



PATRIOT



President's Message

Fellow Compatriots,

As we look ahead to 2025, I am filled with optimism for the future of our Constitution and the fellowship that binds us together. I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new members and offer my heartfelt gratitude to our outgoing officers and dedicated members for their hard work and the progress made during their tenure.

This year, I am particularly excited about the direction we are heading, including the reestablishment of our Color Guard unit, the development of a Patriot Chest Youth Education Program for schools, and efforts to expand our social media presence. We also aim to enhance our outreach to potential members, helping them document their ancestors and deepen their connection to our shared history.

With so many ways to engage, I encourage each of you to join us in our mission. Together, we will continue promoting patriotism, serving our communities, and inspiring future generations to understand and appreciate the founding principles of our great nation.

David Bentley, Presumptive Incoming 2025-2026 Signers Chapter President

Upcoming Calendar of Events

Saturday, January 4, 2025, 9am, Breakfast meeting, Egg Works Restaurant, Summerlin.

Saturday, February 1, 9am, Breakfast meeting, Egg Works Restaurant, Summerlin.

Saturday, February 15, 5pm, George Washington's Birthday Dinner co-hosted with the Francisco Garces Chapter, NSDAR at the Las Vegas National Golf Club.

Saturday, March 1, 9am, Breakfast meeting, Egg Works Restaurant, Summerlin.

Saturday, March 22, Nevada Society SAR, Annual Meeting, Reno.

Saturday, April 5, 9am, Breakfast meeting, Egg Works Restaurant, Summerlin

Saturday, May 3, 9am, Breakfast meeting, Egg Works Restaurant, Summerlin

December 2024 Events

On December 7 the annual Signers Chapter **Christmas Party** took place in Henderson. Hors d'Oeuvres and desserts were served to a festive group of NSSAR and NSDAR chapter members and members of their family.

On December 14 volunteers met to participate in the annual **Wreaths Across America** event at the Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Boulder City. Attendees placed wreaths on graves of veterans to honor their sacrifices for our country. Like last year over 12,000 wreaths were laid by hundreds of attendees. Ten NSSAR chapter members, five NSDAR chapter members and some friends and family volunteered to place wreaths on 41 graves of former Signers Chapter members.



January Planned Event

The January 4th **Breakfast meeting** will include guest speaker **Allen Kaercher**. Allen was born and raised in Las Vegas. He is the President of Kaercher Insurance, and now Managing Partner of the Alera Group. He has over **40** years of experience in development and implementation of risk management programs, specializing in risk control programs for a diverse range of clients, including hospitality/gaming accounts, public entities, healthcare facilities, airports, hotel/casinos and other large, complex accounts. Allen earned his Bachelor of Science degree in business insurance administration from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, as well as the Associate in Risk Management (ARM) designation. He helped develop the first Owner Controlled Insurance Program and assisted with implementation of the first Self-Insured Workers Compensation program in Nevada with the risk managers of Summa Corporation and MGM Grand. The result was the creation of laws that are still in effect today in the State of Nevada. Allen has an avid interest in Las Vegas history and devotes a great deal of his time to numerous community organizations including the Boy Scouts of America, Inner City Games, and Southern Nevada Water Authority. He also serves as an honorary commander with the Nellis Air Force Base Support Team.



In addition, new officers will be inducted along with several new members of the chapter. Be sure to attend this event to meet and greet your fellow compatriots.

A special event will happen in Las Vegas in early January. A French Legion of Honor Ceremony will occur at the Silverton Casino at 2pm on Monday, January 6th.

U.S. Army Private First Class Onofrio "NoNo" Zicari will be awarded the French Legion of Honor Medal in the rank of Knight by French Consul General Adrien Frier, for Zicari's service during World War II in France.

Mark Hall-Patton will be the keynote speaker at the event. Mark is the retired Administrator of the Clark County Museum and is a frequent expert called onto the TV show, Pawn Stars.



FRENCH LEGION OF HONOR CEREMONY

Onofrio "NoNo" Zicari
Private First Class Army

Join us for the awarding of the French Legion of Honor Medal in the rank of Knight by French Consul General Adrien Frier. The medal is awarded for NoNo's service in France during WWII.

Master of Ceremony:
Fred Wagar
Director of Nevada Veterans Administration, Retired

Ceremony is open to the public

Monday
January 6, 2025
2:00pm

Veil Pavilion
Silverton Casino
3333 Blue Diamond Rd.
Las Vegas, NV

Contact: Bob Reed
702-340-5716
usveterans@cox.net

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Onofrio "NoNo" Zicari was born in 1923 in Geneva, NY. He enlisted in 1942 and his training for the service was in California. Zicari was stationed in Scotland then Wales, later seeing fighting in France, Belgium, and Luxembourg but one battle had a big impact on him, D-Day at Omaha Beach. He was in the 5th wave to go onshore. It was brutal and where he saw his first dead soldier. Zicari was in charge of bringing supplies to shore and setting up a supply line. Back in the states, Zicari lived in Los Angeles and was a deliveryman during the 1992 Rodney King riots. He was given a patch or armband to wear and had no troubles from the rioters.



On June 22, 1942, Congress passed a joint resolution, later amended on December 22, 1942, that encompassed what has come to be known as the U.S. Flag Code.

The flag of the United States is the emblem of our identity as a sovereign nation, which the United States of America has been for more than 200 years.

The flag is a symbol of respect, honor, and patriotism.

The dates to fly the flag during the first 3 months of 2025 are:

January 1 (fixed)	New Year's Day
January 20	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 20	Inauguration Day
February 12 (fixed)	Lincoln's Birthday
February 17	President's Day
February 17	Washington's Birthday
March 9 (fixed)	U.S. Hostage and Wrongful Detainee Day
March 17 (fixed)	St. Patrick's Day
March 29 (fixed)	National Vietnam War Veterans Day

Color Guard – California SAR Harbor Chapter



California SAR Harbor Chapter Color Guard Commander, Brandon Villardi, is also a member of the Signers Chapter. Brandon is third from the left.

In late 2024, the Signers Chapter established a new committee to form a Color Guard unit for the 2025. Compatriot Mel Butler has agreed to serve as the Color Guard Commander.

The following compatriots have volunteered to be part of this new unit: Jeff Gutting, David Bentley, Tim Hagan, Don Hotchkiss Jr., Brandon Villardi, Gary Watson, David Lee, Steve Fields. Gary Parriott, who was part of the previous chapter Color Guard unit, will continue to be a member of the new unit, wearing a militia outfit.

The outfitting of the unit has recently been the focus of compatriot Don Hotchkiss Jr., who has been acquiring uniform components for a 10-person unit. Hats, coats, shirts, waist coats, pants, gloves, socks, shoes, haversacks, bayonets and scabbards, and muskets will be part of the unit's gear.

Commander Butler will determine which events the new unit will participate in during 2025. Any compatriot wishing to join this unit should contact Commander Mel Butler at mbutlerus@gmail.com.

A Patriot's Life

Revolutionary War soldier, **Anthony Jenks**, lived in Rhode Island in the mid-1770s. The name "Jencks" is of Welsh origin, traced to the year 150 B.C. through many kings of Britian and warriors of ancestral times. Jencks had also been spelled Jenckes, Jinks, and Jenkes. Jenks was the name that survived in America.

Anthony was the great great grandson of **Joseph Jencks**, a talented iron works founder and inventor that the Massachusetts Bay Colony employed in New England.

Born in 1603 in London, England, Joseph Jencks became a millwright, carpenter, and inventor. He came to New England in 1643, where he led the effort to build the first successful iron works operation in America. The Saugus Iron Works, about 10 miles north of Boston, Massachusetts, is now a National Historical Site. In 1646, Joseph was awarded the first patent in North America by the General Court of Massachusetts, for an improved design of and process for making scythes, an agricultural hand tool for mowing grass or harvesting crops. Joseph also built a forge in Saugus in 1647 and in 1652 made the dies for the first silver money coined in New England, the "Pine Tree silver shilling". In 1654, he constructed the first fire engine in America, commissioned by the city of Boston.

A century later his great great grandson, Anthony Jenks, was born in 1755 in Providence County, Rhode Island. Anthony married Hannah Sutton in 1773 and the pair raised four children: Otis, Nathan, Ananias & Fanny.

After the outbreak of war with England, Anthony enlisted in the Rhode Island Militia. He served until the end of the Revolutionary War. He was part of the 2nd Rhode Island Regiment of the Continental Army.

He initially enlisted for a three-year term to serve during the war on 24 May 1777. In 1780 he re-enlisted. He was recruited by an officer of the regiment commanded by Colonel Israel Angell, lastly by Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Jeremiah Olney. On 15 Jun 1783 he received furlough at Saratoga, NY, which became an official discharge once the definitive treaty of peace was signed. His total military service was 6 years and 22 days, and he received the badge of merit for faithful service, and the advance level of Sergeant and preformed those duties for a time. Discharge was by Colonel Jeremiah Olney from Saratoga, and the associated discharge papers were signed by General George Washington, who himself was stationed there.

After the war he called himself a millwright and carpenter, however he was forced to rely on partial support of friends because of a sawmill injury to his left hand that limited his ability to perform work.

In a court deposition in 1820, he requested certain military benefits because multiple sicknesses and various misfortunes left him in need. In the deposition, Anthony described his limited property, which included a collection of small hand tools for wood working. In an 1832 court deposition, he sought 100 acres of U.S. land promised to Continental soldiers for their military service, and he specifically requested land in Ohio. For some unknown reason however, he never received this land. A major concern of these court depositions focused on his inability to produce his discharge papers. According to court depositions made by Anthony in 1820 and 1832, he never saw his discharge papers. The argument Anthony made to the judge was that he was on furlough and physically away from Saratoga when the discharge papers were dispensed. His name appears in a Providence military survey of 1777 as being between the age of 16-60 and able to bear arms. Also, Anthony's name is included in the 1835 pensioner's list reported to the Senate for those pensioners in Cortland County, NY. Thus, he did receive a military pension, but not land. In the 1832 court deposition, Anthony states that he lived in Summerhill, Cayuga County, NY and that he was 76 years old. He apparently married a second time to a Laura in 1833. She appeared before the Cayuga County Pension Board in 1855 for the purpose of obtaining U.S. Bounty Land which Anthony never received. Whether she received this land is unclear. She cited her age as 50 in that court, which meant that he was 78 and she 28 when they married.

Anthony died in 1837 at the age of 82. Today, a single gravestone can be found on a piece of land near a creek bank in the town of Summerhill, Cayuga County, New York.

Sergeant Anthony Jenks is the patriot ancestor of a new member of the Signers Chapter, **Tim Friden**



RI soldier



Pine Tree Silver Shilling

Sources: The Jenks Family Genealogy, Browne, William B., 1952

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