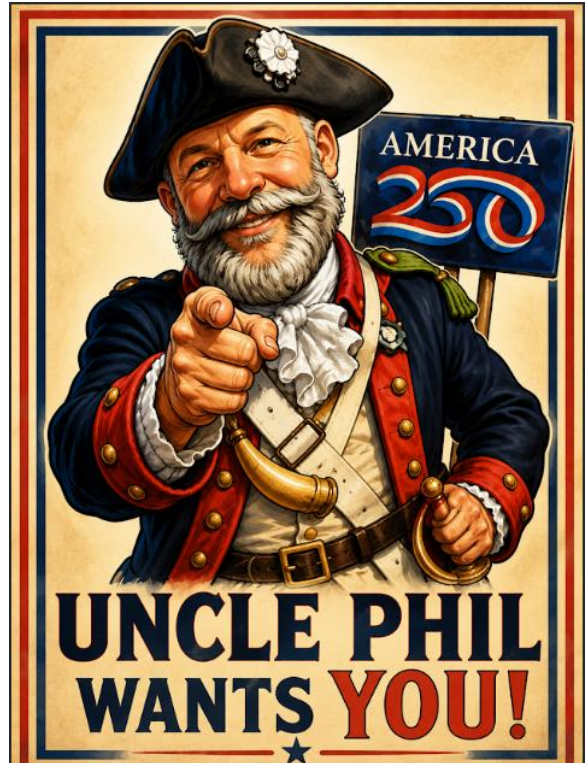
Skeletons in the Closet

No. 4 continued

by pending (disapproving them. The goal is to ensure every application is clean and clearly proven before it reaches National.

Rumors abound at the chapter level that the National Staff Review Genealogists enjoy pending applications. No, they do not. They work hard to save applications. As a state point of contact and someone who has had applications pending, I have never seen an unjustified pending. I resolved my pending issues with additional research and, in some cases, using a different Patriot for my applicant. I also learned from each pending how to prepare a better, more complete application in the future.

In summary, when a chapter registrar/genealogist or state Registrar requires better research or documentation, don't shoot him; work to provide what he requests. He is your friend, not your enemy. He is doing his job - making certain the application "passes muster" now and lasts forever.



That's Right, Chapter Color Guard Commander Phil Markoe wants you to join probably the largest but definitely the **BEST** color guard in the state.

Join Today and Make Your Patriot PROUD!

Chapter Color Guard Commander
Phil Markoe

Email: markoevikingsfan@aol.com

Phone: (407) 350-8143



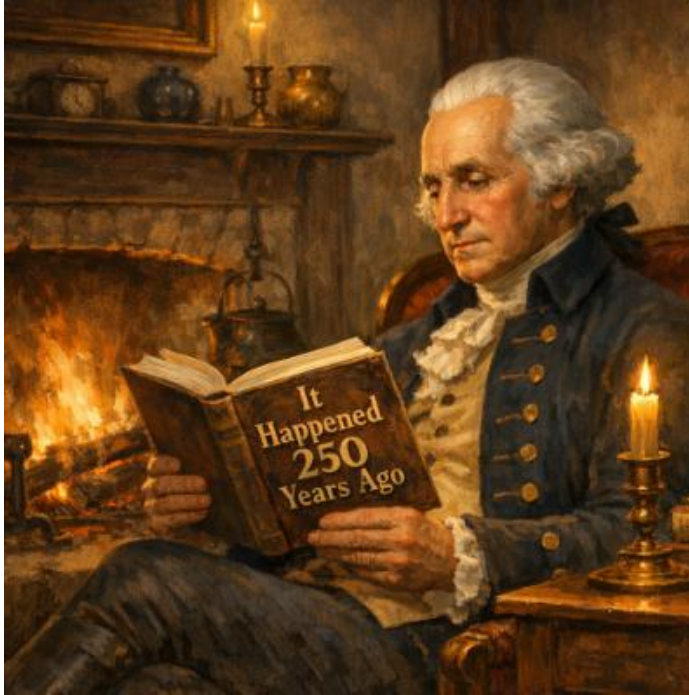
The Sons of the American Revolution promotes patriotism, serves the community, and inspires and educates the public about the American Revolution



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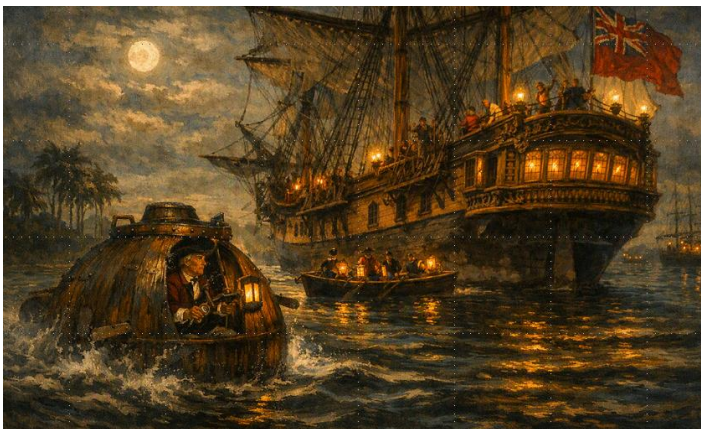
It Happened 250 Years Ago



September 1776 — General George Washington's army stood at 31,000, with over half—17,670—comprising militia. The Continental forces included 1,693 officers, with the remainder being the rank and file. Due to sickness and other reasons, the available muskets numbered 6,081 across twenty-five regiments, averaging 243 muskets per regiment.

SEP 7, 1776 — American Sergeant Ezra Lee volunteered to undertake an unprecedented mission, piloting the first submarine in an attack against the British ship *Eagle*. The *Eagle* was a 64-gun ship with two-gun decks and a crew of six hundred. It was the flagship of British Vice Admiral Richard Howe.

The plan was to maneuver the *Turtle* up to the *Eagle*,



drill a hole into its hull, and attach explosives. Unfortunately, the drill struck an iron band it could not penetrate. Lee abandoned his efforts when the British launched small boats to investigate.

SEP 9, 1776 — The Second Continental Congress officially authorized the term "United States" to replace the term "United Colonies."

SEP 15, 1776 - Although he had planned to do it sooner, the winds prevented General Howe from landing troops in the occupied area of lower Manhattan. In the morning hours, Howe began landing about four thousand troops at Kip's Bay (near the current-day 34th Street). He used five heavy warships, seventy-five flatboats, galleys, and bateaux for the landing.

About five hundred Connecticut militia, under the command of Colonel William Douglas, erected crude breastworks at Kip's Bay. Many of Douglas's men were inexperienced and lacked muskets. Farmers and shopkeepers without muskets carried homemade pikes instead.

Around 10 a.m., on an unseasonably hot day, British Lt. General Henry Clinton began the 200-yard crossing from the British ships to the American redoubt. The first wave comprised four thousand British and Hessians loaded on eighty flatboats.



Nearly eighty guns onboard five British warships began bombarding the American breastworks at 11 a.m. Once the cannon fire ceased, flatboats carrying British troops headed towards the shore for an amphibious landing.



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It Happened 250 Years Ago

Understandably, the Americans quickly retreated in the opposite direction.

Washington arrived about a mile inland from Kip's Bay shortly after the British landing began. He tried to turn the retreating militia around; reports indicate that he was furious at their retreat. His anger was so intense that he struck some of the retreating soldiers with his riding crop.

A couple of thousand Continental troops arrived under the command of two generals. Upon witnessing the militia retreat, they also turned and headed away from the action. Reports indicated that Hessians killed militia men who attempted to surrender.

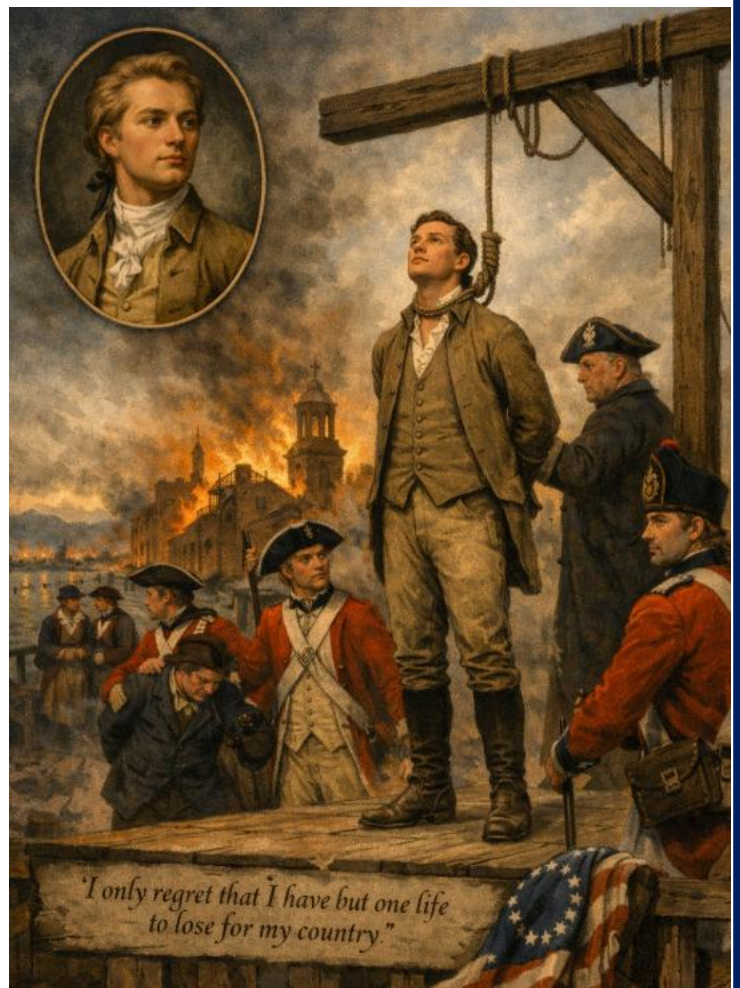
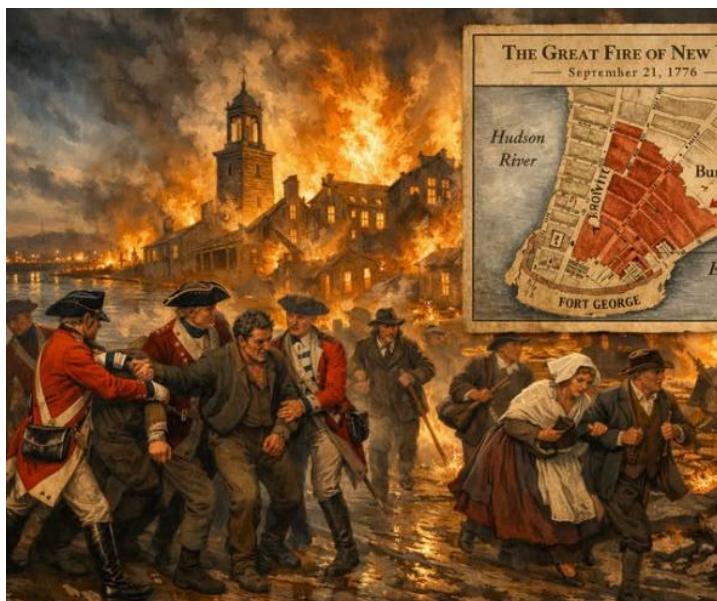
The British continued landing troops, and by late afternoon, nine thousand had landed at Kip's Bay. Howe sent a brigade to New York City to take official possession. The southern advance was halted at Watts' farm due to American resistance, while the northern advance stopped at what is now Murray Hill as Howe waited for more troops to arrive.

Had Howe pushed the advance, he might have cut off almost one-third of Washington's forces under Major General Israel Putnam. Putnam ordered his men to dump unnecessary items to withdraw faster. They then began a forced march and reached the Harlem camp that night.

SEP 20, 1776 – A fire of unknown origin broke out around midnight, igniting what became known as the "Great Fire" on the southern tip of Manhattan. It ravaged most of the town between Broadway and the Hudson River, destroying roughly one thousand houses and buildings--about a quarter of the city. Thirteen people were arrested by the

British as arsonists. Washington denied any responsibility for ordering the city to be torched, though many believed he had something to do with it, especially since he had recently ordered the removal of alarm bells, supposedly to be melted down to make artillery.

SEP 22, 1776 – Nathan Hale was hanged on this date. Hale, the official state hero of Connecticut, was born in Coventry, Connecticut, and graduated from Yale at eighteen. An American spy who was captured during the Battle for New York. Hanged at just 21 years old, his famous, though unofficially recorded, last words were, "*I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country.*" This farewell was paraphrased from the 1712 play, *Cato*. "*I am so satisfied with the cause in which I have engaged, that my only regret is that I have not more lives than one to offer in its service.*"





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It Happened 250 Years Ago

SEP 26, 1776 – Colonel Andrew Williamson met up with Brigadier General Griffith Rutherford at what is today Murphy, North Carolina, creating a combined force of 4,500 Patriots to take further action against the Cherokee. However, this never happened.



It's time to party. These Compatriots are celebrating a birthday next month.

Sep 26 – John Jenkins
Sep 29 – John Poulson
Sep 30 – Mark Buckles
Oct 1 – Peter Gulden
Oct 1 – Harry Rinker
Oct 2 – Benjamin Devolve
Oct 2 – Michael Meyer
Oct 2 – Eric Worden
Oct 3 – Michael Rose
Oct 3 – Carl King

Oct 4 – Thomas Andrews
Oct 6 – Charles Johnson
Oct 7 – Tyson Roniger
Oct 8 – Michael Benyon
Oct 14 – Ian Crosbie
Oct 15 – William Underly
Oct 18 – Daryl Fullerton
Oct 22 – Chris Meyer
Oct 23 – Taylor Campbell
Oct 25 – Gregory Davis
Oct 27 – Philip Markoe
Oct 27 – Stuart Green
Oct 30 – Noah Devolve



It's time to party. This Compatriot is celebrating an anniversary next month.

OCT 29 – John Jenkins – Five Years



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New Members Corner

Basic Protocol

Attire: Each chapter varies in typical meeting attire, influenced by its meeting location and/or climate. Period attire (Continental Army, Militia, and period civilian clothing) is always acceptable, including formal events. Essential dress for State and National meetings is a coat (usually a navy blazer), shirt, and tie. State and National meetings often include formal banquets, which should be indicated as Black Tie or White Tie on the schedule. Polos and button shirts are appropriate. T-shirts aren't. Slacks and nice blue jeans are also appropriate.



**HOW NOT
TO DRESS**

**HOW TO
DRESS**

Just because you can dress way down doesn't mean you should. There is a time and a place, gentlemen.

Here is an organization for the Ladies of our Chapter



The **Ladies Auxiliary of the Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (LAFSSAR)** is a nonprofit association of women organized to assist, support, and advance the objectives of the Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (FLSSAR).

Membership Highlights:

- \$10 Annual Dues
- Automatic membership in the National Ladies Auxiliary without additional dues.
- Membership and fundraising efforts support important Florida and National SAR Projects.
- Dual and out-of-state members are welcome.
- No meeting attendance requirements.
- No lineage requirements
- No age limit.
- Entitled to wear the Florida and National Ladies Auxiliary SAR pins.
- Opportunities to earn certain SAR medals and awards for service to the Society.
- Fun and fellowship!



Join Today
Scan the QR Code or email the
LAFSSAR Registrar. Her email
is daydreamr613@aol.com