The Riverside Chapter's Rivulet

May 2026

May Meeting

Date: May 19, 2026
Tuesday 11:30 AM

Location: Flo's Farmhouse Cafe
5620 Van Buren Blvd.
Riverside, CA
(Between Arlington Ave, and Wells)

Program: ***The early events that sparked a Revolution against England.***

RSVP Not Required

Andrew Tracey	May 4
Mike Michelsen	May 8
Ron Morgan	May 9
Aaron Lucas	May 12
Jon Breker	May 14
McAlister Zumwalt	May 17
Bob Dickey	May 24
Mike Mann	May 24
Jack Terry	May 28

Riverside Being Flagged?

The California State Society SAR is asking chapters to consider adoption of a Chapter Flag. To that end, the Riverside Chapter has begun a design concept that pays tribute to the rich history of Riverside, while also recognizing the State and National SAR Societies. Although Chapter members reside throughout the Unites States, the Riverside Chapter was formed by men living in the City of Riverside who met for many years at the Mission Inn, when a dinner ran $2.50.

The design is being refined and will be presented in the near future for discussion and action.

Stay tuned for further details.

Editor

Riverside Chapter Officers for 2026

President
Michael Mann
mikeronie@earthlink.net

1st Vice President
Greg Barrett
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2nd Vice President
Roger Cooper
crogercooper@gmail.com

Secretary
Gene Justin
Genejustin01@aol.com

Treasurer
John Matulich
johnmmatulich@gmail.com

Registrar
David Leonard
leonarddla@earthlink.net

Appointed Positions

Chaplain
Brad Simmons
cbsim1@sbcglobal.net

Historian/Newsletter Editor
David Leonard
leonarddla@earthlink.net

Color Guard Commander
Brian Stephens
briandi777@aol.com

Scout Coordinator
Mike Heckenlaible
CALegionEagle@gmail.com

JROTC/Sea Cadets Coord.
John Matulich
johnmmatulich@gmail.com

New Riverside Chapter Members Registered by the NSSAR in 2026

Terry Brennan	6 February 2026	No. 236797
Ethan Heckman	6 February 2026	No. 236795
S. Brad Simmons	13 February 2026	No. 236929
Troy Flath	20 March 2026	No. 237351
Jason Johnson	26 March 2026	No. 237492
Tom Chapin	3 April 2026	No. 237687
David Pulsifer	3 April 2026	No. 237690
Gavin Christen	24 April 2026	No. 238043
Mike Kelly	1 May 2026	No. 238215

Supplemental Applications

Approved by NSSAR in 2026

James Ungard ANC Johann Bartholomew

Call for Youth Protection Training

As the "face" of the SAR, particularly the Color Guard, interacts with the public more often than most SAR members, and specifically with children either at parades, living history events, or school presentations, etc.

Therefore it is required that ALL color guard members undergo the Youth Protection Training provided by the SAR University. Below is the links to the various trainings offered, as well as the direct link to the Certificate training. This online FREE Training Certification is good for 3 years.

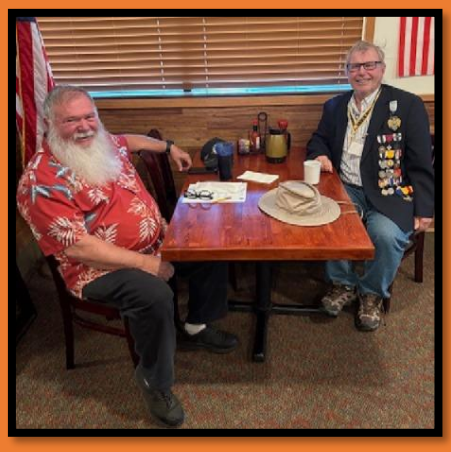
https://www.sar.org/sar-university/

This link offers training for each officer at the chapter level.

https://www.bredenfoerder.com/certification.html

Highlights of the April Riverside Chapter Meeting

THEY PRODUCED OUR BEST ATTENDANCE AT A CHAPTER MEETING THIS DECADE



L-R Antionio Reyes, Jim Dillard, Scott Wyatt, Terrilee Wyatt (DAR), Barbara Matulich (DAR), Treasurer John Matulich, Brian Stephens (NSSAR VP West Ret), Mike Michelsen (Candidate), and Terry Brennan. Gavin Christen (Candidate), and Wayne Rogers (former Riverside and Eagle Chapter Pres.). Not pictured, Registrar and Newsletter Editor David Leonard

Vice Pres. Greg Barrett, Ken White (Candidate), Jim Unnger, Brian Uribe (Candidate), Mike Heckenliable, Roger Cooper, Trot Flath, and Secretary Gene Justin.

More Highlights of the April Riverside Chapter Meeting

SAR RECOGNITIONS

Terry Brennan inducted into the SAR following a challenging proof of lieneage. Greg Barrett initiated the new custom of describing the service of his Patriot ancestor. He set a high bar as his Patriot, Nathan Barrett, led the first militia to counter-attack the British following Lexington.

Former Riverside Chapter President and Founding Eagle Chapter President Wayne Rogers arrived in his regalia to celebrate his 25 years with the SAR.

More Highlights of the April Riverside Chapter Meeting

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Mountain Fife and Drum, based in the San Bernardino mountain communities, has been serving the region since 2001. The Riverside Chapter SAR and Mountain Fife and Drum have jointly appeared in numerous events over the years and the Chapter has supported this group with donations to finance trips to perform at Colonial Williamsburg. The Chapter voted to donate $100 for their 2026 trip.

Riverside Chapter now has copies of the United States Constitution and musket writing pens to give away at public events. The musket pen is likely to be in high demand. An impromptu text may be in order to award the pen. A sample question might be who was the commanding general that led the Colonial forces? This might be more of a test upon the public school system. These items are provided thanks to a generous donor to the Chapter.

California State Meeting Highlights

California SAR
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Some Ends and some Odds emerged at the 151st State Meeting in Visalia, CA during the weekend of April 23-26. The Riverside Chapter was ably represented by Vice President Greg Barrett and Secretary Gene Justin (Friday only). Here are some highlights of the sessions.

1. Changing the guard: Randy Dhindsa is now our State President. Two other key state positions have changed hands as David Arthurs became State Registrar and Steve Andrews became State Secretary. These are two of the most demanding positions at the state level and do not change annually.

2. As mentioned on Page 1, chapters are being asked to adopt chapter flags to promote their local identity.

3. After extensive discussion, attendees voted to amend the SAR Recessional to recognize the contributions of women by revising the final words to read "… a nation of free men and women". This affirmative vote does not comply with the State By-Laws.

4. A proposal to create positions of Chaplain North and Chaplain South was sidelined due to a By-Law conflict. Therefore, the proposal was revised for one to assist the other.

5. The State Genealogist reported that review time at the National level has significantly improved over the past year. (This is confirmed by review times for new member Riverside Chapter applications. Supplemental reviews still languish).

6. State President Ferris encouraged Chapters to be active in Eagle Scout and ROTC/JROTC events; and to collaborate with VFW, and American Legion groups, as a strategy to boost membership.

NSSAR Announces Reduced Application Fees During Month of July 2026

The NSSAR Registrar General has announced that in celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the Signing of the Declaration of Independence, the National Society will offer a reduced registration fee for New Member and Jr. Member applications during the month of July 2026**.**

For applications postmarked between July 1 and July 31, 2026**,** the National application fee for New Applications will be reduced from $150 to $76 in honor of the year 1776**.** The $50 Annual Dues fee remains in place, so the NSSAR fee will be $126 instead of $200.

This special fee applies **only to New Member and Jr. Member** (New Lineage) Applications submitted during the July 2026 window.

The special fee does not apply to Family Plan Applications, Memorial Applications, or Supplemental Applications

To qualify for the reduced fee, New of Junior Applications must be started in May or early June in order to be received by the State Registrar during the last week of June. State-approved applications will then be forwarded to the National Society postmarked between **July 1 and July 31, 2026.** Due to the high number of application submissions when reduced rates are in effect, an early July submission will save weeks in processing.

Please go to this link to start a New or Junior application: https://www.sar.org/how-to-apply/

2026 Advance Riverside Chapter Meeting Calendar

Location: Flo's Farmhouse Café
5620 Van Buren Blvd.
Riverside, CA
(Between Arlington Ave, and Wells)

Meeting Time: Tuesday 11:30 AM

Reservations: None Required. We order off the menu.

January	**20**	**July**	**No Meeting**
February	**17**	**August**	**No Meeting**
March	**17**	**September**	**15**
April	**21**	**October**	**20**
May	**19**	**November**	**17**
June	**16**	**December**	**15**

First Riverside Chapter live musket firing training at Riley's Farm in 1998

250TH Minute

Banastre Tarleton wins the Battle of the Waxhaws

On this day in history, May 29, 1780, Banastre Tarleton wins the Battle of the Waxhaws. After British forces had captured Charleston, SC on May 12, 1780, Lt. Gen. Charles Cornwallis quickly took a large army to conquer the backcountry.

Cornwallis learned that John Rutledge, South Carolina's rebel governor was fleeing to the north with 400 Virginia Continentals under Col. Abraham Buford. Cornwallis could not move his army fast enough to catch Rutledge, so he sent Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton ahead with around 270 men to capture Rutledge.

Upon reaching Buford's rear guard, Tarleton sent a negotiator demanding Buford's surrender. Buford had learned of Tarleton's approach and sent Rutledge ahead to safety. When the surrender demand was delivered, Buford replied with a terse, "Sir, I reject your proposals, and shall defend myself to the last extremity." When Tarleton received the reply, he quickly put together an attack and charged the patriots.

As Tarleton's dragoons (calvary) charged the American line, Buford's defense plan proved to be a disastrous as the dragoons were barely phased as they trounced through the American line, causing numerous injuries and causing them to scatter in every direction. Many of the Americans laid down their weapons and attempted to surrender.

What happened next is unclear due to differing reports by those involved. Tarleton's horse was shot from under him and he fell to the ground. The British soldiers thought Tarleton was dead and began to attack the wounded and captured Americans without impunity, killing them with bayonets where they lay.

In the end, 113 Americans were dead and 150 wounded. The British had only 5 killed and 12 wounded. The Battle of the Waxhaws, where the battle took place, was called the Waxhaw Massacre or Buford's Massacre, and earned Tarleton an infamous reputation. He was accused of ordering his soldiers to kill the captured Americans and giving them no quarter. The perceived atrocity led to a huge increase in volunteers to the patriot militia. In reality, Tarleton's men were probably to blame for killing the wounded after thinking their commander had been killed.

Tarleton's reputation as a villain even occurs in today's popular culture. In the 2000 movie, The Patriot, the villain, Colonel Tavington, is loosely based on Tarleton. Tavington is portrayed as a bloodthirsty killer, burning civilians in churches and murdering children in front of their parents. In reality, Tarleton could be vulgar, but this is an extreme misrepresentation of who he was.

Mission Statement

The Riverside Chapter was chartered by the California Society, Sons of the American Revolution in 1943 under the guidelines of the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution. The Mission Statement of the National Society states that **The Sons of the American Revolution honors our Revolutionary War patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities, and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our country.**

Upcoming Events

May 2-3, CA Society SAR Muzzleloading Shooting Course, Azusa, CA. Day 1 Classroom. Day 2 Shooting range. Further details will be provided. Supplies and equipment provided.

May 3 and 17, English Country Dancing **New Time 1 PM**. First United Methodist Church, 4845 Brockton Ave., Riverside, CA

May 19, Riverside Chapter SAR Monthly Meeting, Flo's Farmhouse Café, 5620 Van Buren Blvd., Riverside, CA

July 3 – Nixon Library Living History Event
Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum, 18001 Yorba Linda Blvd, Yorba Linda, CA 92886
Muster: 8:00–9:00 AM *(setup assistance requested; library opens at 10:00 AM)*
Guardsmen requested to assist with a firing demonstration and to engage with the public.
For those in continental attire, please follow George Washington's Rules—**no facial hair.**

The Riverside Chapter's

Rivulet

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RIVERSIDE CHAPTER WEBSITERIVERSIDE CHAPTER

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