



## Revolution's daughters know the true meaning of July Fourth

Written by Chris Reed  
July 4, 2021

ST. GEORGE — The Fourth of July has a special meaning for St. George resident Valerie King.

In a place that puts a great value on genealogy, King can directly tie herself in to the American Revolution that spawned the nation and is celebrated this weekend.

It was in 2014 that King found out her link to 1776. And at that moment, there were fireworks.

"I was so excited when I found out. I yelled, 'Yes!'" King is able to trace herself back to six patriots who fought for a new nation against the British. **See full story on page 3.**



## MEDICARE PLANS RESOURCE FOR VETERANS

Expert reviewed by: **Ron Elledge, Medicare consultant**  
Published: 5/21/2021

Medicare is a federal program that provides health coverage for older adults and some younger adults with disabilities. If you have VA benefits due to your military service, you may be wondering if it's worth signing up for Medicare when you already have access to care at VA facilities.

[Click here to go to full story.](#)



## A Veteran's Thoughts by Ski Ingram

A few days ago, many Americans celebrated the 4th of July. Patriots however celebrated Independence Day. What is the difference you may be asking yourself? For some there is no difference for they understand the meaning of the holiday. For others it is just a day off work, a day to spend at the beach, the lake or at a barbeque and nothing more.

**See full story on page 3.**



## Commander's Column

Marti Bigbie

Membership for 2022 starts July 1st, 2021 thru 6-30-2022. You will be receiving a notice/bill for the renewal of your membership sometime during the month of July. Membership dues of \$40.00 can be made online at [mylegion.org](http://mylegion.org) or mailed to the Post at PO Box 910931, St George, Utah 84791.

The dinner meetings will start again in September with the schedule of events letting You know what to bring and where we will be meeting.

**Stay safe**



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**ST. GEORGE** — The Fourth of July has a special meaning for St. George resident Valerie King.



Valerie King, of the Color Country chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, in St. George, Utah, May 18, 2021 | Photo by David Dudley, St. George News

In a place that puts a great value on genealogy, King can directly tie herself in to the American Revolution that spawned the nation and is celebrated this weekend.

It was in 2014 that King found out her link to 1776. And at that moment, there were fireworks.

"I was so excited when I found out. I yelled, 'Yes!'" King is able to trace herself back to six patriots who fought for a new nation against the British.

They were Pennsylvania farmers who immigrated to the American Colonies in the 1750s. They had plowed fields but traded that to the cause of plowing liberty in a Revolutionary War that began in April 1775. They charged into battles known by their locations: Germantown, Brandywine and Yorktown.

"I trace back to people who dropped their shovels and picked up their hunting rifles," King said.

That new nation declared its independence the next July and it is that declaration that is being celebrated with barbeques, a [big concert at Greater Zion Stadium](#) Saturday night in St. George and fireworks – albeit in designated areas because of drought and fire fears.



Painting by artist Howard Pyle depicting the Battle of Germantown during the American Revolution on Oct. 4, 1777. It was a losing Battle for the Patriots of a new nation, but they would win the war. | Photo courtesy of the National Archives, St. George News

King has been making a local impact as the regent for the Daughters of the American Revolution's Color County Chapter, consisting of 90 members who can trace back to 160 different patriots in the American Revolution.

For them, the meaning of the Fourth of July is a year-round endeavor.

“We have a kindred connection to the people who put their lives on the line for three concepts: freedom, liberty and independence.”

At the time, Great Britain was an empire and America was just a group of dependent colonies. While the success of the nation might give the impression that the move to break off from Britain was an easy one, King said the scope of the forefathers of the revolution was immense.

“When you think about it, that was such a bold and giant step. They put themselves on the line against the biggest most formidable army at the time,” King said. “It’s very meaningful and impactful to us who have ancestors.”

The current nation’s divisions have been highlighted of late, with debates where sides may be unwilling to find common ground.

But while the country’s forefathers produced a United States of America, it doesn’t mean they got along. John Adams didn’t like Thomas Jefferson, and Aaron Burr killed Alexander Hamilton.

But King notes what the forefathers did can be a lesson to unite when they had to in defense of a common cause.

“They couldn’t have won that war if they weren’t united. Believe me they had their debates in battle but in the end they had a common goal and focus and they were successful,” King said, adding:

“Once they won the war, they went back to debating. Look at Adams and Jefferson.”

## A Veteran's Thoughts

Happy Independence Day to all of my friends. A few years ago, I wrote about our great country and asked this question, Are Yu a Patriot? I reprint it below.

By Ski Ingram

Are You a Patriot?

A few days ago, many Americans celebrated the 4th of July. Patriots however celebrated Independence Day. What is the difference you may be asking yourself? For some there is no difference for they understand the meaning of the holiday. For others it is just a day off work, a day to spend at the beach, the lake or at a barbeque and nothing more.



Patriots know the meaning and miracle of Independence Day. They know and understand the history of this country. Patriots understand what our forefathers meant when they said, "We pledge our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor," and when Benjamin Franklin stated, "We must, indeed, all hang together or, most assuredly, we shall hang separately." I wonder how many Americans today value their freedom enough to risk life and limb to keep it?

A patriot knows that our flag is more than just a piece of cloth. A patriot knows that the flag is a symbol of liberty and freedom to the world. That men and women have died to make it so. Patriots sacrifice in some way every day to keep America free for all who live and come here. Why do they do it? Why are men and women willing to sacrifice, give up their comforts, and possibly die for this ideal? It is because they have love for their country and their fellow man.

A patriot wants to see America a better place for all. America was built with courage by men and women with imagination and a willingness to sacrifice for others. We call this love of country. Adlai Stevenson once said "When an American says that he loves his country, he means not only that he loves the New England hills, the prairies glistening in the sun, the wide and rising plains, the great mountains, and the sea. He means that he loves an inner air, an inner light in which freedom lives and in which a man can draw the breath of self-respect."

For some in America patriotism has become an epithet, a form of hate speech. It is often confused with nationalism or xenophobia. Nationalism is defined as a strong

feeling for one's country marked by a feeling of superiority. Xenophobia is a hatred of anything that is strange or foreign. Patriotism is neither of these; it is not however something that can be easily defined. It is something that people feel inside themselves and is different with each person.

I was in the Army stationed in West Germany in 1976, during America's bicentennial. I was on the other side of the world, but even at that great distance I could feel the patriotism of our citizens. People everywhere were displaying a pride in America that I had never seen before. What has changed in the last 43 years? Why is there so much hate in America and how do we fix it? There are only two ways that I know of. One is through education, the other through experience. The easiest way is by educating those who are ignorant. That can be difficult as there is so much misinformation out there. Booker T. Washington said, "A lie doesn't become truth, wrong doesn't become right, and evil doesn't become good, just because it's accepted by a majority." The hardest way to fix America's ills is by experiencing how bad it will be when our freedoms are lost. That will be a very sad day for every freedom loving individual. I hate to acknowledge it, but there are many in America who do not understand the value of true freedom. They believe that being promised things for free is freedom.

Our forefathers who fought and died for freedom during the American Revolution understood it. Thomas Paine defined it in his pamphlet Common Sense. He wrote in 1776, "I do not choose to be a common man... I seek opportunity not security... I do not wish to be a kept citizen... I want to take the calculated risk... To dream and to build, to fail and succeed... I will not trade freedom for beneficence (charity)... nor my dignity for a handout... It is my heritage to stand erect, proud and unafraid; to think and act for myself... and to face the world boldly and say: This with God's help, I have done."

I have watched with interest the many Democratic candidates running for president. I have not heard any of them talk about pride of country, pride in our military, support of our police or the citizens of this great country. We hear many of them calling Americans racists, deplorables and irredeemable. I hear some condoning post birth abortion. They call those on the right hateful at the same time never condemning Antifa for their despicable actions.

I've listened to these candidates promise to tax us up to 70% in order to pay for free health care for all, including illegal aliens. They are promising to forgive students of their college loans, rid the country of ICE and Border Patrol, erase our borders and support everyone who wants to come here without restrictions, conditions, or responsibilities. These kinds of things would change us forever. We will no longer be America as we know it. This is not the work of patriots.

I am an American patriot. I love America. I believe that America is the best and the freest country on earth. I know that better people than I have fought and died to keep it this way. I know that by promising everything free to people will not keep them free, it just makes them dependent. Thomas Paine reminds us "what we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly." It was Thomas Jefferson who stated, "the tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants." Freedom has never been free.

I am nearing my 70th birthday and I could be tired of the fight, but I will never give in to those who wish to take away my freedom. As a patriot I will continue until I can fight no longer to keep my country, America, free for all who wish live and raise their family in freedom. It is my prayer that there are more people than I know who feel the same way.