



Newsletter of the *Fernando de Leyba Chapter*

*Sons of the American Revolution*

VOL. XIII Issue 13

October 2011

Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month (except July and August) at Culpepper Restaurant in St. Charles, MO

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## October 26, 1776: Benjamin Franklin sets sail for France

### On This Day...

**On October 26, 1776, Benjamin Franklin sets sail for France. Exactly one month to the day after being named an agent of a diplomatic commission by the Continental Congress, Benjamin Franklin sets sail from Philadelphia for France, with which he was to negotiate and secure a formal alliance and treaty. In France, the accomplished Franklin was feted throughout scientific and literary circles and he quickly became a fixture in high society. While his personal achievements were celebrated, Franklin's diplomatic success in France was slow in coming. Although**

**it had been secretly aiding the Patriot cause since the outbreak of the American Revolution, France felt it could not openly declare a formal allegiance with the United States until they were assured of an American victory over the British. For the next year, Franklin made friends with influential officials throughout France, while continuing to push for a formal alliance. France continued to secretly support the Patriot cause with shipments of war supplies, but it was not until the American victory over the British at the Battle of Saratoga in October 1777 that France felt an American victory in the war was possible. A few short months after the Battle of Saratoga, representatives of the United States and France, including Benjamin Franklin, officially declared an alliance by signing the Treaty of Amity and Commerce and the Treaty of Alliance on February 6, 1778. The French aid that these agreements guaranteed was crucial to the eventual American victory over the British in the War for Independence.**

- Those who would give up Essential Liberty to purchase a little Temporary Safety, deserve neither Liberty nor Safety.
- I think the best way of doing Good to the poor, is not making them easy in poverty, but leading or driving them out of it.

**Benjamin Franklin**

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**Next meeting will be on Nov. 14, 2011 and we will meet at Culpeppers 6:30 PM.**

Treasurer's report as of Sept. 30, 2011:

Beginning Balance = \$2,383.90 – Ending Balance = \$2,383.90  
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Genealogist report as of October 10, 2011:

- Pat Jefferson (supplement)
- John Wilson (supplement)

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At the October 10, 2011 meeting:

1. Jeff Sullivan: Reported that the left over Convention supplies were donated to the local food pantry.
2. John Rush: Recommended reading "Forgotten Patriots of the Revolutionary War" by: Edwin R. Burrows.
3. Charles Lilly: Will be issuing some Medals to WWII Veterans next month.
4. David Christian: Elected as Commander of 40 & 8.
5. Motion: To donate \$50.00 in the name of "Ray Edward Morris" to CAAH ( Center for the Advancement of American Heritage).
6. Program: "Make a Splash in Missouri Streams" Was presented by: Shannon Elizabeth Davis (CAR representative).

Steve Baldwin: Serving as Chairman of the Library and Archive Committee.

Ancestry.com has digital records of all SAR applications up to 1970.

Reminder to all - Submit Annual Dues (\$59.00) to Jim Borgman at this coming meeting **Nov. 14, 2011**

Looking forward to seeing everyone on Monday...

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*Fernando de Leyba  
Chapter*

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