



Heading by Megan Sanford

April 2026

President's Message

April 2026



Greetings Fellow Compatriots!

Important Chapter Meeting Information:

As announced at our last Chapter Meeting, we have changed venues and will now be meeting at the Edmond American Legion Post 111 at 101 East 5th Street (near Hideaway Pizza). The first meeting there will be Monday April 13. **Please also note that for this meeting only we will start at 7:30 PM.** The DAR Cordelia Steen Chapter normally meets there on the 2nd Tuesday of the month but had to reschedule for Monday 4/13 due to their State meeting. They are offering us a free desert as compensation for the time; so have an extra slice of pizza at Hideaway and then make your way over to the meeting.

- For **membership** inquiries, contact Phil Cook, at 4cooksinoke@cox.net, who can assist you in locating the necessary documents.
- For **website** (<http://okssar.com>) inquiries, contact Glenn Lee at 405.313.9947 or gleedmond@gmail.com.
- Like us on **Facebook** (www.facebook.com/okcsar) which is monitored by Terry Handley at thandle1@me.com.
- Join the **Color Guard** by contacting Mark Reichardt at 405.850.0067

or Vette413@gmail.com.

Chapter and Society News

At the **April 13** meeting we will be nominating officers for the coming two-year term. Please make plans to attend!

April 18 is the scheduled date for the Liberty Tree and Bench dedication to be held at the OKC Veterans Cemetery, NE 36th Street in OKC (across from the OK National Guard Museum). Combined OK Society Color Guard will be giving a musket salute and local ROTC groups with present flags. This is a joint effort between the DAR, SAR, and local groups so please make plans to attend and show your support!

April 25 is the OKSSAR Annual Conference sponsored by the OKC Chapter; still time to get those registrations sent in or bring to the meeting. We need your presence and support for this event.

▪ Our **Chaplain** for the OKC Chapter is Tom Rupert at 405.213.5423 or ruperttom529@gmail.com.

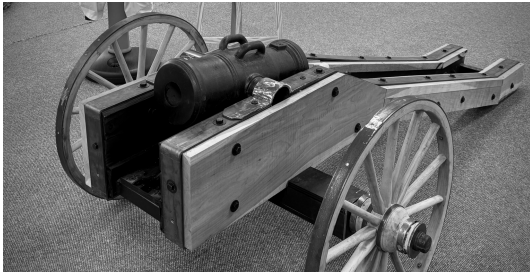
▪ **SAR Sentinel** is published monthly except June, July, and August. Article suggestions should be sent to Mark Reichardt at 405.850.0067 or Vette413@gmail.com.

▪ Chapter **meetings** are held on the second Monday of every month except June, July, and August.



The OKC Chapter is a strong supporter of our Military Veterans and we recently had a request from the VA for pre-prepared meals, particularly ready to eat protein snacks such as tuna or chicken salad, spam, jerky, or meat sticks. Please bring your donations to the meeting and I will make sure they are delivered.

Seventeen members of the OKSSAR Color Guard recently completed the NRA Muzzle Loader training and are now certified for musket salutes in compliance with our new NSSAR insurance requirements. Thanks to all who participated and made this possible.



The OKSSAR Howitzer project is nearing completion. Thanks to CV Members John Dillon and Mike Williams and their team for doing machining and construction on the carriage!



Continuing in our Celebration of America 250 we are reviewing the the key events related to the American Revolutionary War.

April 1776 was a transitional period after the British evacuation of Boston (March 17) and before major summer campaigns. No large-scale battles occurred that month, but significant political, logistical, and preparatory developments advanced the Patriot cause toward independence and expanded the conflict.

Early April: Logistical and Military Movements

- April 3–4, 1776: The Continental Congress authorized privateers (armed private ships) to attack British vessels, helping compensate for the lack of a formal American navy. Around the same time (April 4), General George Washington began marching much of the Continental Army from Cambridge, Massachusetts, toward New York City. He anticipated a British return and invasion there after their withdrawal from Boston.
- April 6, 1776: In response to British trade restrictions (including Parliament's prohibition on colonial trade), Congress opened American ports to all foreign ships except British vessels. This was a major economic step toward severing ties with Britain and

seeking international support. Reports from American agents also suggested growing French interest in aiding the colonies.

Mid-April: Naval Skirmish and Canadian Operations

- April 6, 1776: The Battle of Block Island (off Rhode Island) took place—a small naval engagement where British forces achieved a victory over American ships. It was one of the minor naval actions early in the war.
- Ongoing American efforts in Canada: Following the failed invasion of Quebec (1775), Congress continued supporting operations there. In April, they authorized additional troops (including a brigadier general and more battalions) to reinforce the campaign against British-held Canada, though the effort ultimately faltered later in the spring.

Late April: Political Momentum Toward Independence

- April 12, 1776: The Halifax Resolves were adopted by the Fourth North Carolina Provincial Congress in Halifax, North Carolina. This was the first official call by an American colony for complete independence from British rule. It instructed North Carolina's delegates to the Continental Congress to vote for independence if the opportunity arose, signaling growing sentiment across the colonies.

I will close with a quote from George Washington:

“I can truly say that I had rather be at Mount Vernon than to be attended at the Seat of Government by the Officers of State and the Representatives of every Power in Europe.”

That is all, Carry On!

In Fraternity,

Mark Reichardt

OKC Chapter President

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