

RAPIDES

POST



The Official Newsletter of the Dr. Enemund Meullion Chapter

Volume 2, Number 1

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Spring 2025

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by A. Gervais Compton, Jr.



Compatriots, Ladies Auxiliary Members, and Friends, now that daylight savings time has begun and April fast approaching, spring can't be too far away. With that, I remind you of the annual meeting of the LASSAR will be held here in Alexandria at The Hotel Bentley on April 11th and 12th. The Friday evening is an informal meet and greet with hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. The LASSAR Board of Directors will meet Saturday morning at 9:00 A.M. Any SAR member can attend this meeting and is encouraged to do so. Saturday afternoon there will be a grave marking ceremony at the Rapides Cemetary, just across the river in Pineville. (The cemetery is visible from the hotel). Saturday evening, the banquet will be held, (the food is always very good) with Dr. John Fleming being the featured speaker. The new officers as well as the BOD will also be installed. There is also a silent auction by the Ladies Auxiliary which features some very interesting items. So please, get your registration in ASAP! We would love to have as many Dr. Enemund Meullion Chapter members present as possible.

Turning our attention to May, our meeting will be at Fort Randolph at 11:30 on the 17th. The speaker will be Dr. Henry Robertson from LCU. Hope to see everyone at these next events, and wishing the best for you and yours.

See you at the next meeting!

A. Gervais Compton, Jr.
President
Enemund Meullion Chapter

SAR MISSION STATEMENT

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

NEXT MEETING

Saturday, May 17th, 2025 at 11:30 a.m.
Fort Randolph Visitors Center
135 Riverfront Street
Pineville, LA

2025 LA SAR Annual Convention

Friday, April 11th – 13th, 2025
The Hotel Bentley
200 DeSoto Street
Alexandria, LA

135th Annual Congress

Saturday, July 12–July 18, 2025
Mohegan Sun Resort
Uncasville, Connecticut



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAY

February 3	.....	Cole Andrew Depp
February 4 th	.....	Jameson Owen Clark
February 5 th	.....	Carlos Anthony Mayeux Jr
February 13 th	.....	Daniel Philip Stagg Jr.
February 17 th	.....	Wesley Elliott Slipman
February 17 th	.....	Marvin Lee Smith
February 18 th	.....	Jared Scott Guillory
February 26 th	.....	Christina Birinyi
February 28 th	.....	Scott Gremillion
February 28 th	.....	Waylon Bryan Price
March 1 st	.....	Ronald Andrew Slipman MD
March 6 th	.....	Harold Thomas Gonzales III
March 6 th	.....	August Churchill Webster
March 8 th	.....	Joe Edmond O'Quin
March 11 th	.....	Randy Paul DeCuir
March 12 th	.....	Charles Anthony Owen
March 13 th	.....	Glenn Paul Armand
March 28 th	.....	David Paul Manning

1. What helped the town of Jamestown to boom?
 - a. Introduction of the cotton gin in farming
 - b. The use of slaves to harvest indigo
 - c. The growing of tobacco
 - d. Trading with the northern colonies

2. Pennsylvania, a middle colony, was created for what purpose?
 - a. To harvest cotton and indigo
 - b. To be a trade center for the middle and New England colonies
 - c. To be a safe haven for Quakers to practice their religion
 - d. To hold prisoners and debtors from England



LAST MEETINGS

18 January 2025

The regular bimonthly meeting of the Dr. Enemund Meullion Chapter of the Louisiana Society Sons of the American Revolution was held at Forts Randolph & Buhlow Visitors Center in Pineville, LA.

President Gervais Compton called the meeting to order with thirteen members and six guests in attendance. Compton welcomed everyone and asked for an introduction of guests. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the previous meeting's minutes.

Compton inducted new member Lawrence Norlander into the SAR. Norlander's Patriot Ancestor Ward Litchfield served as a private in Capt. Ensign Otis' Plymouth Co., MA, Militia Company called "Royal Americans of the town of Scituate," which probably marched in response to the Lexington Alarm of April 19th, 1775. Compton presented Norlander with his new member certificate, packet, pledge card, and SAR Rosette.

James Morock, Sr., M.D., "Dr. Morock," stated the committee members will discuss Norlander's DD-214 at the next Committee Meeting about awarding him the Military Service Medal.

SAR Anniversary

February 06, 2012	.....	Glenn Paul Armand
February 11, 2014	.....	Charles Clifford Neal
February 29, 2016	.....	Joe Edmond O'Quin
February 28, 2017	.....	James Gloyd Earles III
February 28, 2017	.....	John Fredrick Earles
February 28, 2017	.....	Daniel Philip Stagg Jr.
March 12, 2014	.....	Kooch Michael Sawrie (Ret.)
March 25, 2014	.....	Benjamin Lawrence Vets
March 18, 2016	.....	COL David Henry Gremillion



COLONIAL TRIVIA

(answers on page 9)



Secretary Brent Morock reported that the current chapter account balance is \$2,575.42. He stated that the chapter has 66 members, including 2 Dual TX SAR members. 1 new Junior application is at National.

In old business, Dr. Morock stated that memorial marker for Etienne Layssard will be placed in Old Rapides Cemetery before the LASSAR Annual Meeting on April 12th has been picked up. The Dr. Enemund Meullion Chapter is sponsoring the event at the Hotel Bentley. The registration form is at the printer and will be sent out when they are ready. Compton stated that the event is open to the membership.

LASSAR Secretary Billy LeJeune wanted chapters to see if they can hold a Liberty Tree Celebration before July 4th, 2026, in honor of the 250th Anniversary. Compton will check with Roy O. Martin to see if they can help us plant a Liberty Tree.

Pat Ryan suggested that Randy DeCuir talk about his book on World War I soldiers from Avoyelles next time we meet in Marksville.

Dr. Morock asked LASSAR President Godwin about the Luis Bethancourt mannequin project at National. The chapter had agreed to donate \$100 at the previous meeting. The meeting adjourned for lunch.

Compton presented LASSAR President Godwin with a Certificate of Appreciation for his presentation on Oliver Pollock, a forgotten Patriot, who was instrumental in brokering relationships between American Revolutionaries and the Governors of Spanish Louisiana. Pollock's success as a businessman opened doors for him and allowed him to aid the Patriot cause.

Godwin also talked about the Louisiana America 250 Commission and the NSSAR Congress in New Orleans in 2027. Tony Vets is the Southern District SAR Treasurer. The Southern District (AL, LA, MS,

and TN) is hosting the Congress. Joe Reynolds again mentioned that 2027congress.com website is active.

Godwin inducted the 2025-2026 Chapter Officers: President, A. Gervais Compton, Jr. (III); Chaplain, Clyde Neck; and Secretary / Treasurer / Registrar, Brent Morock. Vice President, Darrell Poole, Ph.D., was not in attendance.

LASSAR Ladies Auxiliary Vice President Cheryl Morock passed the hat for donations for the chapter's item for the LASSAR Convention Basket Auction.

Tony Vets offered for sale the Oliver Pollock Pin (\$45), the 2027 Congress Medals (\$45), and the Benefactor version of the Medal (\$1,000).

Joe Reynolds stated that a \$20 yearly membership for Friends of the Forts is available to support our meeting location.

Pat Ryan suggested Richard Moran as a guest speaker to talk about the significance of Louisiana to World War II.

The next meeting will be at 11:30 AM on March 15th at Forts Randolph & Buhlow Visitors Center.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to adjourn the meeting.

Brent Morock
Secretary



BATTLES FOUGHT JAN - MAR

- Jan-Mar 1777.....Forage War
- Jan 1, 1776 Burning of Norfolk
- Jan 2, 1777 Second Battle of Trenton
- Jan 2, 1782 Battle of Videau's Bridge
- Jan 2, 1783 Action of 2 January 1783
- Jan 3, 1777 Battle of Princeton
- Jan 6, 1781Battle of Jersey
- Jan 7, 1781 Battle of Mobile
- Jan 8, 1780 Action of 8 January 1780
- Jan 11, 1782 Capture of Trincomalee
- Jan 11-Feb 13, 1782..... Siege of Brimstone Hill

Jan 15, 1782 Action of 15 January 1782
 Jan 16, 1780 Battle of Cape St. Vincent
 Jan 17, 1781 Battle of Cowpens
 Jan 20, 1777 Battle of Millstone
 Jan 22, 1783 Action of 22 January 1783
 Jan 22-Feb 5, 1782 Capture of Demerara and Essequibo
 Jan 25–26, 1782 Battle of Saint Kitts
 Feb 1, 1781 Battle of Cowan's Ford
 Feb 3, 1779 Battle of Beaufort
 Feb 3, 1780 Battle of Young's House
 Feb 3, 1781 Capture of Sint Eustatius
 Feb 11, 1780 Battle of Van Creek
 Feb 14, 1779 Battle of Kettle Creek
 Feb 15, 1783 Action of 15 February 1783
 Feb 17, 1782 Battle of Sadras
 Feb 22, 1782 Capture of Montserrat
 Feb 23–25, 1779 Siege of Fort Vincennes
 Feb 24, 1781 Battle of Haw River
 Feb 24, 1782 Battle of Wambaw
 Feb 27, 1776 Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge
 Mar–Nov, 1780 San Juan Expedition
 Mar 2–3, 1776 Battle of the Rice Boats
 Mar 2–14, 1780 Battle of Fort Charlotte
 Mar 3, 1779 Battle of Brier Creek
 Mar 3–4, 1776 Battle of Nassau
 Mar 6, 1781 Battle of Wetzell's Mill
 Mar 7, 1778 Battle of Barbados
 Mar 8, 1777 Battle of Punk Hill
 Mar 8, 1782 Gnadenhütten massacre
 Mar 9-May 8, 1781 Siege of Pensacola
 Mar 15, 1781 Battle of Guilford Court House
 Mar 16, 1781 Battle of Cape Henry
 Mar 16, 1782 Battle of Roatán
 Mar 16, 1782 Action of 16 March 1782
 Mar 18, 1778 Battle of Quinton's Bridge
 Mar 22, 1782 Battle of Little Mountain
 Mar 25, 1776 Battle of Saint-Pierre
 Mar 29-May 12, 1780 Siege of Charleston

January 17, 1781

Having been sent out to defeat General Daniel Morgan, on January 17th Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton catches up with his quarry at a place the Locals called the Cowpens. The forces are equally numbered, but Morgan chose this place for the battle, which commences early in the morning as Tarleton orders his Dragoons to engage the front line of Morgan's troops. The Dragoons however were beaten off, forcing Tarleton to launch an assault with his infantry.

Tarleton's troops were exhausted and needed rest. Tarleton however expected them to easily disburse the Patriots, which he believed were only militia. The American line however had orders - two volleys and then retire to the right. The British mistake the repositioning of the Americans as a rout and ran forward straight into Morgan's awaiting regulars. The Militia then circled the battlefield and engaged from the left with devastating effect. The British forces collapsed with 100 killed and 229 wounded while an additional 600 are captured. The American losses total only 12 killed and 60 wounded.

Tarleton, his legion destroyed, fled the field to report the disaster to General Cornwallis.

How does one inform his superior that he has lost 17% of his troops?



OUR FOUNDING FATHERS

Richard Emmett Hare

December 15, 1928 - November 19, 2024

Richard Hare was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on December 15, 1928, to Edward and Florence Hare. He spent his childhood in Cleveland before earning a Bachelor's degree in Business and Engineering Administration at the Massachusetts Institute of



Technology. After graduating, he served in the army as a 1st Lieutenant during the Korean War. Upon returning from service, he earned a Master's Degree at the University of Michigan.

Richard was employed as an engineer after graduating and this career led him to Dresser Industries and Alexandria in 1980. He started a second career by opening his own business in financial services.

Richard spent many years volunteering at different organizations in Alexandria. He was a past president of Friends of the Alexandria Zoo, past president of the Exchange Club, and the past president of the T.R.E.E. House Children's Museum. He received a proclamation from the mayor for his many years of service organizing the Alexandria Veterans Day Memorial Service and for his leadership efforts that helped lead to the creation of Veterans Memorial Plaza at the Alexandria City Hall in 1999.

Richard was an avid golfer and earned his pilot's license in 1997. He was a 32nd Degree Mason and a member of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Richard is survived by his wife of 66 years, Joan Hare, his two daughters Debora, and Nancy (Mark), and grandson Ryan (Zaida).



AMERICA 250

Compatriot Hal Gonzales Represented the Chapter on the America 250 float in the Sumter SC Christmas Parade.



MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENT

Chapter Compatriot Harold Gonzales was recently written up in the SAR South Carolina "The Palmetto Patriot" Magazine.

"The Col. Matthew Singleton Chapter made a leadership transition this winter with Chapter President Thomas Blackmon stepping back to become the Chapter Treasurer and Chapter Secretary Larry Gamble stepping up to become Chapter President. Compatriot Richard Halferty is our Chaplain. These chapter members being duly nominated and voted into their respective positions, they assumed the roles beginning in 2025.

For 2025, we started the new year with the induction of Compatriot William Daniel Vinson to the Chapter. His Patriot Ancestor is James Spann, who served in

the North Carolina militia then moved to the Sumter District where he lived for the rest of his life.

Compatriot Harold Gonzales recently partnered with the Sumter America 250th Committee as a speaker. For his continued and exceptional service, he was approved by the NSSAR for the Gold Medal of the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution Recognition Program. Compatriot Gonzales participated in numerous America 250th events from being a guest speaker, a keynote speaker, a color guardsman, and wreath bearer at various events.

On Feb. 4, Compatriot Harold Gonzales presented the historical account of the Spanish Role during the American Revolution and its impact on the British Southern Campaign. This event was sponsored by the Sumter America 250th Committee and held at the Temple Sinai.

In 2024, at the Gen. Thomas Sumter Commemoration, Compatriot Gonzales presented the wreath of the Louisiana Society SAR, uniformed in the Spanish regimental uniform of his Patriot Ancestor."



2024 Gen. Thomas Sumter Commemoration where Harold Gonzales presented the wreath of the Louisiana

Society SAR and served as the keynote speaker of the ceremony. [Photo by Christine Gonzales]



WHAT IS THE TRUE MEANING OF PATRIOTISM?



Patriotism, by simple definition is "Devoted love, support, and defense of one's country; national loyalty"

There are so many different ways in which people feel patriotism and there are several differing ideas of what it means to be patriotic.

We are all entitled to our own beliefs, but sometimes the meaning of Patriotism can become very skewed

in some minds. Like in the minds of some professional athletes who think it is "Patriotic" to sit during the National Anthem.

Patriotism is not blind trust in anything our leaders tell us or do. That just replaces some lofty concepts with mindless goose-stepping.

Patriotism should never be affected by any politician's failures, or any shortcoming of some government policy, or any slump in the economy or stock market.

Patriotism is not simply showing up to vote. You need to know a lot more about what motivates a voter before you judge his patriotism.

Waving the flag can be an outward sign of patriotism, but that doesn't make you anymore Patriotic than someone else.

Patriotism is what the Flag your waving means to you. Patriotism is rooted in the ideas that gave birth to our Great Country. American Patriotism is the ideas that are motivated by the Founders and compelled them, in many instances, to put their lives, fortunes, and sacred honor on the line.

Patriotism is the feeling in our heart that runs deep in our American Roots. Understanding it, living it, teaching it, and supporting those who are educating others about its principles. That, my fellow Americans, is what patriotism should mean to each of us today.



OUR FOUNDING FATHERS

Samuel Adams

September 27, 1722 – October 2, 1803

Samuel Adams was an American statesman, political philosopher, and a Founding Father of the United States. He was a politician in colonial Massachusetts, a leader of the movement that became the American

Revolution, and one of the architects of the principles of American republicanism that shaped the political culture of the United States. He was a second cousin to his fellow Founding Father, President John Adams.

Adams was born in Boston, brought up in a religious and politically active family. A graduate of Harvard College, he was an unsuccessful businessman and tax collector before concentrating on politics. He was an influential official of the Massachusetts House of Representatives and the Boston Town Meeting in the 1760s, and he became a part of a movement opposed to the British Parliament's efforts to tax the British American colonies without their consent. His 1768 Massachusetts Circular Letter calling for colonial non-cooperation prompted the occupation of Boston by British soldiers, eventually resulting in the Boston Massacre of 1770. Adams and his colleagues devised a committee of correspondence system in 1772 to help coordinate resistance to what he saw as the British government's attempts to violate the British Constitution at the expense of the colonies, which linked like-minded Patriots throughout the Thirteen Colonies. Continued resistance to British policy resulted in the 1773 Boston Tea Party and the coming of the American Revolution. Adams was actively involved with colonial newspapers publishing accounts of colonial sentiment over British colonial rule, which were fundamental in uniting the colonies.

Parliament passed the Coercive Acts in 1774, at which time Adams attended the Continental Congress in Philadelphia which was convened to coordinate a colonial response. He helped guide Congress towards issuing the Continental Association in 1774 and the Declaration of Independence in 1776, and he helped draft the Articles of Confederation and the Massachusetts Constitution. Adams returned to Massachusetts after the American Revolution, where he served in the state senate and was eventually elected governor.

Samuel Adams later became a controversial figure in American history. Accounts written in the 19th

century praised him as someone who had been steering his fellow colonists towards independence long before the outbreak of the Revolutionary War. This view was challenged by negative assessments of Adams in the first half of the 20th century, mostly by British historians, in which he was portrayed as a master of propaganda who provoked "mob violence" to achieve his goals. However, according to biographer Mark Puls, a different account emerges upon examination of Adams' many writings regarding the civil rights of the colonists, while the "mob" referred to were a highly reflective group of men inspired by Adams who made his case with reasoned arguments in pamphlets and newspapers, without the use of emotional rhetoric.

Early life

Adams was born in Boston in the British colony of Massachusetts on September 16, 1722, an Old Style date that is sometimes converted to the New Style date of September 27. Adams was one of twelve children born to Samuel Adams, Sr., and Mary (Fifield) Adams in an age of high infant mortality; only three of these children lived past their third birthday. Adams's parents were devout Puritans and members of the Old South Congregational Church. The family lived on Purchase Street in Boston. Adams was proud of his Puritan heritage, and emphasized Puritan values in his political career, especially virtue.

Samuel Adams, Sr. (1689–1748) was a prosperous merchant and church deacon. Deacon Adams became a leading figure in Boston politics through an organization that became known as the Boston Caucus, which promoted candidates who supported popular causes. Members of the Caucus helped shape the agenda of the Boston Town Meeting. A New England town meeting is a form of local government with elected officials, and not just a gathering of citizens; according to historian William Fowler, it was "the most democratic institution in the British empire". Deacon Adams rose through the political ranks, becoming a justice of the peace, a selectman,

and a member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives. He worked closely with Elisha Cooke, Jr. (1678–1737), the leader of the "popular party", a faction that resisted any encroachment by royal officials on the colonial rights embodied in the Massachusetts Charter of 1691. In the coming years, members of the "popular party" became known as Whigs or Patriots.

The younger Samuel Adams attended Boston Latin School and then entered Harvard College in 1736. His parents hoped that his schooling would prepare him for the ministry, but Adams gradually shifted his interest to politics. After graduating in 1740, Adams continued his studies, earning a master's degree in 1743. In his thesis, he argued that it was "lawful to resist the Supreme Magistrate, if the Commonwealth cannot otherwise be preserved", which indicated that his political views, like his father's, were oriented towards colonial rights.

Adams's life was greatly affected by his father's involvement in a banking controversy. In 1739, Massachusetts was facing a serious currency shortage, and Deacon Adams and the Boston Caucus created a "land bank" which issued paper money to borrowers who mortgaged their land as security. The land bank was generally supported by the citizenry and the popular party, which dominated the House of Representatives, the lower branch of the General Court. Opposition to the land bank came from the more aristocratic "court party", who were supporters of the royal governor Jonathan Belcher and controlled the Governor's Council, the upper chamber of the General Court. The court party used its influence to have the British Parliament dissolve the land bank in 1741. Directors of the land bank, including Deacon Adams, became personally liable for the currency still in circulation, payable in silver and gold. Lawsuits over the bank persisted for years, even after Deacon Adams's death, and the younger Samuel Adams often had to defend the family estate from seizure by the government. For Adams, these lawsuits "served as a constant personal reminder that

Britain's power over the colonies could be exercised in arbitrary and destructive ways."

Early career

After leaving Harvard in 1743, Adams was unsure about his future. He considered becoming a lawyer but instead decided to go into business. He worked at Thomas Cushing's counting house, but the job only lasted a few months because Cushing felt that Adams was too preoccupied with politics to become a good merchant. Adams's father then lent him £1,000 to go into business for himself, a substantial amount for that time. Adams's lack of business instincts were confirmed; he lent half of this money to a friend who never repaid, and frittered away the other half. Adams always remained, in the words of historian Pauline Maier, "a man utterly uninterested in either making or possessing money".

After Adams had lost his money, his father made him a partner in the family's malthouse, which was next to the family home on Purchase Street. Several generations of Adamses were maltsters, who produced the malt necessary for brewing beer. Years later, a poet poked fun at Adams by calling him "Sam the maltster". Adams has often been described as a brewer, but the extant evidence suggests that he worked as a maltster and not a brewer.

In January 1748, Adams and some friends were inflamed by British impressment and launched *The Independent Advertiser*, a weekly newspaper that printed many political essays written by Adams. His essays drew heavily upon English political theorist John Locke's *Second Treatise of Government*, and they emphasized many of the themes that characterized his subsequent career. He argued that the people must resist any encroachment on their constitutional rights. He cited the decline of the Roman Empire as an example of what could happen to New England if it were to abandon its Puritan values.

When Deacon Adams died in 1748, Adams was given the responsibility of managing the family's affairs. In October 1749, he married Elizabeth Checkley, his pastor's daughter. Elizabeth gave birth to six children over the next seven years, but only two lived to adulthood: Samuel (born 1751) and Hannah (born 1756). In July 1757, Elizabeth died soon after giving birth to a stillborn son. Adams remarried in 1764 to Elizabeth Wells, but had no other children.

Like his father, Adams embarked on a political career with the support of the Boston Caucus. He was elected to his first political office in 1747, serving as one of the clerks of the Boston market. In 1756, the Boston Town Meeting elected him to the post of tax collector, which provided a small income. He often failed to collect taxes from his fellow citizens, which increased his popularity among those who did not pay, but left him liable for the shortage. By 1765, his account was more than £8,000 in arrears. The town meeting was on the verge of bankruptcy, and Adams was compelled to file suit against delinquent taxpayers, but many taxes went uncollected. In 1768, his political opponents used the situation to their advantage, obtaining a court judgment of £1,463 against him. Adams's friends paid off some of the deficit, and the town meeting wrote off the remainder. By then, he had emerged as a leader of the popular party, and the embarrassing situation did not lessen his influence.



COLONIAL TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. What helped the town of Jamestown to boom?
 - c. The growing of tobacco
2. Pennsylvania, a middle colony, was created for what purpose?
 - c. To be a safe haven for Quakers to practice their religion

CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

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