

The Prescottian Prescott  
Chapter Newsletter  
Winter 2025 Edition



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*Christmas lighting*

Lunch Meetings Calendar  
and Guest Speakers



All Lunch Meetings held at  
Hassayampa Inn at noon  
122 E Gurley St, Prescott

## Upcoming Meetings

*Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, Ron Anderson -  
'Frontier Medicine in the old West'*

*Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup> open*

*Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> open*

*Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup> open*

## *President's Corner by Jack Berry*



### *Fellow compatriots:*

I hope each member and their families had an enjoyable 2024 Thanksgiving and Christmas and are looking forward to the new year. Since my election as president in December 2020, I never forgot that the members of this chapter are the heart and soul of not only what is done, but what is accomplished. I am very grateful that over the past four years of my presidency, some members have stepped up to take on roles of responsibility as board and committee members, which brought new enthusiasm and perspectives. Without those few members the chapter would not have survived or be viewed as the most successful chapter in the state, in terms of growth of membership and finance. However, the Prescott Chapter needs continued active membership involvement to survive. Without it, the chapter will slowly and painfully come to an end like two chapters of the Arizona Society which closed due to lack of growth and involvement in 2023.

Since few chapter members really understand just how much time, energy, effort and expense it takes to make the chapter successful, I am extremely grateful to those members who once served as a past board or committee member, and to those older members who can't serve but remain in the chapter, because they recognize that whether they volunteer, attend meetings or simply pay their annual dues, their yearly membership is about keeping the chapter alive and active to honor their Patriot ancestor.

There are many ways for members of the chapter to become involved other than serving on the board, that will match individual availability, interests and skills. For example, there is the Color Guard, sergeant of arms, public service awards or youth programs such the elementary school brochure contest, JROTC/ROTC and Eagle Scout. If a chapter member is interested in becoming involved in some small ways, please do not hesitate to contact any of the board members.

In Patriotism

*Jack Berry*



Jack Berry as the State VP swearing in the board of the Saguaro Chapter, including new President Dave Huyck, on December 21, 2024.

## **Revolutionary Trivia**

**Which battle is often considered the turning point of the American Revolutionary War?**

Answer pg.17

## January 11<sup>th</sup> Supplemental Certificates



Wayne Hallford and Jack Berry receiving supplemental certificate(s) from Secretary/Treasurer Ron Castle.

## January 11<sup>th</sup> New Member



New member Howell Shay III with his wife Gail.

## January 11<sup>th</sup> Installation of Board Members Prescott Chapter



Left to right is Genealogist Wayne Hallford; Chaplain Tim Prater; Information Officer Paul Kerper; Vice President Rob Berryman; Color Guard Captain Alan White; Treasurer/Secretary Ron Castle; Historian Bill Walters; President Jack Berry; with Past AZSAR President and Past Prescott Chapter President Steve Monez who swore in the new board. Not pictured is Hal Reniger as Chancellor.

## December 14<sup>th</sup> Wreaths Across America at the VA cemetery



Color Guard left to right is Jack Berry, Color Guard Captain Alan White, Ron Castle.



Prescott Chapter Color Guard consisting of Jack Berry, Ron Castle and Alan White with Prescott Mayor Phil Goode a Prescott Chapter member, along with DAR members from the General Crook Chapter and Yavapai Chapter, and a member of the Sons of the Union Veterans. Prescott Pioneer Cemetery.

## November 11<sup>th</sup> Veterans Day Parade



Back row left to right is Jack Berry, Ed Lipphardt, Wayne Hood, and Tom Chittenden. Kneeling left to right is Color Guard Captain Alan White and Ron Castle. Steve Bigelow participated but is not in the pictured.

# November 9<sup>th</sup> SAR/DAR Annual luncheon meeting Speaker James Bish



November SAR-DAR Annual Luncheon Speaker was James Bish PHD, Historian, College Professor and Author. Also, a fellow compatriot of two chapters ( Virginia Culpepper and Arizona's Saguaro).

Jim's topic discussed his new book 'I Can't Tell A Lie', which included his historical journey in to George Washington's genealogical relationship to Historian/Cousin Parson Weems.



Jack Berry presenting the chapter challenge coin to guest speaker, James Bish, president of the Virginia SAR Culpepper Chapter.

The raffle winner of the book was Prescott Chapter member Robert Lee Kratz on the right.



November 9<sup>th</sup> SAR/DAR Annual luncheon meeting Color Guard



Left to right is James Bish, the president of the Virginia Culpepper Chapter who was the guest speaker, Tom Chittenden, Bill Walters, Ron Castle, Paul Kerper, Color Guard Captain Alan White and Steve Bigelow.



November 9<sup>th</sup> SAR/DAR Annual luncheon meeting



DAR members from the Yavapai and General Crook Chapters with Prescott Chapter President Jack Berry



Dinning in the Marina Room during speaker Jim Bish's Presentation

# November 9th Awards



Prescott Mayor Phil Goode receiving his SAR membership certificate after being sworn in.



Bill Walters receiving the War Service Medal & Cert. and the Vietnam War Veterans Corps.



Past Arizona SAR President Steve Monez receiving a Certificate of Appreciation at the SAR/DAR luncheon for his 12 years of dedicated service to the Prescott Chapter board as Chancellor, Chaplain, Registrar, Treasurer, and President



Stuart Rosebrook, the CEO of Sharlot Hall Museum receiving a Certificate of Appreciation for assisting the Prescott Chapter with the rodeo fundraiser

Ron Castle receiving the Bronze Color Guard medal & certificate



November 9<sup>th</sup> Awards



Melodie Passmore receiving the Certificate of Appreciation for assisting the Prescott Chapter at the rodeo fundraiser.



Randy Passmore receiving the Certificate of Appreciation for assisting the Prescott Chapter at the rodeo fundraiser.



Fernando Mendigutia receiving the Certificate of Appreciation for helping the Prescott Chapter at the rodeo fundraiser.



Sandy Combs receiving the Certificate of Appreciation assisting the Prescott Chapter at the annual rodeo fundraiser.



Amore Cianciola receiving a Certificate of Appreciation

# **Camden Burial Project Battle of Camden, South Carolina by Jack Berry**

Allison Peacock, an investigative genetic genealogist of FHD Forensics contacted me on January 16, 2025, and explained that her company is working to identify a casualty of the Battle of Camden in South Carolina which was fought on August 16, 1780. Her brief research determined I may be related to a specific soldier who was killed in the battle and buried. I was aware of the person she was researching after she told me the last person's name. I told her both my fourth and fifth great grandfathers were from South Carolina and had fought in the war. Allison wanted to determine if I had ever done a DNA test, and if so if I was willing to help with the investigation. By way of background, Allison provided the below information.

FHD Forensics was part of a multi-agency collaboration with the Historic Camden Foundation, South Carolina Battleground Preservation Trust, Richland County Coroner's Office, South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology and South Carolina Department of Natural Resources on a forensic identification project.

In 2022, skeletal remains and artifacts of 13 Revolutionary War soldiers from the Battle of Camden and one Native American were unearthed after shallow battlefield burials were being exposed by many years of erosion and relic hunting activity. Allison is working with South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology archaeologist James Legg who said the burials were very cursory in nature. Prisoners of war were likely made to bury the dead in extremely shallow graves 12 to 14 inches deep. After the remains of the 14 were retrieved, the biological anthropologists worked for months to x-ray, clean, examine and reassemble the remains before reburial, which occurred with military honors in 2023.

As a continuation of the Camden Burials Project, FHD Forensics started in December 2024 undertaking the genetic genealogy analysis of some of the Revolutionary Soldiers. The genetic profiles from the DNA of the first two Revolutionary War soldiers have been successfully sequenced. By using genetic genealogy, the goal is to uncover identities and personal stories of the soldiers.

# Camden Burial Project Battle of Camden, South Carolina (continued)

After telling Allison that I had provided my DNA to Ancestry and GED Match and providing her with relevant information and access, she was able to quickly verify that my DNA was matched to an unknown soldier. Since the investigations into the identifies of the soldiers are in the early stages, she requested I not publicly identify the last name of the soldier being researched. Allison does invite anyone with ties to colonial Maryland, Delaware, or North Carolina or the Battle of Camden to visit the FHD Forensics website to join the project or follow the company on Facebook for what she described as “the investigation of a lifetime,” and believes “these are the oldest John Doe investigations in the county.”



# Siege of Boston: Battles of the Revolutionary Wars, a series

The **Siege of Boston** (April 19, 1775 – March 17, 1776) was the opening phase of the [American Revolutionary War](#).<sup>[5]</sup> In the siege, [American patriot](#) militia led by newly-installed [Continental Army](#) commander [George Washington](#) prevented the [British Army](#), which was garrisoned in [Boston](#), from moving by land. Both sides faced resource, supply, and personnel challenges during the siege. British resupply and reinforcement was limited to sea access, which was impeded by American vessels. The British ultimately abandoned Boston after eleven months, moving their troops and equipment north, to [Nova Scotia](#).

The siege began on April 19 after the Revolutionary War's first battles at [Lexington and Concord](#), when Massachusetts militias blocked land access to Boston.

The [Continental Congress](#), meeting in [Philadelphia](#), formed the Continental Army from the militias involved in the fighting and appointed George Washington as commander in chief. In June 1775, the British [seized Bunker Hill and Breed's Hill](#), which Washington and the Continental Army was preparing to bombard, but their casualties were heavy and their gains insufficient to break the Continental Army's control over land to Boston. After this, the Americans laid siege to Boston; no major battles were fought during this time, and the conflict was limited to occasional raids, minor skirmishes, and sniper fire. British efforts to supply their troops were significantly impeded by the smaller but more agile Continental Army and patriot forces that were operating on land and sea. The British suffered from a continual lack of food, fuel, and supplies.

In November 1775, George Washington sent [Henry Knox](#) on a mission to bring the heavy artillery that had recently been [captured at Fort Ticonderoga](#).

In a technically complex and demanding operation, Knox [brought the cannons to Boston](#) in January 1776, and this artillery [fortified Dorchester Heights](#) which overlooked Boston harbor. This development threatened to cut off the British supply lifeline from the sea. British commander [William Howe](#) said his position as indefensible, and he withdrew his forces from Boston to [Halifax, Nova Scotia](#) on March 17.



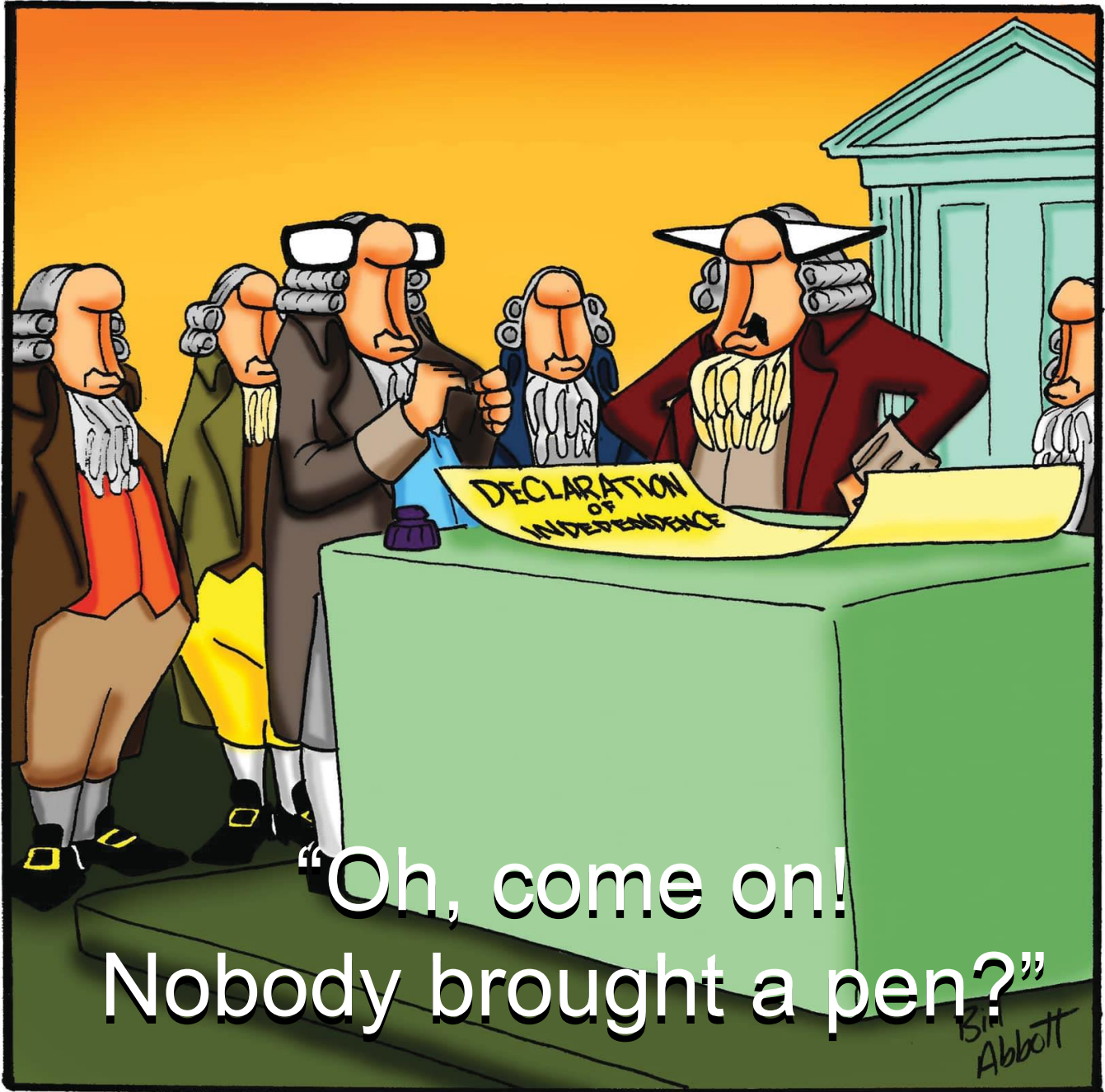
The Grand union flag flown by P. Sherman during the siege

Source: Wikipedia

# Prescott SAR Sponsors



Prescott Evening  
Lions Club



Trivia answer: The Battle of Saratoga

# Chaplin Chat with Tim Prater



With the New Year upon us, let us reflect upon our past blessing and be hopeful for 2025 and the incredible opportunities we have to serve our fellow man. Your opportunity to serve is not defined by great accomplishments but instead simple gestures toward one another. We often ask ourselves what can I do that will make a difference in someone else's life?

I offer six simple small gestures of compassion that we can extend to family members and strangers alike: (1) **Listen with Empathy:** Offer Support and Understanding; (2) **Random Acts of Kindness:** Spread Joy Unexpectedly; (3) **The Power of a Smile:** Radiate Warmth and Positivity; (4) **Thoughtful Notes and Messages:** Words of Encouragement; (5) **Offer Help and Assistance:** Easing Burdens; (6) **Celebrating Milestones:** Sharing in Happiness.

Acts of kindness are not difficult to do. Extend yourself in some small way that will make a difference in someone's life. When difficulties arise at home or at work, be the calming influence to create an environment of mutual respect, growth and togetherness.

I look forward to this year with great expectations for endless opportunities to participate in Prescott Chapter and Arizona Society SAR activities. For Prescott Chapter, I encourage each of us to step forward and offer our services for the betterment of our Compatriots and the SAR at large. I so enjoy meeting with my friends at our monthly luncheons and working with my fellow Compatriots on various projects.

Wishing each of you a prosperous New Year filled with love, enjoyment, prosperity and good health.

*Chaplain Tim Prater*  
Prescott Chapter SAR