



PATRIOT



President's Message

This September we celebrate the enduring legacy of the U.S. Constitution. Please join us at the **Constitution Day Dinner on September 13th**, where historian **Mark Hall-Patton** will be our guest speaker.

Our Chapter is also proud to host two **Fallout Days bus tours, November 14th–16th**, as a fundraiser. This celebration of the *Fallout: New Vegas* video game highlights real historical sites near Las Vegas. By supporting these tours, we not only raise funds but also connect a new generation of history enthusiasts to the true heritage behind the landmarks.

Finally, I am pleased to report that we have secured the site for the **America250 Veterans Monument** at the Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery, and the granite has been ordered. This tribute will honor America's first veterans and stand as a lasting reminder of their sacrifice.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our mission. In fellowship,

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

Upcoming Calendar of Events

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

Saturday, Sept. 13, 5pm, Constitution Day Dinner, 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

Friday, Dec. 19, 5pm, Signers Chapter Christmas dinner, Las Vegas National Gold Club

Question:

The Powell family of Camden NJ contributed the most sons to fight in the American Revolution. How many sons fought for our freedom?

August 2025 Event

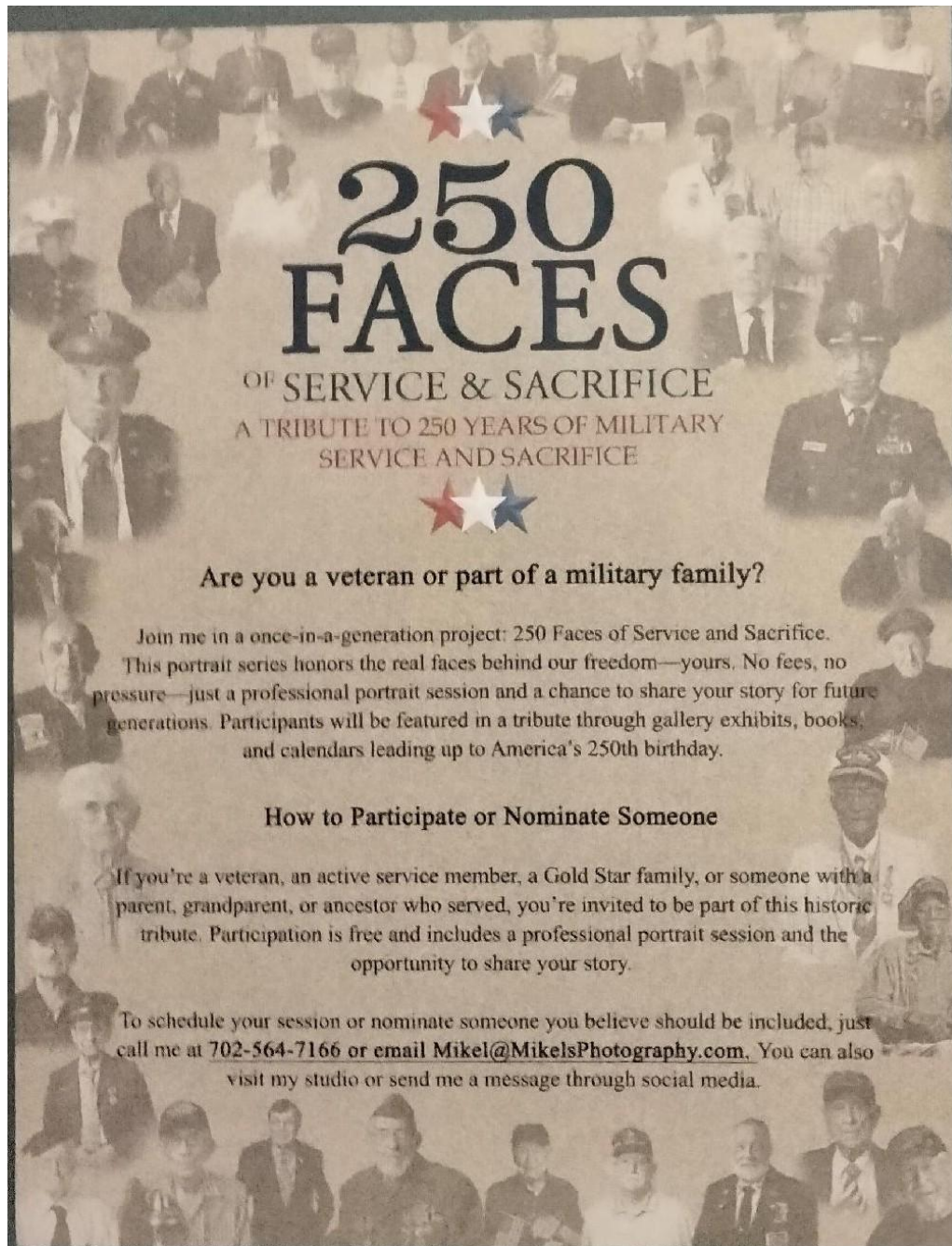
The chapter membership roster increased by one at the August 2nd breakfast meeting when attendees welcomed our newest chapter compatriot, Keith Robbins. After Keith was asked to raise his right hand and take the oath, President David Bentley handed him his membership certificate and a rosette pin. Then Keith described his patriot ancestor, John Robbins, a waggoner from New Jersey. Keith's wife, Lilly, accompanied her partner for the event and captured pictures of his induction.



Compatriot Gary Watson presented historical accounts of several influential Bostonian and New England patriots and described five ingredients that were important drivers for the founding of the United States of America.



Mikel Conrad, photographer and owner of Mikel's Photography and Design Studio in Henderson, NV presented an overview of his 250 Faces of Service & Sacrifice project. Mikel invited veterans, active-duty service members, and anyone with a parent, grandparent or ancestor who served in America's armed forces, to participate in a once-in-a-generation portrait project honoring the real faces behind our freedom.



**250
FACES**
OF SERVICE & SACRIFICE
A TRIBUTE TO 250 YEARS OF MILITARY
SERVICE AND SACRIFICE

Are you a veteran or part of a military family?

Join me in a once-in-a-generation project: 250 Faces of Service and Sacrifice. This portrait series honors the real faces behind our freedom—yours. No fees, no pressure—just a professional portrait session and a chance to share your story for future generations. Participants will be featured in a tribute through gallery exhibits, books, and calendars leading up to America's 250th birthday.

How to Participate or Nominate Someone

If you're a veteran, an active service member, a Gold Star family, or someone with a parent, grandparent, or ancestor who served, you're invited to be part of this historic tribute. Participation is free and includes a professional portrait session and the opportunity to share your story.

To schedule your session or nominate someone you believe should be included, just call me at **702-564-7166** or email Mikel@MikelsPhotography.com. You can also visit my studio or send me a message through social media.

A special event occurred on Saturday, August 2nd when Compatriot Eric Keyes and his three sons and grandson were inducted into the Signers Chapter while visiting the Bunker Hill Monument near Boston, MA. A member of the SAR Cape Cod and Islands Chapter participated in the induction ceremony. From left: Compatriot Jamie Booth of the Cape Cod and Islands Chapter, Devin Keyes, Weston Keyes, Eric Keyes, Tyler Keyes, and Garrett Keyes.



September 2025 Events Planned



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

Answer:

Charity Powell and Richard Powell were blessed with 21 children, twenty boys and one girl. Seventeen of the boys fought in the war with three dying during the conflict. There is a plaque at Valley Forge commemorating the contributions of the Powell family.



At the September 6th breakfast meeting, the Nevada State President for the Children of the American Revolution (NSCAR), **Camden Zeiler**, will speak to attendees about the group's Nevada State project. The Signers Chapter is eager to meet Camden and his mother, Mrs. Ida Zeiler.



The meeting's featured speaker will be Compatriot **David Gibbs**. His topic will be the history of the US Electoral College. David graduated from the United States Air Force Academy in 1979 and served in the Air Force as a pilot flying B-52s, FB-111s, and RQ/MQ-1s. He commanded a B-52 deployment in 1998 supporting Operation Southern Watch (OSW) (Iraq). He transferred to Creech Air Force base in 1999 to command a Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPA) squadron and deployed to Bosnia in 2000 and to the Middle East in 2002 for Operation Southern Watch. In 2003, Dave deployed to the Middle East again for the Second Gulf War. Shortly after returning, he retired from the Air Force after 25 years and made North Las Vegas his permanent home. After his Air Force retirement, Dave worked in different areas of the RPA industry. He deployed three times to the Middle East as a civilian contractor, serving in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Kuwait between 2009 and 2011. From 2015 to 2020, he managed and oversaw \$25-35 million annual contracts to provide RPA maintenance operations in the US and overseas. While he retired in 2020, Dave continues to work on various political activities. In 2024, he created the initiative and led the statewide process of getting Voter ID (Question 7) on the ballot. Dave and his wife, Cath, do a lot of traveling and spend time with their four grandchildren.

Organizations Dave belongs to:

Clark County Republican Central Committee: 2004 - Present

Executive Board Member: 2005-2011

Clark County Chairman: 2011-2012

Nevada Republican Central Committee: 2006 – Present

Las Vegas Conservative Townhall Group: President 2018-2021

Nevada Republican Club: 2019 – Present

Communications Director: 2020

President: 2021, 2023

Keystone Corporation: 2008 – Present

Board of Directors: 2018 – Present

Repair the Vote PAC President 2021 – Present

Las Vegas Chapter USAF Academy Association of Graduates.

2012 – Present

President, 2017 – Present

Toastmasters: 2004 – Present, Distinguished Toastmaster

Sons of the American Revolution: May 2025 - Present



Bob Reed, Chair SAR America250 Committee Signers Chapter-Southern Nevada

501(c)(3) nonprofit (EIN: 31-1456157)

Our contribution to the celebration of our country's 250th birthday is taking shape literally as I write this!

As noted in last month's newsletter, the order for our monument has been placed with the stone quarry in Georgia. We expect delivery to Great Basin Monument Company here in Las Vegas before the end of the year. Once received by Great Basin, the inscriptions will be added to the monument. Actual delivery to the cemetery is estimated for February or March 2026.

The placement location within the Memorial Garden has been confirmed with the Veterans Memorial cemetery in Boulder City. The location, near the entrance to the Memorial Garden, will afford great visibility of our monument when visitors enter the Memorial Garden.

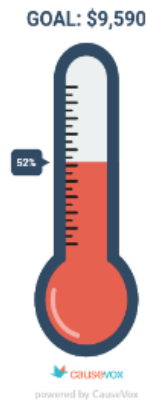
This is your monument, your country, your ancestors being remembered! Please help us meet our financial goal for this project! Our temperature gauge needs to rise! Please contribute to our project! I have had great success just by asking businesses that I know to help us meet our goal for the worthwhile cause! I have received checks anywhere from \$50 to \$500 just by asking!

Also, we now have a stock account where you can contribute stock to SAR with a potential tax benefit!

That said, don't forget that we are a 501(c)(3) organization meaning that any contribution to SAR could potentially be a tax deduction!

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



Constitution Day Dinner
Saturday, September 13, 2025, 5pm



Join the Signers Chapter SAR and Silver State Chapter DAR as we celebrate Constitution Day with great food, fellowship, and a distinguished guest speaker.

📍 **Location:**

Las Vegas National Golf Club
1911 E Desert Inn Road, Las Vegas, NV

Guest Speaker: Mark Hall-Patton, Former Administrator of the Clark County Museum System and History Expert on Pawn Stars

August 23, 1775, King George III proclaims colonies to be in open rebellion, not viewing the **Olive Branch Petition**, offered by the Second Continental Congress, before making the proclamation. Following is the King's proclamation.

King George's "A Proclamation for Suppressing Rebellion and Sedition"

"Whereas many of our subjects in diverse parts of our Colonies and Plantations in North America, misled by dangerous and ill-designing men, and forgetting the allegiance which they owe to the power that has protected and sustained them; after various disorderly acts committed in disturbance of the publick peace, to the obstruction of lawful commerce, and to the oppression of our loyal subjects carrying on the same; have at length proceeded to open and avowed rebellion, by arraying themselves in a hostile manner, to withstand the execution of the law, and traitorously preparing, ordering and levying war against us: And whereas, there is reason to apprehend that such rebellion hath been much promoted and encouraged by the traitorous correspondence, counsels and comfort of diverse wicked and desperate persons within this realm: To the end therefore, that none of our subjects may neglect or violate their duty through ignorance thereof, or through any doubt of the protection which the law will afford to their loyalty and zeal, we have thought fit, by and with the advice of our Privy Council, to issue our Royal Proclamation, hereby declaring, that not only all our Officers, civil and military, are obliged to exert their utmost endeavors to suppress such rebellion, and to bring the traitors to justice, but that all our subjects of this Realm, and the dominions thereunto belonging, are bound by law to be aiding and assisting in the suppression of such rebellion, and to disclose and make known all traitorous conspiracies and attempts against us, our crown and dignity; and we do accordingly strictly charge and command all our Officers, as well civil as military, and all others our obedient and loyal subjects, to use their utmost endeavors to withstand and suppress such rebellion, and to disclose and make known all treasons and traitorous conspiracies which they shall know to be against us, our crown and dignity; and for that purpose, that they transmit to one of our principal Secretaries of State, or other proper officer, due and full information of all persons who shall be found carrying on correspondence with, or in any manner or degree aiding or abetting the persons now in open arms and rebellion against our Government, within any of our Colonies and Plantations in North America, in order to bring to condign punishment the authors, perpetrators, and abettors of such traitorous designs.

Given at our Court at St. James's the twenty-third day of August, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, in the fifteenth year of our reign.

God save the King.

On top of this proclamation, Parliament passed the American Prohibitory Act in December 1775. This was a law that banned all British trade with the American colonies. It also said that American ships and cargo were to be treated like an enemy and could be seized. The Proclamation of Rebellion, followed by the American Prohibitory Act, was considered by many Americans to be a declaration of war by Parliament against the American colonies.

A Last Hope for Peace

On July 5, 1775, the **Olive Branch Petition** was signed in the Assembly Room of Independence Hall. The petition was an attempt to stave off war in the aftermath of the armed conflict in Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts. In less than a year's time, many of these same men would return to Independence Hall to approve the Declaration of Independence. Although fighting had already begun, many in Philadelphia didn't support independence. The Second Continental Congress formed a committee to draft the Olive Branch Petition, a formal appeal to King George III, which included John Dickinson, Benjamin Franklin, John Jay, Thomas Jefferson, and John Rutledge.

Some in congress blamed Parliament for unpopular policies like the Stamp Act, the Tea Act, and the Currency Act. They hoped that an appeal to the king would open negotiations to reach a peaceful settlement. Dickinson warned fellow congress member, Arthur Lee, that if the king were to "reject this application with contempt. ". . [it] will confirm the minds of our countrymen to endure all the misfortunes that may attend the contest."

Congress adopted the Olive Branch Petition and representatives of twelve colonies (Georgia had not yet arrived) signed the petition on July 8. The formal petition was then entrusted in the care of Richard Penn, a former Governor of Pennsylvania, and Arthur Lee for the long journey to London. The petition was presented on September 1 to British Colonial Secretary Lord Dartmouth. The efforts of congress and John Dickinson to affect a resolution to the escalating crisis were in vain—the Olive Branch Petition arrived too late. King George III had already declared the colonies to be in a state of "open and avowed rebellion".

The subsequent rejection of the Olive Branch Petition by King George III emboldened members of congress to push for more radical steps. The whispers of independence grew louder.