



Newsletter of the *Fernando de Leyba Chapter*

*Sons of the American Revolution*

VOL. XI4 Issue 03

October 2012

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

On This Day: *November 12, 1775:*

## Abigail Adams “Patriot”

### Leads Rhetorical Charge against Britain

Upon hearing of England's rejection of the so-called Olive Branch Petition on this day in 1775, Abigail (Smith) Adams writes to her husband.

**"Let us separate, they are unworthy to be our Brethren. Let us renounce them and instead of supplications as formerly for their prosperity and happiness, Let us beseech the Almighty to blast their councils and bring to Naught all their devices."**

The previous July, Congress had adopted the Olive Branch Petition, written by John Dickinson,

which appealed directly to King George III and expressed hope for reconciliation between the colonies and Great Britain. Dickinson, who hoped desperately to avoid a final break with Britain, phrased colonial opposition to British policy as follows:

"Your Majesty's Ministers, persevering in their measures, and proceeding to open hostilities for enforcing them, have compelled us to arm in our own defense, and have engaged us in a controversy so peculiarly abhorrent to the affections of your still faithful Colonists, that when we consider whom we must oppose in this contest, and if it continues, what may be the consequences, our own particular misfortunes are accounted by us only as parts of our distress."

By phrasing their discontent this way, Congress attempted to notify the king that American colonists were unhappy with ministerial policy, not his own. They concluded their plea with a final statement of fidelity to the crown. "That your Majesty may enjoy long and prosperous reign, and that your descendants may govern your Dominions with honor to themselves and happiness to their subjects, is our sincere prayer."

By July 1776, though, the Declaration of Independence proclaimed something very different: "The history of the present King of Great Britain is a

history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States."

The Congress language is critical to understanding the seismic shift that had occurred in American thought in just 12 months. The militia that had fired upon British Redcoats at Lexington and Concord in April 1775 had been angry with Parliament, not the king, who they still trusted to desire only good for all of his subjects around the globe. This belief changed after King George refused to so much as receive the Olive Branch Petition. The fundamental grounds upon which Americans were taking up arms had changed.

Abigail Adams' response was a particularly articulate expression of many colonists' thoughts: Patriots had hoped that Parliament had curtailed colonial rights without the king's full knowledge, and that the petition would cause him to come to his subjects' defense. When George III refused to read the petition, Patriots like Adams realized that Parliament was acting with royal knowledge and support. The American Colonies *Patriotic Rage* was intensified by the January 1776 publication by English-born radical Thomas Paine of "**Common Sense**". An influential pamphlet that attacked the monarchy, which Paine claimed had allowed the "*Crowns ruffians*" to "*impoverish the nation.*"

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Next meeting will be on Nov. 12, 2012 and we will meet at Culpeppers 6:30 PM.

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Treasurer's report as of Oct. 08, 2012:

Beginning Balance = \$2,263.38 – Ending Balance = \$2,144.63

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Genealogist report as of Oct. 08, 2012:

- New Members: David Bell, Guy Young, John Lincoln Post

At National:

9 New Prospects for Membership:

- Pat Jefferson (2 supplements)
- John Wilson (1 supplement)
- Charles Lilly (3 supplements)
- Keith Morris (1 supplement)
- Martin White (1 supplement)
- Steve White (1 supplement)
- Marvin Koeghie (1 supplement)
- J.D. Kirklink (application)

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At the October 08, 2012 meeting:

Meeting Opens 7:01 pm

Introductions: David Hoffman, Ken Martin, J.D. Kirklink, David Bell, Michael Snyder, Millan Paddock, Vertrice Hood & Gary Hood.

Veterans report: David Christian informed us that the WWI Plagues that had been removed from N. Kingshighway had been rescued by the VFW on the Hill. [WWW.STL-LESTWEOFORGET.org](http://WWW.STL-LESTWEOFORGET.org) Please visit the Web Site. ROTC medals delivered by October.

1. Charles Lily: Identifying women patriots. USO packages being accepted.
2. Bill Grote : Color Guard for Robert Lemon Service.
3. Steve Baldwin: Books donated to SAR Library from DAR. 2015 Congress will be held in the New HQ in Louisville Ky.
4. Ken Martin: Ken displayed his scale model of the Missouri Iron Side before sending it off to the "Mighty MO" in Hawaii.

Old Business: NASSAR 2013 Congress will be in Las Vegas N.V. July 6-11. Medals Available for Purchase

New Business:

John White – 15 Years of Service FDL Charter Member and awarded the Missouri Society Service Medal.

New Members Sworn In: David Bell and Gary Hood

Meeting Closed at 7:57 P.M.

Program: Bill Grote – "Global Positioning and Genealogy".

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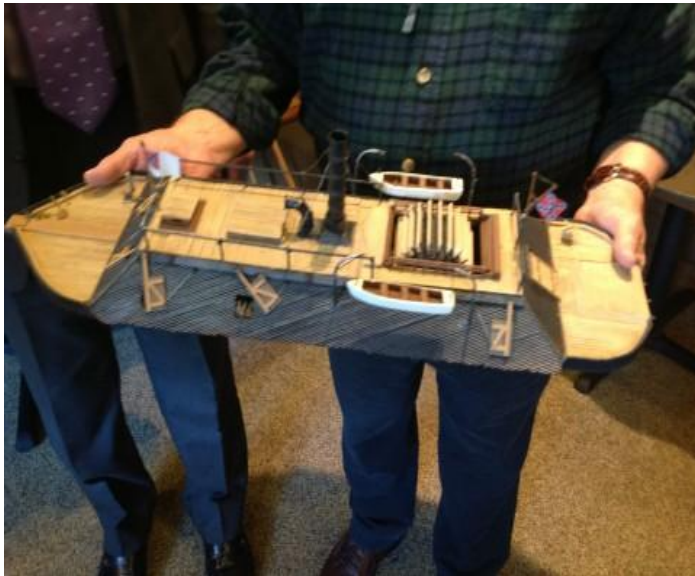
33 Members and Guest in Attendance:

Jeff Sullivan, Chuck Simms, Bill Grote, Sylvia Grote, Jim Borgman, Diane Borgman, JD Kirklink, Pat Kirklink, Dale Wiseman, Carol Wiseman, Michael Snyder, Amanda Snyder, Charles Jefferson, Charles Lilly, David Hoffman, Stephen Baldwin, Millan Paddock, John Rush, Bob Raines, Vera Raines, Marty White, Mimi White, Steve White, Nora Zimmer, David Bell, Elaine Bell, Dennis Hahn, David Christian, John Soucy, John Wilson, Connie Wilson, John White, Paul Smith,









## Revolutionary War Quotes

"The jaws of power are always open to devour, and her arm is always stretched out, if possible, to destroy the freedom of thinking, speaking, and writing."

"Let us dare to read, think, speak and write."

*John Adams*

Yesterday is History. Tomorrow is Mystery?? Today is a Blessing!!!

Looking forward to seeing everyone on Monday...

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