



NOVEMBER 2025

Officers

President: Dwight McEntire
1st Vice President: Robert Anderson
2nd Vice President: Art Hays
Treasurer: Tom Hancher
Secretary: Warren Wilson
Sergeant-at Arms: Russell Pebworth
Genealogist- Walter Arnold
Registrar: Walter Arnold
Chaplain: Dr. Bob Cundiff
Historian/Publicist: Harry Fuller
Governors -at- Large: Bob Yarnell and James Grayshaw
Color Guard Commander-Robbie Robinson
Newsletter Editor- James Grayshaw

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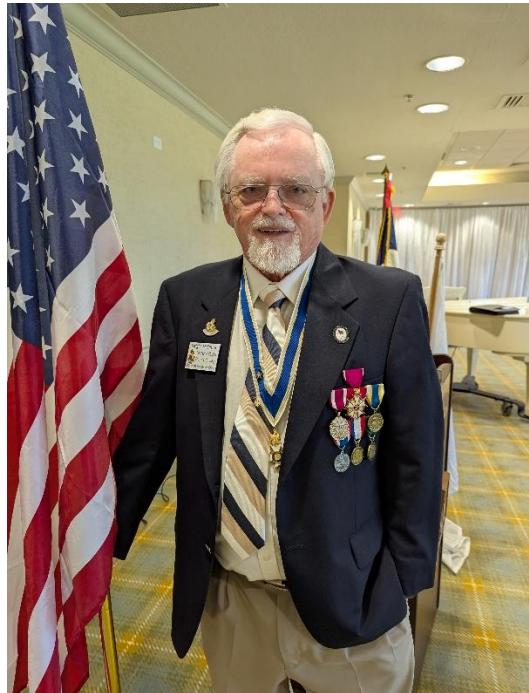
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Our Inspiration is from the Past,
Our Duty is in the Present,
Our Hope is in the Future.

SAR Mission Statement
The Sons of the American Revolution honor 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



Compatriots,

We had a very nice October Chapter Meeting at our new location – Regency Oaks Senior Living. Our November meeting will also be at Regency Oaks.

As our Florida State SAR President said in his Message to all Florida Compatriots, “As we approach the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, we are entering what I believe will be a significant period in history. Now is the time when there will be a renewed interest in and attention on the American Revolution and the founding of our Nation. Now is the time when the country will actively seek to honor the Patriots of the American Revolution, promote patriotism, and reignite an interest in the founding principles of our country.... Now is the time as a Society. Now is the time for us to be harnessing the renewed interest in the American Revolution to RECRUIT new Compatriots....” I agree!

Please commit to talking to at least two people to see if they could possibly have a Patriot ancestor. Out of the blue, I was talking to one of my friends and asked him if he had an ancestor that fought or provided support to the Revolution. He said he thought he did and told me about some of his ancestors. I just asked him if he would like to join the SAR. I provided a brief overview of our organization, and he forwarded his information to Walter Arnold. In two weeks we had a completed application, and he is signing his application this week. Bob Anderson attended the Caladesi DAR Chapter and got three new leads. It’s easy, please try it.

We have outstanding opportunities to participate with the Caladesi and Clearwater DAR Chapters to represent the SAR at the American Revolution traveling exhibit in mid to late January at the Clearwater

Historical Museum and early February at the Dunedin History Museum. More info to follow.

We need to increase our active membership.

We have so many opportunities and need Compatriots to help us. NOW IS THE TIME.

In patriotic spirit,

Dwight

Date and Time:	10/15/2025 at 11:30 A M
Location:	Regency Oaks conference center
Facilitator:	Dwight McEntire
Minutes Prepared By:	Warren Wilson
Attendees:	Chapter members
Absent:	

Points Discussed		
Number	Topic	Highlights
1	Call to Order	Meeting was called to order by President McEntire at 12:00 noon, followed by the invocation from compatriot Dr. Robert Cundiff, Pledge of Allegiance and SAR pledge. Gathering sang God Bless America. Meeting recessed for lunch.
2	Announcements	Meeting was reconvened at 12:20. President

		McEntire mentioned the City of Clearwater Proclamation given to our chapter by the City of Clearwater for participation in their recognition of the 238 th signing of the U.S. Constitution. October birthdays were announced. President McEntire then gave out awards certificates. Meritorious Service to Tom Hancher and Russell Pebworth. He awarded Warren Wilson the Silver 250 medal and a Bronze Roger Sherman award for his service to the chapter.
3	Recognition	Certificates of Appreciation and medals for Public Service were awarded to Lt. Robert Parisi of the Clearwater Fire Department and to Sgt David Nugent of the Clearwater Police Department for their continued service to the community.
4	Other business	President McEntire talked about the DAR sponsorship of the traveling

		<p>Battlefield Trust exhibit coming to our area early in 2026. In Clearwater from 1/17/2026 to 1/25/2026 then at the Dunedin Historical Society from 1/27/2026. November Wreaths Across America was discussed by Dwight. Compatriot Robert Anderson was asked to co-ordinate our involvement and a chapter contribution to purchase 5 wreaths for \$90.00 was approved by voice vote by the members.</p>
5	Board nominations	<p>Nominating Committee chair Tim Shaner announced the candidates for the 2026 Board of Governors. There were no objections to the slate put forward. Election of the 2026 board will be held at the November meeting. Tim also presented Compatriot Walter Arnold with the Distinguished Service award for his many contributions over</p>

		the years to the Clearwater SAR.
6	50/50 drawing	The 50/50 and gift basket drawings were held.
7	Benediction	Closing prayer was given by Dr. Cundiff and the SAR recessional was recited by members.
8	Adjournment	Meeting was adjourned at 1:12 PM
9		
10		

Photographs from October's Meeting



President McEntire presenting awards certificates and Meritorious Service medal to Tom Hancher



President McEntire presenting awards certificates and Meritorious Service medal to Russell Pebworth.



Dwight McEntire, Robert Anderson, Sgt. Dave Nugent, and Lt. Chris Ziermann of the Clearwater Police Department



President McEntire awarded Warren Wilson the Silver 250 medal and a Bronze Roger Sherman award for his service to the chapter.



Supervisor Steve Salaguras, Bob Anderson, Lt. Robert Parisi of the Clearwater Fire Department, and Dwight McEnire



Tim Shaner (center) presented Compatriot Walter Arnold (left) with the Distinguished Service award for his many contributions over the years to the Clearwater SAR. President McEntire (right)



Warren Wilson was presented with a certificate of acknowledgement for his contribution to the Monument Project.

Attendees



Walter Arnold was presented with a challenge coin for his contribution to the Monument Project by Robbie Robinson



Bob Anderson



Warren Wilson



Dean Chatlain



Art Hays



Mark Santoro



Charles and Marjorie Wetherbee



Terry Delano



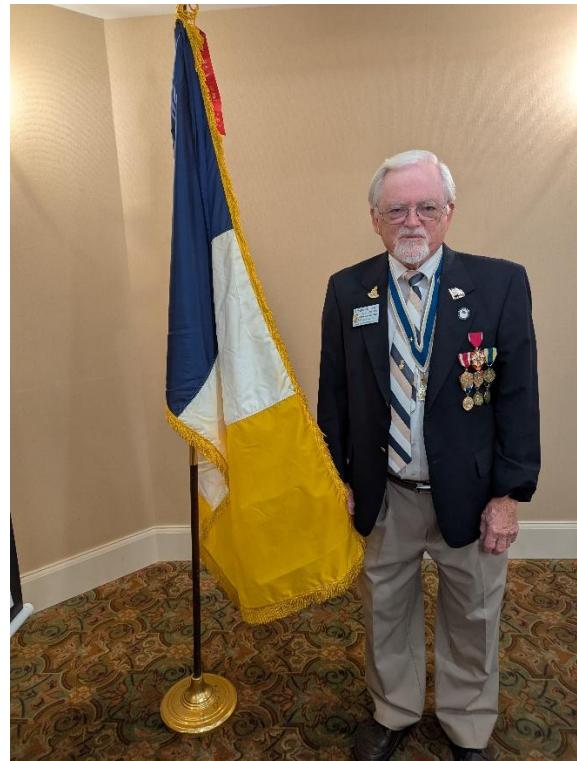
Eugene Girardi



Terry and Sharla Taylor



Russell Pebworth



Dwight McEntire



Tim Shaner



Robbie Robinson



Marilyn (Micky) Halstead and Parks Honeywell



Bob Yarnell



Marcy and Rob Moore



Alan Cheever



Connie Rogers and Jim Grayshaw



Tom and Jean Hancher



Dan Griffith



Bob Cundiff



Walter Arnold



Lt. Robert Palisi and wife



Gary Abney



Sgt. Dave Nugent and Lt. Chris Ziermann

Links & Resources:

Our Chapter website:

<http://clearwatersar.com/>

Our Chapter Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/SARClearwater/>

SAR National website :

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

SAR Florida website:

<http://www.flssar.org/FLSSAR/Tabs.asp>

OUR DAR PARTNERS



Jim Grayshaw, Bob Anderson, Tom Andrews and Eugene Girardi attended the October DAR meeting of the Caladesi Chapter. This meeting celebrated their birthday as a chapter.

Schedule of SAR Meetings

2025

December 17

Bob Anderson 1st Vice President



Speakers for coming months are

December- Installation of Officers by State President Chris Washler

January 2026- Jim Grayshaw Part 2 Generals of the American Revolution

February David Bramley, Author of "Washington's Guns".

March Debbie Smyth, DAR Caladesi Chapter Registrar, Women in the Revolution

The Wreaths Across America event in Dunedin, Florida, will take place at the Dunedin Municipal Cemetery on Saturday, December 13, 2025, at 11:00 AM. The ceremony honors local veterans, and the wreath-laying ceremony follows immediately after. You can help by sponsoring a wreath, volunteering to place them, or by carpooling due to limited parking, according to the [City of Dunedin, FL official event page](#).

Event details

- **Date:** Saturday, December 13, 2025
- **Time:** 11:00 AM (ceremony)
- **Location:** Dunedin Municipal Cemetery, 2400 Keene Rd, Dunedin, FL 34698
- **Goal:** To lay a wreath on every veteran's grave at the cemetery and at other local, non-WAA affiliated cemeteries

How to help

- **Sponsor a wreath:**

You can sponsor a wreath for \$17 by visiting the official Wreaths Across America website. For the Dunedin location,

you can also email kamariscal@gmail.com.

- **Volunteer:**

Sign up to volunteer for the wreath-laying ceremony on the Wreaths Across America event page for Dunedin.

- **Attend:**

Participate in the event to remember, honor, and teach the value of freedom.

Important information

- **Parking:**

Parking will be very limited, so carpooling or using a ride-share service is highly recommended.

- **Traffic:**

When you arrive, traffic will be one-way inside the cemetery. Follow the signs and direct staff to help with traffic flow.

Art Hays 2nd Vice President



**Tom Hancher
Treasurer**



**Robbie Robinson
Color Guard Commander**



**Walter Arnold
Registrar/Genealogist**



**Report of the
Nominating Committee**

**Slate for Officer of the Clearwater
Chapter for 2026**

**President- Dwight McEntire
1st Vice President- Art Hays
2nd Vice President- open
Treasurer- Dean Chatlain
Secretary- Warren Wilson
Genealogist/Registrar-
Walter Arnold**

**Sergeant-at-Arms- Russell
Pebworth
Chaplain- Dr. Bob Cundiff**

The election of Officers will take place at the November membership meeting. Any member in good standing can be nominated for any position at that time. Nominations may be accepted from the floor.

Book about the American Revolution

The Fate of the Day: The War for America, Fort Ticonderoga to Charleston, 1777-1780
by Rick Atkinson

- Publisher : Crown
- Publication date : April 29, 2025
- Print length : 880 pages
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The first twenty-one months of the American Revolution—which began at Lexington and ended at Princeton—was the story of a ragged group of militiamen and soldiers fighting to forge a new nation. By the winter of 1777, the exhausted Continental Army could claim only that it had barely escaped annihilation by the world's most formidable

fighting force.

Two years into the war, George III was as determined as ever to bring his rebellious colonies to heel. But the king's task was far more complicated: fighting a determined enemy on the other side of the Atlantic had become ruinously expensive, and spies told him that the French and Spanish were threatening to join forces with the Americans.

Prize-winning historian Rick Atkinson provides a riveting narrative covering the middle years of the Revolution. Stationed in Paris, Benjamin Franklin woos the French; in Pennsylvania, George Washington pleads with Congress to deliver the money, men, and materiel he needs to continue the fight. In New York, General William Howe, the commander of the greatest army the British have ever sent overseas, is planning a new campaign against the Americans—even as he is no longer certain that he can win this searing, bloody war. The months and years that follow bring epic battles at Brandywine, Saratoga, Monmouth, and Charleston, a winter of misery at Valley Forge, and yet more appeals for sacrifice by every American committed to the struggle for freedom.

Timed to coincide with the 250th anniversary of the beginning of the Revolution, Atkinson's account of the lethal conflict between the Americans and the British is not only deeply researched, but also a new perspective on the demands that a democracy makes on its citizens.

From your editor- This book is easily one of the best books of the year about the American Revolution, and sure to win several awards. As they say- if you only read one book about the American Revolution this year, read this one.

War Without Mercy: Liberty or Death in the American Revolution by Mark Edward Lender and James Kirby Martin

- **Publisher** : Osprey Publishing
- **Publication date** : October 7, 2025
- **Print length** : 288 pages

Drawing on vivid contemporary accounts, this is a fascinating exploration of how and why the Revolutionary War descended into a brutal existential struggle.

This engrossing history of the Revolutionary War conclusively shows that those caught up in it believed they had nothing to lose by fighting without regard for the rules of so-called “civilized warfare.” The clarion call to arms “Liberty or Death” was far more than just rhetoric. At its grimmest level, it was a conflict in which military restraint was more the exception than the rule, a struggle in

which combatants believed their very existence was in question. This led to an acceptance of violence against persons and property as preferable to a defeat equated with political, cultural, and even physical extinction. It was war with an expectation and acceptance of ferocity and brutality – *anything* to avoid defeat.

A number of historians have previously concluded that United States' founding struggle reached a level of ferocity few Americans now associate with the movement for independence. However, these studies have described *what* happened, without looking in detail at *why* the conflict took such a violent a turn. Written by two esteemed Revolutionary War historians, *War Without Mercy* does exactly that. Based on years of research and enlivened by little known primary sources, this is an intriguing and fresh look at a period of history we thought we knew.

About the Authors

Mark Edward Lender is Professor Emeritus of History at Kean University. He is author or co-author of more than a dozen books including, with James Kirby Martin, the acclaimed *A Respectable Army: The Military Origins of the Republic, 1763-1789* (Wiley, 2015) – which for several years was required reading at West Point – and, with Garry Wheeler Stone, the award-winning *Fatal Sunday: George Washington, the Monmouth Campaign, and the Politics of Battle* (University of Oklahoma Press, 2016). He served on the design team for the Army's special 250th Anniversary Exhibit at the National Museum of the U.S. Army. He lives in Richmond, Virginia.

James Kirby Martin earned his Ph.D. in American History at the University of Wisconsin. He is now Professor Emeritus of History at the University of Houston. He has held named visiting professorships at The Citadel and at the U.S. Military Academy at West

Point. Martin is the author of a number of books including the award-winning *Benedict Arnold, Revolutionary Hero: An American Warrior Reconsidered* (1997) and *A Respectable Army: The Military Origins of the Republic, 1763–1783*, the latter co-authored with Mark Edward Lender. In 2019 he published *Insurrection: The American Revolution and Its Meaning* (2019). Martin serves as a historian advisor to the Oneida Indian Nation of New York. He lives in Houston with his wife, Karen.

of Congress: that they be distinguished by the names of the first and second battalions of American Marines, and that they be considered as part of the number which the continental Army before Boston is ordered to consist of.

Ordered, that a copy of the above be transmitted to the General.

Second Continental Congress on 10 November 1775

250 Years Ago

1775

10 November 1775: BIRTHDAY OF UNITED STATES MARINES CORPS.

Although colonies and Continental Army had employed marines since spring of this year, action of Congress on this day directing that two marine battalions be raised and appropriately officered is counted as the beginning of the Marine Corps. These battalions were to be part of Continental Army establishment under Washington's command.

Resolved, That two Battalions of marines be raised, consisting of one Colonel, two Lieutenant Colonels, two Majors, and other officers as usual in other regiments; and that they consist of an equal number of privates with other battalions; that particular care be taken, that no persons be appointed to office, or enlisted into said Battalions, but such as are good seamen, or so acquainted with maritime affairs as to be able to serve to advantage by sea when required; that they be enlisted and commissioned to serve for and during the present war between Great Britain and the colonies, unless dismissed by order



A portrait of Major Samuel Nicholas, the first Commandant of the Marine Corps, 1775.

The two battalions of Continental Marines officially became "resolved" when Congress issued the first commission to Captain Samuel Nicholas on 28 November 1775. Nicholas' family were tavernkeepers, his prominence came

not from his work but from his leadership in two local clubs for fox-hunters and sport fishermen. Historian Edwin Simmons surmises that it is most likely Nicholas was using his family tavern, the "Conestoga Waggon" [sic], as a recruiting post; although the standing legend in the United States Marine Corps today places its first recruiting post at Tun Tavern in Philadelphia.

From your editor- It is hard to imagine the Commandant of the Marine Corps today with such a full head of hair. I once saw a photograph of Art Hays in his Marine uniform and commented that he had more hair than I expected.

AND TO HONOR THE MARINES....

As a bit of history for those who have not heard about the First Amphibious Assault Memorial, the FLSSAR decided to construct this monument to recognize an historic event that occurred on 3-4 March 1776, when Continental Marines and Sailors landed in the Bahamas to attack British forts. Their mission was to obtain gunpowder and cannons for their fellow patriots as part of the Revolutionary War effort. This was the very first time US Marines landed on foreign soil. As a result of this assault, the British were forced to keep some of their naval and land forces in the Caribbean to protect their colonies from being attacked in the future. This diluted their military resources that could have been used against the American patriots.

Unfortunately, there is no monument anywhere to memorialize this significant event. That is why the FLSSAR made the decision to construct a monument in Florida that will support the SAR mission of promoting patriotism, serving our communities, and educating and inspiring our future generations about the founding principles of our country.

We plan to have the monument constructed by 14 March 2026, which will be the 250th anniversary of this historic event. The ribbon-cutting ceremony will be part of the State of Florida's planned 250th Anniversary celebrations.

We have several different fundraising campaigns, including the "250 for the 250th." A donation of \$250 will put you on the "250 Muster Roll." The benefits include the following: 1) you can claim a tax-deductible donation to a most worthy cause, 2) your name will be included in the "250 Muster Roll" to be printed in each of the FLSSAR Patriot magazines for the next year and on our Monument website 1776landing.org, and 3) you will receive a limited-edition commemorative coin and a certificate signifying you supported a once-in-a-lifetime event. So far, over 120 people are now on the 250 Muster Roll, including eight compatriots from Clearwater.

Also, we have a Minuteman campaign for those who donate less than \$250. These donors will go on the Minuteman Roll and will receive a certificate, also. Two Clearwater compatriots are now on the Minuteman Roll.



In addition, we have a Chapter Challenge campaign whereby SAR chapters can make donations themselves. So far, 12 FLSSAR chapters have donated, including Clearwater.

In summary, the Clearwater Chapter has donated \$4150 so far, making it one of the top SAR Chapters in the FLSSAR. It should be pointed out that chapters reaching \$5000 will have their chapter names placed on a bronze plaque at the monument in the Silver category.

For more information about the monument or how to contribute, please go to the 1776landing.org website, or contact our compatriot Robbie Robinson who is on the Memorial committee.

**"250 for the 250th"
ANSWER THE CALL!**

Add your name to those who have answered the call by making a donation today to this worthy project.

Birthdays

November

1	McEntire	James	Dwight
5	Moore	Robert	Patrick
6	Lewis	Eric	James
10	Gay	Oscar	Martin
21	Miller	Brett	Thomas
22	Jamieson	Harry	Bruce
23	Abney	Gary	Lynn
25	Scott	Allwood	Stevenson

OUR NEXT MEETING

When: Wednesday November 19, 2025

Where: at The Regency Oaks, 2nd floor conference room, 2751 Regency Oaks Blvd., Clearwater, Florida 33759.

Time: 11:30 A.M. for in person dining only.

Menu: TBA; Accompaniments: Rolls/ Iced Tea/coffee- Regular and Decaf

Note: If you have any dietary restrictions (such as gluten free, vegan, vegetarian, etc.), or questions, be sure to mention them when you make your reservation

Cost: \$25

Program: Veterans Program

For reservations contact Tom Hancher at 678-683-8121 or Bob Anderson at 727-221-4701 or Randerson2441@gmail.com.

Until we meet again, let us remember our obligations to our forefathers, who gave us our Constitution, the Bill of Rights, an independent Supreme Court, and a nation of free men.

The Sons of the American Revolution is a historical, educational and patriotic non-profit, United States 501 (c) 3 corporation that seeks to maintain and extend (1) the institution of American freedom, (2) an appreciation for true patriotism, (3) a respect for our national symbols, (4) the value of American citizenship, and (5) the unifying force of e pluribus unum that has created, from the people of many nations, one nation, and one people. We do this by perpetuating the stories of patriotism, courage, sacrifice, tragedy, and triumph of the men who achieved the independence of the American people in the belief that these stories are universal ones of man's eternal struggle against tyranny, relevant to all time, and will inspire and strengthen each succeeding generation as it too is called upon to defend our freedom on the battlefield and in our public institutions.