



The Riverside Chapter's Rivulet



November 2025

November Meeting

Date: November 18, 2025
Tuesday 11:30 AM

Location: Cactus Cantina
Mission Grove Center
151 E. Alessandro Blvd
Riverside, CA

Program: Gen. Lighthorse Henry Lee

RSVP Not Required



Robert Gasio Jr. November 9
Todd Taylor November 9
James Zumwalt November 13

President's Message

Fellow Compatriots:

We are approaching the end of 2025. November is the nomination time for 2026 Officers. A slate of Officers will be presented at the November meeting; voting will take place in December. We are looking for members to step up and help with the running of your Chapter. Some of the current members have agreed to stay in their positions. Currently looking to fill the President position. It's your Chapter please help.

As you know next year is the 250th Anniversary of the United States of America. The Chapters America 250 program continues at each meeting. So far, the Chapter has been awarded 13 Bronze, 12 Silver and 5 Gold Medals. Roger Cooper continues to provide excellent programs at our meetings.

We are preparing for the Riverside Veterans Day Parade under the leadership of David Leonard. We are in need of help. Please contact David at leonarddla@earthlink.net.

Michael Mann, President

**Riverside Chapter Officers
for 2025**

President

Michael Mann
mikeronie@earthlink.net

1st Vice President

William Vining
viningb@gmail.com

2nd Vice President

Roger Cooper
crogercooper@gmail.com

Secretary

John Matulich
johnmatulich@gmail.com

Treasurer

John Matulich
johnmatulich@gmail.com

Registrar

David Leonard
leonarddla@earthlink.net

Appointed Positions

Chaplain

Brian Stephens
briandi777@aol.com

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
johnmatulich@gmail.com

Latest CASSAR Challenge Coin



**New Riverside Chapter Members Registered by the
NSSAR in 2025**

Paul Cruser	14 March 2025	No. 232879
James Ungard	2 May 2025	No. 233436
Robert Don Nichols	30 May 2025	No. 233665
Daniel Davalos	6 June 2025	No. 233805
James Dillard	27 June 2025	No. 233976
M. Scott Wyatt	27 June 2025	No. 233977
David Jackson	1 August 2025	No. 234531
Brian Stuart	12 September 2025	No. 235039
Andrew Tracey	12 September 2025	No. 235040
Terry L. Cochran	19 September 2025	No. 235140
Charles Horton	10 October 2025	No. 235423
Dennis Odenbaugh	10 October 2025	No. 235424
David Agnew	10 October 2025	No. 235425
Greg Barrett	17 October 2025	No. 233550
Will Barrett	17 October 2025	No. 233551
Robert Barrett	17 October 2025	No. 233552
Brian Foote	24 October 2025	No. 235656

Three Local DARs Earn Abigail Adams Medals

The Riverside Chapter became the first in the California Society to award Abigail Adams medals to three DAR members of the Aurantia Chapter. The medals are awarded because each one referred two men who became members of the SAR. If these members make more referrals, additional medals can be awarded.



L-R David Leonard, Terrilee Wyatt, Mike Mann, Sara Cochran, and Brian Stephens.

President Mike Mann and former Western District VP Brian Stephens explained and presented the medals to Sara Cochran and Terrilee Wyatt at the Aurantia DAR Chapter meeting on October 8, 2025. DAR member Judy Cunningham has also earned an Abigail Adams medal and will be presented to her at a future date.



This medal program has produced results. During 2025, seven men have been referred by DAR members and have become members of the Riverside Chapter.

Also attending the DAR meeting were Riverside Chapter SAR members David Leonard, John Matulich, and Terry Cochran.

George Washington Valley Forge Monument Dedicated in Coachella Valley

The Coachella Valley Chapter SAR hosted a ceremony to dedicate a monument they commissioned honoring George Washington at Valley Forge. The ceremony took place on 23 October 2025 at the Desert Memorial Cemetery in Cathedral City, CA. The Riverside Chapter Color Guard fired a musket volley salute at the ceremony. Among those attending were President General Michael Elston, State President John Ferris, Coachella Valley Chapter President Chris Cerillo.



Top: California Color Guard Commanders Brandon Villardi (outgoing) and Kevin Knapp (incoming).

Above: Firing Team poise firelocks. Brandon Villardi, Brian Stephens, and David Leonard.

Right: Firing team sends a volley.

Riverside Chapter Reports to California SAR

Board of Managers Meeting

The California SAR Conducts semi-annual meetings that occur at the north and south ends of the state. State officers are elected at the Annual State Meeting held in Sacramento during the Spring. The business of the State is conducted in the Fall at the Board of Managers meeting held in Costa Mesa in the Fall. Occasionally, Riverside hosts the Board of Managers meeting at the Mission Inn in Riverside; a favored location by state delegates.



Riverside delegation L-R David Leonard, Brian Stephens, Ronnie Mann, and Mike Mann

Riverside had a delegation that attended all, of parts of, the CASSAR Board of Managers meeting on October 23-25 at the Hilton Hotel in Costa Mesa. The meeting was elevated by the presence of President General Michael Elston and other national officers. President Mike Mann presented the Riverside Chapter report. Former Vice President Western States Brian Stephens delivered the CAR and DAR liaison report. Registrar David Leonard recruited SARs for the Salute to Veterans Parade in Riverside on November 8, 2025, and delivered new member applications to the State Registrar.

Chapter reporting revealed that the problem faced by Riverside is common to other chapters throughout the state. There is a robust growth cycle occurring everywhere. But chapters are unable to attract members to their monthly meetings. Riverside routinely does not meet the 10-member quorum. Our Chapter Secretary reports that we have 117 members. Consequently, a void exists of members to serve as chapter officers to operate the organization. Our membership is spread across the United States. Will we survive? As we have come to realize, simply attending a meeting is a big deal!

A Salute to Veterans Parade

November 8, 2025

The Riverside Chapter is hosting the SAR/DAR Unit participating in the Salute to Veterans Parade on 8 November 2026. This is one of the last public live fire events and because of that it draws SAR Chapters from Kern County to San Diego County.

FREE FAMILY FUN!

17th Annual

Riverside Veterans Parade & Expo

Saturday, November 8th, 2025

Parade starts at 10 a.m., heading down Market St. from Magnolia. Find a great spot along Market Street to view the Parade, then head to the Parade Expo on Market Street and 12th Street. The Expo will have music, food, and booths for Veterans services, as well as many great Riverside businesses and organizations.

- Airplane Fly-Overs
- Marching Bands
- Military Vehicles
- Antique Cars
- Floats
- Bagpipers and Dancers
- Active Duty Military

Our Veterans... and more!

Join us first for a pancake breakfast served by the NCL. Ticktockers in the RCC lower parking lot from 7 to 9 a.m. To learn more, to register as a unit, or to support the Parade, email us at info@riversideveteransparade.org

Visit our website at riversideveteransparade.org

The marching unit will include musket men, flag bearers, and camp followers (DAR). Colonial attire may include military uniforms and civilian colonial clothing. The unit will muster at the Riverside Community College lower parking lot. The parade will begin there and continue on Market St. to 10th St, ending at Main and 12th St.

SAR also mans a static display booth at an EXPO along the parade route where artifacts are displayed and where the public can ask questions about the Revolutionary War. It is not uncommon for the public to ask if we represented the north or the south. (Wrong war. This is why we are here)

This is a labor-intensive event. Flag bearers are needed to accompany musket men in the parade. Men (and women) are needed to help at the EXPO table. This is the Saturday preceding Veterans Day to avoid conflicts with the holiday. This is a great way for all members to witness or participate in an event that puts our chapter on full display to honor

those who contributed to the Cause of Independence. There is no fee for this event. Below: 2024 Team.





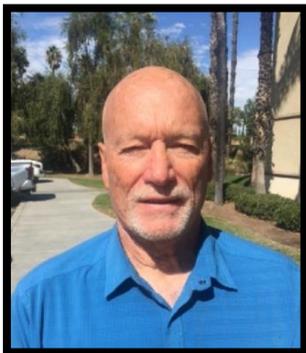
Paul Cruser

As the first new member to the Riverside Chapter in 2025, Paul has his certificate because we only recently caught up with him. Paul is descended from Hendrick Garrison who served as the Chairman of the Committee of Safety at Staten Island, NY in 1776. Paul is employed by the US Postal Service.



Ethan Heckman

Ethan comes from a family that lived in Centre County, PA that preferred the German language in the household from the days of his patriot ancestor though his father's generation. His patriot was Peter Heckman Sr. who served in the Berks County Militia. Ethan handles warehouse logistics.



Terry Brennan

Terry is descended from the Dellingers, a prominent family in Shenandoah County, VA. His ancestor is Christian Dellinger who was drafted into the Shenandoah County Militia in Fall 1781 and was immediately sent to Yorktown for the siege of the British Army under Gen. Cornwallis. Upon the surrender of Cornwallis, he was assigned to march British prisoners to Fredericksburg, VA. He was discharged after that duty. Christian was 17 years old. Terry is a retired fireman.



S. Brad Simmons

Brad is descended from the Simmons family of Plymouth, MA. His Patriot ancestor was Samuel Simmons, who enlisted in the Massachusetts Militia in 1775, and served during different intervals with companies protecting local communities from British incursions. The Simmons sailed to California in 1849 and would produce generations of prominent physicians in the Sacramento area. Brad is a retired career Air Force Navigator and worked in the aerospace industry.

Reasons for SAR Application Rejections

Too young to have participated in the American Revolution

Born after the end of the American Revolution

Died before the American Revolution began

Lineage goes through a brother. There is no proven lineal descent from this patriot

Lineage is not shown on the application

Deserted

Too young to have been an officer in the American Revolution

No creditable service has been found

Creditable military service was after the American Revolution 1785-1814

Unable to evaluate military service with a date and place of death.

Service belongs to another man of the same name.

Pension rejected because he did not serve in a properly constituted military corps.

Payment of a marriage license tax/fee does not count as service.

Signing a petition does not constitute acceptable patriot service.

Two men conflated with the incorrect man identified as the son of the patriot

Rejected pension cannot be used due to lack of proof of military service.

Lineage is based on undocumented family history

Source: NSSAR Website

Most Popular Patriots of SAR Members

Patriot	Number of Descendants
John Hart	120
Frederick Hambright	80
John Sevier	71
Ralph Stewart	64
Daniel Boone	59
John Obermayer/Overmire etc	56
Joseph Plum Martin	55
Patrick Henry	52
Nathan Gann	49

Source: NSSAR Website



250TH Minute

Manhattan in November factored prominently during the American Revolution.

Fort Washington was an American defense located at the northern tip and highest elevation in what is now the borough of Manhattan in New York City. Along with Fort Lee, they overlooked each side of the Hudson River. The twin forts were intended to protect the lower Hudson River from British warships during the New York and New Jersey campaign in the summer and autumn of 1776.

During the fighting on and around Manhattan in November 1776, the American Army commanded by General George Washington, was forced to withdraw northward, leaving both Forts Washington and Lee isolated. British forces, commanded by of General William Howe, planned to capture this last American stronghold on Manhattan.

Washington issued a discretionary order to General Nathanael Greene to abandon the fort and remove its garrison to New Jersey. Col. Robert Magaw, commanding Fort Washington, declined to abandon it, as he believed it could be defended from the British. Howe's forces attacked the fort on November 16 from the north, east and south. Patriot forces offered stiff resistance to the attack, but they were eventually overwhelmed. With the fort surrounded by land and sea, Magaw chose to surrender. After this defeat, most of Washington's army was chased across New Jersey and into Pennsylvania, and the British consolidated their control of New York and eastern New Jersey.

We fast forward to November 25, 1783, known as Evacuation Day. On this day, British forces evacuated New York City after the Treaty of Paris led to the end of the American Revolutionary War. In their wake, General George Washington triumphantly paraded the Continental Army from his headquarters north of the city, across the Harlem River, and south through Manhattan to the Battery at its southern tip.

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

November 8, A Salute to Veterans Parade forming at Riverside Community College, Riverside

November 2 and 16 English Country Dancing 3 PM. First United Methodist Church, 4845 Brockton Ave., Riverside, CA

November 18, Riverside Chapter SAR Monthly Meeting, Cactus Cantina, 151 E. Alessandro Blvd. Riverside, CA

The Riverside Chapter's

Rivulet

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RIVERSIDE CHAPTER WEBSITE

<https://www.sonsoftheamericanrevolutionriversideca.com/>

RIVERSIDE CHAPTER FACEBOOK PAGE

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61578224101860>