

SAR Sentinel - from the Oklahoma City Chapter
Sons of the American Revolution

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Heading by Megan Sanford

February 2026

President's Message

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Greetings my Fellow Compatriots!

I trust everyone is thawed out from our recent winter weather. Fortunately these weather events are rare in our part of the country, but I'm getting pretty good at prepping for the deep freeze.

▪ 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

The era of the early space missions was also a divisive time in our country. The Vietnam War was at its peak. I was too young to understand fully the underlying geo-political ramifications . At that time we didn't have the numerous news outlets we now have and social media consisted of going outside and talking to people. But I can recall weekday evenings Walter Cronkite reporting on the situation.



Fast forward to present day; another Moon Mission about to blast off and our Country is once again engaged in bitter divisiveness. I bring this up only to illustrate the parallel, not to offer debate.



Our ancestors engaged in a Revolution to provide us with something never experienced in human history: a Representative Republic in which you are free to express yourself and Petition the Government with grievances without fear of reprisal. When you think of the Industrial Juggernaut released by this freedom, this truly is the Greatest Nation on earth! Not perfect, but free.

In every organization there is a tendency to look inward and focus on membership numbers, bank account balance, event planning, and other metrics that measure the health of the Chapter. This is important of course but we must remember our Mission Statement. *An educated public is our best defense against tyranny.*

Chapter News

Colonial Days at the Capitol was a success! We had 12 Compatriots in Continental Uniforms present the Colors at the opening ceremony and then demonstrating the musket firing drill with the 5th graders from



local schools. There were several venues offering different instruction on what life was like in Colonial America. We also bumped into Ben Franklin!

Just a reminder that the OKC Chapter is hosting the OK Society Conference and Business meeting this April 25. The event will be held at the OCPA Advance Center for Free Enterprise in Oklahoma City. Invitations will be sent out in the next week or so. Please mark your calendar for this important event.

Please also save the date of April 18. The details are being worked out for a Liberty Tree and Bench Dedication at the Veterans Cemetery (formerly Union Cemetery) in OKC (near the OK National Guard Museum). This is a very important ceremony and we need all the participation we can get!

The NSSAR Fall Leadership Conference will be March 5-7 in Louisville, KY and the registration is open for all wishing to attend.

Color Guard Events for February.

February 14: DAR George Washington Day Luncheon - Present Colors

OK Christian University at 11:30 AM

February 17: Wounded Warrior Event - Present Colors

Norman Veterans Home at 9:30 AM



In February 1776, the American Revolution intensified as Continental forces prepared to break the Siege of Boston and Patriots secured a

decisive victory in the South. Key events included the crucial victory at the Battle of Moores Creek (Feb 27), the arrival of cannons from Fort Ticonderoga for the siege, and a growing, open push toward independence among colonial government.

Key February 1776 Revolutionary War Events:

- Feb 1-27: Siege of Boston Tightens: General Washington fortified the Continental Army, utilizing artillery brought by Henry Knox to prepare for taking Dorchester Heights, aiming to force a British evacuation.
- Feb 6: French Alliance Developments (Historical Context): While the formal treaty was signed in 1778, this period marked increasing secret negotiations by Benjamin Franklin, Silas Deane, and Arthur Lee for future French support.
- Feb 9–11: Moores Creek Campaign Begins: North Carolina Loyalists, encouraged by Governor Josiah Martin, began assembling to support a planned British invasion.
- Feb 15: Congressional Actions: The Second Continental Congress focused on strengthening defenses, authorizing funds for New Jersey battalions and planning fortification efforts in New York.
- Feb 16: Army Strength Report: A council of war in Cambridge revealed that the Continental Army had roughly 8,797 men fit for duty, while British strength in Boston was just over 5,000.
- Feb 27: Battle of Moores Creek Bridge: North Carolina Patriots defeated a force of roughly 1,600 Loyalists (many Highland Scots) near Wilmington, North Carolina, destroying Loyalist morale and power in the region for years.

- Late Feb: Shift Toward Independence: Following the failure of the Olive Branch Petition and the influence of Paine's Common Sense, colonial legislatures began formally instructing delegates to vote for separation from Britain.

The month is best remembered for the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge in North Carolina, often cited as the first decisive victory for the Patriots, which significantly weakened British influence in the Southern colonies.

I'll wrap this up with a quote from one of my all time favorite entertainers.

“Never let yesterday use up too much of today.”

— *Will Rogers*

Looking forward to seeing you at the Chapter Meeting February 9.

Mark Reichardt

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