



**San Francisco Chapter**  
**Sons of the American Revolution**



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Libertas et Patria  
INSTITUTED JULY 4, 1876

E PLURIBUS UNUM

**NEXT MEETING**  
**MEMORIAL DAY LUNCHEON**  
**Monday, May 25, 2015**

12:30 P.M.

**IL FORNAIO RESTAURANT**

**1265 Battery Street, San Francisco**  
*(between Greenwich and Filbert Streets)*



## A Message from the President



Greetings Compatriots,

As we enter the summer months here in the Bay Area, I am reflecting on what the season was like for our compatriots during the Revolutionary War. I grew up in the heart of the South, a place where many of the battles for Independence were fought. The heat and humidity in June, July, and August can be stifling and those are the months where much of the work in the fields must be done. Yes, sadly, many plantations relied on slaves to do the most back-breaking work. But the average family could afford neither a plantation nor the slaves to work it. Consequently, they had to tend to their fields themselves to grow food for their table.

Those southern colonies were largely agrarian economies in those years and for many years thereafter, strictly dependent on the land and the weather. Life was already hard enough, but it was especially so from 1775 through 1783 as Americans fought for their independence from the Crown. Most of the colonists did not actively participate in the war and, for most of them, life continued with the difficult work of trying to survive. Farmers continued to grow food, craftsman and artisans continued to create their wares, and business owners continued to try to make ends meet even in the economic chaos of war. Farmers with the misfortune of being in the way of advancing armies on either side often found themselves relieved of grains, crops, livestock and whatever else soldiers on the march required to continue the fight.

The final few months of the War before its end in September were waged during the hottest time of the year on the East

Coast. It was a tense and difficult period with enormous uncertainty about the future amidst the backdrop of the never-ending hard work that was needed just to get by. There were no summer vacations as we enjoy them now, no time-off for most, just hard work. So as we enter one of our favorite times of year when we enjoy time away from the job and time spent with families in leisure, let us be mindful of how very different it was for those who made it possible.

*Dan*

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***HEAR CHAMPION STUDENT ORATOR AT MEMORIAL DAY LUNCH***

If you didn't already, please e-mail Compatriot Charles Likas at [mrcharles1776@gmail.com](mailto:mrcharles1776@gmail.com) to reserve your seat! The winner of the SFSAR Oration Contest on the American Revolution, **Amina Zaidi**, will present her inspired speech to our chapter lunch meeting on Memorial Day, Monday, May 25th at the Il Fornaio Restaurant. Our President **Dan Ashley** plans to present the \$500 first prize and an SAR oratory medal to Ms. Zaidi. We'll gather for lunch at the restaurant at 1265 Battery Street at 12:30 PM. Note that our group lunch reservation is in the name of George Washington. Ms. Zaidi oration will address how the values inherent in the Bill of Rights are applicable to the Internet.

***TRADITIONAL CEREMONY ON THE NATIONAL HOLIDAY***

Before going to Il Fornaio Restaurant to hear a speech on the Revolution's meaning in the Age of the Internet, you may want to attend this year's traditional Memorial Day ceremony at the **San Francisco National Cemetery at the Presidio**. Compatriots and guests will assemble by 9:30 a.m. at the south end of the Main Post (parade ground, near the Officers' Club), then march together to be part of the grand Memorial Day ceremony. Afterwards we'll proceed to Il Fornaio on Battery Street for our chapter lunch meeting featuring guest speaker **Amina Zaidi** of the Lowell High School class of 2015.

## ***CONSTITUTIONAL LAWYER RECALLS EARLY CHIEF JUSTICE***

**Professor Jesse Choper** of the University of California's Boalt Hall law school in Berkeley gave a very informative and balanced presentation on constitutional law at the April 23 SFSAR meeting at Sinbad's Restaurant. He lectured on differences between "liberal" and "conservative" justices of the Supreme Court. Interestingly, Prof. Choper quoted **John Marshall**, who was chief justice of the United States from 1801 to 1835. It was Chief Justice Marshall who, in *McCulloch v. Maryland* (1819), referred to our nation's founding charter as "a constitution intended to endure for ages to come, and consequently, to be adapted to the various *crises* of human affairs" (emphasis in original).

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