



Heading by Megan Sanford

May 2025

President's Message

Oklahoma City Chapter - May 2025



Greetings Fellow Compatriots!

As we enter into May, we continue our America 250 celebration by remembering the events of this month 250 years ago that began the start of new Nation and form of government never seen in human history.

On May 10, 1775, Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold lead a successful attack on Ft. Ticonderoga in upstate New York, while the Second Continental Congress meets in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The Congress faced the task of conducting a war already in progress. Fighting had begun with the Battle of Lexington and Concord on April 19, and Congress needed to create an official army out of an untrained assemblage of militia.

The transformation of these rebels into the Continental Army was assisted by the victory of the Vermont and Massachusetts militia under the joint command of Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold at the British garrison at Ticonderoga on Lake

▪ 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 thandley1@me.com.

▪ Join the **Color Guard** by contacting Mark Reichardt at 405.850.0067

Champlain. Their major achievement was to confiscate enough British cannon to make the Patriot militias into an army capable of an artillery barrage.

Allen and more than 100 of his Green Mountain Boys had already decided to take the fort when Arnold arrived with formal military commissions from Massachusetts and Connecticut and a militia of his own. The Green Mountain Boys were unwilling to follow anyone but Allen into battle, so Allen and Arnold shared command as the Patriot militia surprised and overwhelmed the 50 Redcoats in the isolated garrison, who were completely unaware of the bloodshed in Massachusetts. The cannon seized at Ticonderoga and the next day at Crown Point, also on Lake Champlain, allowed the new Continental Army under General George Washington to drive the British from Boston the following spring.

Ironically, both Allen and Arnold would eventually be accused of treason against the Patriot cause they had served so well in its earliest and neediest moments. Allen avoided conviction for his attempt to reattach Vermont to the British empire in the unstable days of the new republic. Arnold's name, however, became synonymous with traitor for his attempt to sell the fort at West Point, New York, to the British in 1780.

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- **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.



At our April meeting Maggie Sharum from Senator Lankford's office gave us an important update on the ongoing interviews of Military Veterans as part of a Program of the Library of Congress, John Schaller, our Veteran Services Committee Chairman, offers the following:

Listed below are two opportunities to participate the Veterans History Project that Maggie Sharum introduced to us at our April meeting. If you wish to participate as a volunteer or as a veteran, use the appropriate link for the date and location that you choose. Training will be provided for the volunteers. Remember to turn in your round trip miles and your time that you were at the

event to me for the Stark Award. We are working on the details to host an event in November. Any experience you get from participating in either of these events would be helpful as we plan our event.

Holdenville American Legion Veterans History Project Event

When: Monday, July 21, 2025

Where: 211 East Main Holdenville, Oklahoma 74848 American Legion Post

Veterans sign-up: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/veteran-history-project-interviews-at-holdenville-american-legion-tickets-1325713507789?aff=oddtcreator>

Volunteer sign-up: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/volunteers-for-veteran-history-project-in-holdenville-ok-tickets-1325925431659?aff=oddtcreator>

Cornerstone Church Veterans History Project Event

When: Saturday, August 16, 2025

Where: 9900 SE 15th St, Midwest City, OK 73130

Veterans sign-up: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/veteran-history-project-interviews-at-cornerstone-church-tickets-1313045878569?aff=oddtcreator>

Volunteer sign-up: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/volunteers-for-veteran-history-project-at-cornerstone-church-tickets-1313050803299?aff=oddtcreator>

Thank you John for this update.

Calling all Color Guard! At our May 12 meeting, I will be passing the Halberd on to 1LT Terry McClain as the new OKC Chapter Color Guard Commander. There will be a brief ceremony so please come in uniform in support of Compatriot McClain and this event. The wearing of medals is authorized for this occasion.

May 12 will be the last Chapter meeting until September. There will be a business and budget planning meeting in August, ***so all Chapter Officers and Committee Chairs please plan to be in attendance for this important session.*** Our budget and future planning for the next season depend on your presence and input! Details pending.

Upcoming Events

May 10: Compatriot Grave Marking for Ed Williams, Bethany Cemetery, OKC. NE Corner of Rockwell and 63rd Streets. Invitations have been emailed to

Color Guard members. ***If you have not done so, please RSVP by clicking on attendance (yes or no) in the invitation.***

May 12: Chapter Meeting, Johnnie's Restaurant, 33 East 33rd St, Edmond.
6:00 pm meal and social time; 7:00 pm meeting.

May 13: Flag Certificate Presentations at: Christian Valley Christian Academy, Yukon scheduled for 8:00 AM and then a 2nd at Yukon PD at 10:00 AM. Both with Musket Solutes. Invitations with details have been emailed to CG members.

May 24: Ft. San Carlos Festival and PGM, Ste. Genevieve, MO.

May 25: Massing of the Flags, OK National Guard Museum, OKC. 10:00 AM.
Invitation has been emailed to the CG with details.

June 7: Bethel Foundation: Historical Presentation; details will be sent with invitation.

June 14: Armed Forces Day Parade in Lawton; details will be sent with invitation.

July 4: Edmond Liberty Fest Parade, Bethany Boom Parade, OKC Comets Flag presentation. Details will be sent with invitation; we are registered for all the events.

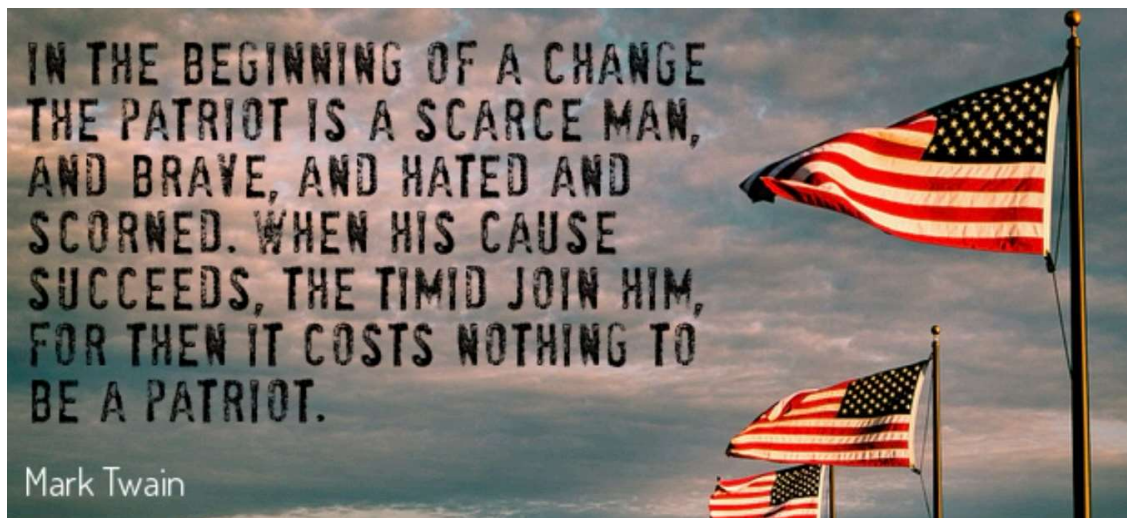
July 12-18: NSSAR Annual Congress, Uncasville, Connecticut.

August 22-23: South Central District Conference, Owasso, OK, Folds of Honor Headquarters. Details Pending.

Attached please find the Minutes from the April Chapter meeting for your review.

I will close out this month's message with a quote from Mark Twain. Just something to remember when enjoying our hot dogs and favorite beverage on Independence Day.

Enjoy your summer with family and friends!



In Fraternity,

Mark Reichardt

Oklahoma City Chapter / NSSAR

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April 2025 SAROKC Chapter Meeting Minutes



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