



SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

BREVARD BEACON

Vol 58:2 Apr-May-Jun 2026



Next Meeting

19 Sep 2026

At The At-Ease Club

1936 Freedom Dr.

Melbourne, FL 32940

Social at 11:00

Program starts at 11:30

Lunch Starts 12:00

Grilled Chicken Club

Or

Greek Salad

&

Cookies

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President's Message



250 years ago, delegates gathered in Philadelphia to vote on the matter of independence. On July 2, 1776, the Second Continental Congress approved a resolution declaring "That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States, that they are

absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved."

250 years ago on July 4, 1776, the Declaration of Independence was ratified. That night, John Dunlap—the official printer to Congress—hurriedly printed two hundred copies of the Declaration using the handwritten text delivered by Congress. The news was disseminated to state leaders, Continental troops, and across the Atlantic where the celebrated words declaring universal principles of liberty and equality reached the world through newspapers, sermons, business and personal letters, and social gatherings. In 1776 and today, Americans celebrate with Thomas Jefferson's words:

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness..

As we commemorate the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence we remember that this document was not an isolated moment in American history. While news spread of the Declaration, men and women continued to fight for the principles laid out in the document, from the New York campaign of 1776 through the Siege of Yorktown in 1781 to the end of hostilities in 1783.

Continued on the next page....

Brevard Chapter

chapter

Our 2026 Meeting Schedule is as follows:

Note: Menu items subject to change

Sep 19, 2026 - At Ease Club: Price \$25;
Joint SAR/DAR Constitution Day

Oct 10, 2026 - At Ease Club: Price \$25;

Nov 21, 2026 - At Ease Club: Price \$25;

Dec 12, 2026 - At Ease Club: Price \$25;

Remember to mark your calendar for this year's meeting schedule. Must RSVP as names go on gate guard list.

SOCIAL 11:00 AM - Meetings are at The At-Ease Club. Socials start at 11:00, Meetings begin 11:30 sharp unless otherwise noted.

Pay by check (Brevard SAR) to

*Mark Russell
275 Woodridge Drive
Geneva, FL 32732
mwr32732@gmail.com*

Or pay at meeting with cash or check

President's Message (Cont)

As we celebrate America's Semiquincentennial, let us honor the courage and sacrifice of the Revolutionary generation and renew our commitment to preserving the freedoms they secured. May the ideals of 1776 continue to inspire and guide our Nation for generations to come as we continue to strive toward an ever "more perfect Union."

Let us not forget the men and women who have served in the Armed Forces to keep our nation free. Let us not forget those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our great nation. I wish you all a very Happy Semiquincentennial. God Bless America!

Yours in Patriotism,
Hans Hunt

Coming in the Next Issue

More History, Updates on chapter's activities, pictures, and events.

Updated schedule of meetings

National and State Events

National Events

15 Aug — 244th Anniversary of the Battle of Blue Licks

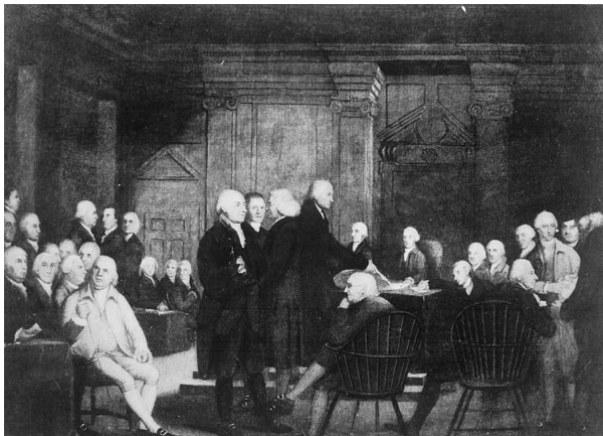
18 Sep — 247th Anniversary of the Battle of Baton Rouge

State Events

18—19 Oct—2026 Fall BOM Meeting
Embassy Suites Orlando - Lake Buena Vista South
Kissimmee, FL

New Members 2026

Member	Patriot



If you have anyone who is interested and you wish to help them or are working on their application, report their name and information to the Registrar so that we can assist when needed and to ensure that the application is completed correctly. National Genealogists report that there are sloppy applications being submitted by persons not familiar with the SAR application process and requirements.

Member Stats

Regular	78
Junior	9
Life	7
E-1	0
E2	1
Active Duty/Military	0
Dual	1
Total	96

Brevard Chapter

New Officers

President - Hans Hunt, 1st VP - Charles Pierce, 2nd VP - Nic Mihora, Treasurer - Mark Russell, Secretary - Jeff Sizemore, Recording Secretary - TBD, Member at Large #1 - Jerry Scarpate, Member at Large #2 - Barry Eller.

Compatriot Doug Bisset was included on a special tour of the historic "Old Burying Ground" in Fairfield, Connecticut.

Dedicated in 1904 by the Dennis Burr Chapter of the DAR to those who served in the American Revolution, there are graves dating back to the 1600's in early Colonial days.

Of significance, the graves identified by American flags placed by DAR representatives, are the two graves of Caleb Brewster and Samuel Smedley.

Caleb Brewster is famous for his key role in George Washington's Spy network known as the "Culper Ring" (TV series called 'Turn'). His assignment was to row/sail his boat to Setauket, Long Island (British controlled) and pick up messages that had been smuggled out of NYC, bringing the info back to Fairfield (Patriot controlled), and connecting through to George Washington. He married a Fairfielder and spent his remaining days there.

Samuel Smedley is famous as Captain (at age 23) of the Connecticut Naval privateer "Defence". With that ship and others, he is known for having captured 12 prizes (bringing value of \$500,000 to Connecticut and the Patriot cause). His successes were more than any other Naval sailor, including John Paul Jones. He was captured twice and escaped the famous Mill Prison in England. He died and is buried in Fairfield.

Of added historical note, the British invaded Fairfield (over the beaches near Doug's home 😊) from across Long Island Sound in 1779 and burned the town to the ground. 80+ homes out of 83+ went up in smoke (they kept the Penfield Tavern for obvious reasons that still stands in the center of Town).

Brevard Chapter

Brevard

BECOME A GUARDS- MEN

We are looking for volunteers to join Commodore John Barry Camp #3 of the Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade.

It is preferred to have the same type of uniform or clothing in which your Patriot ancestor would have worn during the Revolution.

Continental Army, Navy, or Marine Uniform, is the traditional dress in a unit, however Militia personnel wore everyday clothes of the era.

Militia clothing consists of:

- Hat round or tricorn
- Shirt (White)
- Britches and Footwear
 - Hunting

Uniform Reimbursement Fund:

Please remember that the chapter will reimburse any member obtaining a Color Guard uniform/costume. It does NOT have to be a Military Uniform. The rate of reimbursement is:

- \$100.00 for a complete set — Hat to shoes.
- \$50.00 for 1/2 of the above set.

Contact the Color Guard Commander for information.

Thank you, Color Guard Members for your participation in past events. You helped us to Honor our Country, Military, Citizens, Patriots and Forefathers. I would like to extend a welcome to those of you who are new members. As you consider how you wish to participate in SAR, please consider joining the Color Guard. The events can be enjoyable and can be another outlet to meet with other Patriotic Americans. The Necessities for Color Guard uniform is a Colonial outfit and a Tricorn Hat. The outfit can be purchased or it can be made or modified from existing wear. There is also a refund for a part of the purchase price that can be issued. However you choose to participate, I hope you will enjoy your participation as well as the Fellowship of our members.

Chapter Color Guard 2026

Calendar of Local Events

April 17— Enlistment ceremony—Viera HS

June 13— Honor Flight—Melbourne Airport & Red, White & Blue Ball at the Tides

July 4 — Parade—Merritt Island HS



Award Spotlight

250th Anniversary of the American Revolution Recognition Program

The recognition program is designed to encourage and recognize those compatriots, chapters and societies that participate in local, state, national and international events which publicly educate, and recognize, honor, and celebrate the events and heroes of the period surrounding the American Revolution.

A compatriot may earn this award at the bronze, silver, or gold-level. Awards are based on activity and points are awarded for each activity.

April Meeting



Law Enforcement Commendation Medals Presented



April Meeting (Cont)



Last Naval Battle Committee



Oration Winner - Dominick Mormile



Speaker - Dan McIntyre - Coast Guard History

Enlistment Ceremony 17 Apr — Viera HS



JROTC

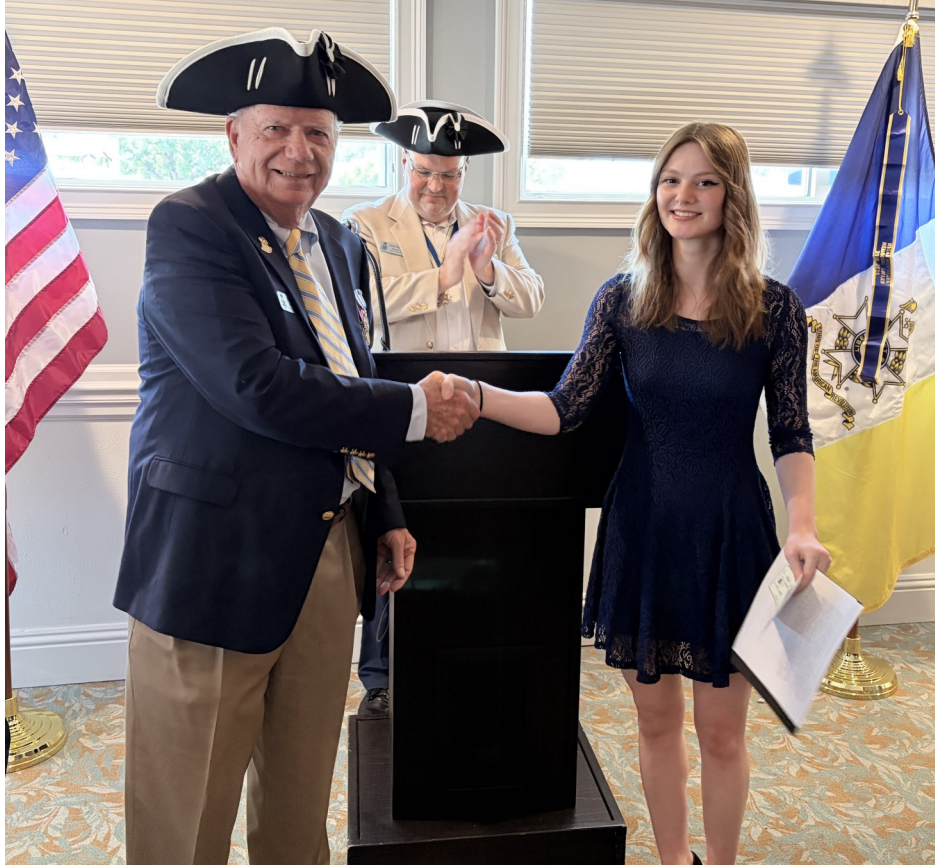


Viera HS



Space Coast HS

May Meeting



Reese Tomkins—Winner of \$500 Essay Contest



New Brevard Chapter SAR Officers

June Meeting



Nic Mahora—Distinguished Service



Linda Jensen—Lydia Darragh Medal



**Carl Oehmann—Henry Knox Achievement
Medal**



**Linda Jensen—Martha Washington Medal
Medal**

June Meeting (Cont)



JROTC Presenters—Certificate of Appreciation



Brian Jensen—Certificate of Appreciation



Brevard Public Schools award

Veterans Upcoming Events

09 Aug — Annual Military Order of Purple Heart Recognition Ceremony 1400- 1600. BVMC Museum

11 Sep — 25 Annual Commemoration of the attacks on America on 9/11 - BVMC Plaza 1700-1830

10 Oct — Medal of Honor Chili Cook-off Fundraiser - BVMC Park 1100-1500

17 Oct — Space Coast Honor Flight— 0400 at Melbourne Airport

For additional details and other events and updates see:

<https://veteransmemorialcenter.org/upcoming-veterans-events/>



Brevard Veterans Memorial Center

400 South Sykes Creek Parkway, Merritt Island



Brevard Chapter

Committee Chairs:

2026-2027 Officers

President - Hans Hunt

1st VP - Charles Pierce

2nd VP - Nic Mihora

Secretary - Jeff Sizemore

Treasurer - Mark Russell

Member-at-large: Jerry Scarpate

Member-at-large: Barry Eller

Registrar - Brian Jensen

CG Commander - Hans Hunt

Genealogist - Brian Jensen

Membership - Jeff Sizemore

Webmaster - Robbie Carlisle

Parliamentarian - Chuck Pierce

Editor/Publisher - Carl Oehmann

ROTC / Youth - Patrick Langan

Medals/Awards—Nic Mihora

Historian/Veteran's Affair - Doug Bisset

Publicity/BVMC—Donn Weaver

Flag Committee - Nic Mihora



Website: <http://www.brevardsar.org>

Email: oehtmann49@gmail.com