



PATRIOT



President's Message

As summer begins to wind down, we find ourselves looking ahead to one of the most significant dates in our national history, September 17th, Constitution Day. To mark this occasion, I urge each of you to set aside the evening of **Saturday, September 13th** for our annual **Constitution Day Banquet**. This event is more than a dinner; it is a moment to reflect on the enduring strength of our Republic and to honor the document that shaped it.

I also want to extend my heartfelt thanks to all who volunteered their time and energy to make our **4th of July Fireworks Booth** week a success. Your efforts directly supported our youth scholarship program, historic preservation, and community outreach—bringing the mission of our chapter to life in a visible and meaningful way.

August offers a brief pause before the fall season begins in earnest. Let us use this time to recommit to our shared mission: promoting patriotism, preserving our heritage, and educating future generations. Whether through outreach, the Color Guard, or personal engagement, each of us plays a vital role in carrying forward the legacy of our Patriot ancestors.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our August Breakfast meeting and in September as we gather in celebration of the Constitution and the freedom it guarantees.

David Bentley, President, Signers Chapter, Nevada State Society, Sons of the American Revolution

Upcoming Calendar of Events

Saturday, August 2, 9am, Breakfast meeting, Egg Works Restaurant, Summerlin

Saturday, Sept. 6, 9am, Breakfast meeting, Egg Works Restaurant, Summerlin

Saturday, Sept. 13, 5pm, Constitution Day Banquet, Las Vegas National Golf Club

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

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

Saturday, Dec. 13, 5pm, Christmas dinner, Las Vegas National Gold Club

Question:

Where is the original painting of “Washington Crossing the Delaware” by Emanuel Leutze?

July 2025 Event



The Signers Chapter operated the annual Fireworks Booth Fundraiser in Henderson this year, from Saturday, June 28th until Friday, July 4th. Chapter compatriots volunteered to work in the booth in shifts from 7am until 11pm and were joined by members of the DAR Francisco Garces chapter, members of ICES (International Cultural Exchange Services) and members of SUVCW (Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War).

Profits from sales of fireworks are shared by the four organizations and for the Signers chapter, the funds will help pay for the chapter's annual youth scholarship program, for Colonial uniform elements for the chapter's Color Guard unit (still being formed this year) and other chapter expenses such as storage fees for all the elements added to the booth that are key to making the booth experience tolerable in the summer heat.

The work of setting this operation up and then taking it down required the efforts of a number of volunteers who are pictured above. Thanks to all the volunteers for their contribution to this worthy cause.

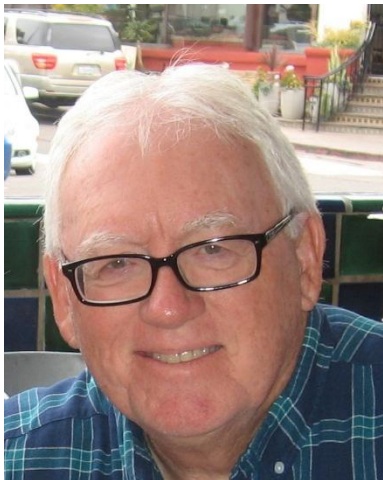
A benefit of the weeklong event was a number of visitors expressed interest in joining the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution. We hope to hear from them soon.

August 2025 Event Planned

Our August 2025 Signers Chapter breakfast meeting speaker will be compatriot **Gary Watson**, who has lived in Henderson, Nevada for 35 years. Born in central Illinois, he moved to southern California with his family in the middle of his high school years. After graduation he enlisted in the U.S. Army and served one year in Vietnam and two years in northern Japan, where he was involved in Manual Morse Intercept intelligence operations. Gary returned to southern California to work full time and attend college, graduating with a B.S. degree in accounting in 1975. Gary then began a 30-year management accounting career working for electronics and metals manufacturing companies. He was employed by TIMET (Titanium Metals Corporation) during his first 15 years in Henderson. During that time, he earned certifications in production & inventory management, management accounting, financial management, internal auditing, and eventually a CPA license. After leaving full employment, Gary spent an additional 7 years doing part time contract auditing in the area of internal controls over financial reporting.

Gary's wife, Rosemary, originally from Florida, has lived in southern Nevada for 65 years. Gary is the father of two daughters who have five children between them. Both have been involved in the health care industry in the Pacific Northwest for more than 30 years. Gary's oldest daughter, Wendy, is currently President, Pacific Northwest region of Kaiser Permanente, a non-profit healthcare organization.

Since proudly becoming a member of the Signers Chapter in April 2023, Gary joined the leadership team as Chairman of the Veterans Committee, Facebook Admin, Newsletter Editor and then became the Nevada State and acting Signers Chapter Registrar in April 2024.



Gary will use a select number of stories about the founding of our nation which describe events in and around Boston and the lives of several influential Bostonians during the 18th century.

Bob Reed, Chair SAR America250 Committee**Signers Chapter-Southern Nevada****501(c)(3) nonprofit (EIN: 31-1456157)**

As previously announced, our Chapter's contribution in celebration of our Country's 250th birthday will be a granite monument placed in the Memorial Garden at the ***Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery*** in Boulder City.

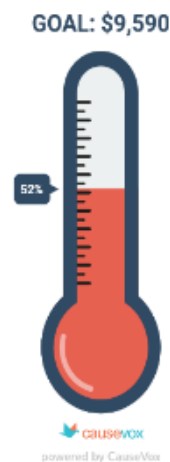
The monument (made from Georgia quarried granite) has been ordered and is being cut with an expected Mid-November shipment date to *Great Basin Monument, Las Vegas*. I would like to note that the quarry, on their own, researched the slope at the top of the Washington Monument to ensure that our obelisk's top slope matched that of one of our most cherished monuments.

When received here in Las Vegas, *Great Basin Monument* will etch and paint the logo plus add the text to our specifications. We expect the project to be completed by the end of February 2026. A dedication time and date will be announced sometime in the future when delivery dates are confirmed.

This is your monument, your country, your ancestors being remembered! Please help us meet our financial goal for this project! Our temperature gauge needs to rise! Please contribute to our project! If you can't contribute, ask businesses that you know to help us meet our goal for the worthwhile cause!

Please make checks payable to: Signers Chapter SAR with America250 in the memo line.

Bring to a meeting or mail to: Bob Reed 10170 Pensive Ponder St, Las Vegas, NV 89178.





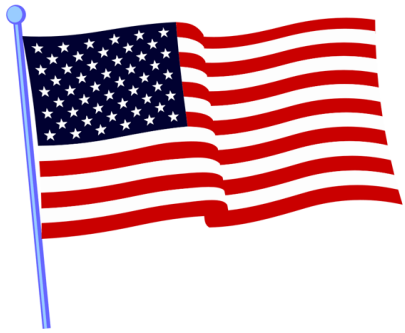
The Nevada Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution and The American Battlefield Trust are excited to feature the American Revolution Experience. The innovative pop-up exhibition includes display panels and interactive digital kiosks that use storytelling illustrations, technology, and unique artifacts and primary accounts to connect modern audiences with the people and places that shaped the birth of our nation. We invite you to join us.

FREE EXHIBITS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

*September 15–20, 2025 at Paseo Verde Branch, Henderson Libraries, 280 S Green Valley Pkwy, Henderson, NV 89102

*September 29–October 3, 2025, at Las Vegas FamilySearch Center, 501 South 9th Street, Las Vegas, NV 89101

Sponsors: Nevada Sagebrush Chapter, Las Vegas Springs Chapter, Virgin Valley Chapter. Co-sponsors: TMCC Learning Commons Committee, Henderson Libraries, Mesquite Work STEAM Center, Las Vegas FamilySearch Center; and Nevada State Society DAR Chapters.



United States Code, Title 36

Chapter 10, Patriotic Customs

The Flag of the United States of America

Section 172 – The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, “I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all,” should be rendered by standing at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. When not in uniform men should remove any non-religious headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Persons in uniform should remain silent, face the flag, and render the military salute. Members of the Armed Forces not in uniform and veterans may render the military salute in the manner provided to persons in uniform.

Answer:

The original painting was first damaged by fire at Leutze’s studio in Germany and was subsequently restored. It was then sold to Kunsthalle Bremen; ultimately it was destroyed during an Allied bombing raid on September 5, 1942. The second version by Leutze was donated to the Metropolitan Museum of Art by John Stewart Kennedy in 1897.

Inside Colonial America

(Excerpts credited to MountVernon.org, Arlington Public Schools, Battlefields.org)

Copied from Freedom Rings newsletter of the Woodlands, Texas Freedom Chapter, SAR, by Mark Hoffman

In 1774, tolerance for British rule was weighing heavily on the minds of colonists. Regardless of recent events like the Boston Tea Party and subsequent enactment by the British Parliament's Coercive Acts (Intolerable Acts), American colonists actually lived comfortably compared to the rest of modern civilization of the time.

According to historian Alice Hansen Jones, average annual income in the colonies was 13.85 British pounds, which was the highest of the developed countries of the time. This outpaced both England and France. The average for free whites was 16 pounds and indentured servants made roughly 7- 9 pounds. The south was the richest region with an income of 18 pounds, while New England states earned approximately 12.61 pounds. The average tax rate for an American colonist was 1 - 1.5%. Conversely, British tax rates were between 5 - 7%. Americans primarily paid taxes for tariffs (indirect taxes) instead of excise taxes (direct taxes, also known as "sales taxes") or land taxes. However, government services were almost non-existent. Lack of protection on the frontier, poor roads, and infrastructure, along with no civil services plagued colonists.

However, natural resources and cheap land were abundant. Products like cotton grew in output by a healthy rate. Other products like tobacco, wheat and rice produced incomes that exceeded other areas of the known world. Ironically, it was women who helped shape and influence commerce. Women were inclined to purchase items for the household, and it was women's tastes that would dictate what goods merchants would sell. Nine out of ten people lived on small family farms, either raising or making everything they needed. In comparison, one out of twenty lived in cities. Cities were considered exciting places to live, but were noisy and smelly places, filled with the odor of rotting garbage and open sewage. Church bells came to life daily while carts passed along on cobblestones.

Colonists of the time saw themselves as English citizens. They expected the same rights as people living in Great Britain. Their rights were drawn from documents such as the Magna Carta and the English Bill of Rights. They wanted equal representation.

Each colony decided how to uphold themselves regarding crimes and punishment. For crimes such as theft, some people might be jailed, some might be whipped, or some might even be branded with hot irons. Other crimes such as public intoxication and breaking the Sabbath could have fines, short jail terms, or some variation of public humiliation.

What set many colonists apart from their English counterparts was class. While titles in Great Britain established one's place in society, many in colonial America started out poor. It was those individuals who utilized their intelligence and talent to advance themselves. Religion helped individuals lead a good life while also teaching fundamentals such as reading. But most colonial children received very little in the form of a formal education. Towns in New England required public schools, while other areas would lean on parents to educate their children. Families would consist of multi-generational individuals, such as aunts, uncles, cousins, grandparents, parents, children, and stepchildren, all residing in a single house.

Regardless of these facts, it became evident that if the new American way of life were to continue, America would have to seize the ability to govern itself. Colonists had developed a new way of living and had grown exhausted by their lack of representation. Among many reasons, representation would be a driving force for a newfound nation of free-thinking, like minded individuals, seeking opportunity and freedom.