



Sons of the American Revolution  
**Oregon SAR**



## Revolutionary War Monthly Timeline 1765-1788

### Jan.

- Jan. 1: Daniel Morgan is taken prisoner during his attempt to take Quebec City 1776
- Jan. 1: Mutiny of unpaid Pennsylvania soldiers 1781
- Jan. 3: Washington victorious at Princeton 1777
- Jan. 6–May 28: Washington winters in Morristown, NJ 1777
- Jan. 15: Paine's [Common Sense](#) published 1776
- Jan. 17: American General Daniel Morgan overwhelmingly defeats British Colonel Tarleton at Cowpens, SC 1781

### Feb.

- Feb. 1: The Battle of Cowan's Ford, Huntersville, NC 1781
- Feb. 3: Major General Moultrie defeats British detachment at Port Royal Island, SC 1779
- Feb. 6: The United States and France sign the [French Alliance](#) 1778
- Feb. 14: Patriots Andrew Pickens and Elijah Clarke beat Loyalists at Kettle Creek, GA 1779
- Feb. 23–24: American George Rogers Clark captures Vincennes (in what is now Indiana) on the Wabash in the Western campaign 1779
- Feb. 27: Revolutionaries drive the loyalists from Moore's Creek Bridge, North Carolina 1776

### Mar.

- March 2: [Articles of Confederation](#) adopted 1781
- March 3: British Lt. Colonel Jacques Marcus Prévost defeats Americans under General John Ashe at Brier Creek, GA 1779
- March 3: The Continental fleet captures New Providence Island in the Bahamas 1776
- March 5: [The Boston Massacre](#) 1770
- March 7: British General William Howe replaced by Henry Clinton 1778
- March 8: Gnadenhutten massacre, a.k.a. the Moravian massacre. 1782
- March 15: British win costly victory at Guilford Courthouse, NC 1781
- March 17: The British evacuate Boston; British Navy moves to Halifax, Canada 1776
- March 18: [The Declaratory Act](#) 1766
- March 20: [Lord North](#) resigns as British prime minister 1782
- March 22: [The Stamp Act](#) 1765
- March 23: [Patrick Henry's "Give me liberty or give me death"](#) speech 1775
- March 24: [The Quartering Act of 1765](#)
- March 31: [Boston Port Act](#), one of the "[Intolerable Acts](#)" 1774

### Apr.

- Apr. 18: The Rides of [Paul Revere](#) and William Dawes 1775
- Apr. 19: [Minutemen](#) and redcoats clash at [Lexington and Concord](#), "the shot heard 'round the world." 1775
- April 19: Congress ratifies preliminary peace treaty 1783



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April 25: Greene defeated at Hobkirk's Hill, SC 1781

Apr. 27: [Benedict Arnold](#)'s troops force a British retreat at Ridgefield, Connecticut. 1777

## **May.**

May 10: [The Tea Act](#) 1773

May 10: Ethan Allen and the Green Mountain Boys seize Fort Ticonderoga 1775

May 10: [The Second Continental Congress](#) meets in Philadelphia 1775

May 11–13: Major General Augustin Prévost breaks his siege when American forces under Major General Lincoln approach 1779

May 12: British capture Charleston, SC 1780

May 15: British Major Andrew Maxwell cedes Fort Granby, SC to Lieutenant Colonel Henry Lee 1781

May 20: Battle of Barren Hill, Pennsylvania. Lafayette with 500 men and about 50 Oneida Indians successfully evade British onslaught 1778

May 20: [Administration of Justice Act](#), one of the "[Intolerable Acts](#)" 1774

May 20: [Massachusetts Government Act](#), one of the "[Intolerable Acts](#)" 1774

May 20: Treaty of DeWitt's Corner, SC: Cherokees lose most of their land east of the mountains 1777

May 29: [Patrick Henry](#)'s "If this be treason, make the most of it!" speech 1765

May 29: British crush Americans at Waxhaw Creek, SC 1780

May 30: [The Virginia Stamp Act Resolutions](#) 1765

## **Jun.**

June 2: [Quartering Act of 1774](#), one of the "[Intolerable Acts](#)" 1774

June 6: Americans recapture Augusta, GA 1781

June 8: Revolutionaries fail to take Three Rivers, Quebec 1776

June 9: [The Gaspee Affair](#) 1772

June 12: [The Virginia Declaration of Rights](#) 1776

June 14: [Flag Resolution](#) 1777

June 15: [George Washington](#) named Commander-in-Chief 1775

June 17: [Battle of Bunker Hill](#): The British drive the Americans from Breed's Hill 1775

June 18: British abandon Philadelphia and return to New York 1778

June 18: British hold off Americans at Ninety Six, SC 1781

June 19: Washington's army [leaves Valley Forge](#) 1778

June 20: Patriots rout Tories at Ramseur's Mill, NC 1780

June 20: Stono River, SC, Major General Lincoln inflicts extensive British casualties in indecisive battle 1779

June 21: Spain declares war on Great Britain 1779

June 21: U.S. Constitution adopted, when New Hampshire ratifies it 1788

June 22: [Quebec Act](#), one of the "[Intolerable Acts](#)" 1774

June 28: The Battle of Monmouth Court House ends in a draw 1778

June 28: Sullivan's Island, SC, failed British naval attack 1776

June 28: American forces decisively defeat the British Navy at Fort Moultrie, South Carolina 1776



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June 29: [The Townshend Revenue Act](#) 1767

June 29: [The First Virginia Constitution](#) 1776

## **Jul.**

July 1: At the instigation of British agents, the Cherokee attack along the entire southern frontier 1776

July 1–4: Congress debates and revises the Declaration of Independence. See [Chronology of the Declaration](#) 1776

July 3: Washington assumes command of the Continental Army 1775

July 4: Congress adopts the Declaration of Independence; it's sent to the printer 1776

July 4: George Rogers Clark captures Kaskaskia, a French village south of St. Louis 1778

July 5: St. Clair surrenders Fort Ticonderoga to the British 1777

July 6: "Mad" Anthony Wayne repulsed at Green Springs Farm, VA 1781

July 8: The Declaration of Independence is read publicly 1776

July 8: Fairfield, CT, burned by British 1779

July 11: Norwalk, CT, burned by British 1779

July 11: French troops arrive at Newport, RI, to aid the American cause 1780

July 11: British evacuate Savannah, GA 1782

July 15–16: [American "Mad" Anthony Wayne](#) captures Stony Point, NY 1779

July 15: Lyndley's Fort, SC, Patriots fend off attack by Indians and Tories dressed as Indians 1776

July 27: [Lafayette](#) arrives in Philadelphia 1777

## **Aug.**

August 1: [Boston Non-Importation Agreement](#) 1768

Aug. 1: Ambushed by Cherokees, Patriots are saved by a mounted charge at Seneca, SC 1776

Aug. 2: Delegates begin to sign The Declaration of Independence 1776

Aug. 6: The Redcoats, with Iroquois support, force the patriots back at Oriskany, NY, but then have to evacuate 1777

Aug. 6: Patriots defeat Tories at Hanging Rock, SC 1780

Aug. 8: French and American forces besiege Newport, RI 1778

Aug. 10: Tugaloo River, SC, Andrew Pickens defeats Cherokees 1776

Aug. 12: Andrew Pickens' detachment surrounded by 185 Cherokee Indians, forms a ring and fires outward. It is known as the "Ring Fight." 1776

Aug. 12: Colonel David Williamson and Andrew Pickens burn Tamassy, an Indian town 1776

Aug. 16: British rout Americans at Camden, SC 1780

Aug. 16: American Militia under General Stark victorious at the Battle of Bennington, VT (actually fought in Walloomsac, New York, several miles to the west) 1777

Aug. 19: Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee attacks Paulus Hook, NJ 1779

Aug. 23: British withdraw from Fort Stanwix, NY, upon hearing of Benedict Arnold's approach 1777

Aug. 25: British General Howe lands at [Head of Elk, Maryland](#) 1777

Aug. 27: Redcoats defeat George Washington's army in the Battle of Long Island. Washington's



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Army escapes at night. 1776

Aug. 29: Newtown, NY, after two massacres, American forces burn Indian villages 1779

### **Sep.**

Sept. 3: The United States and Great Britain sign the Treaty of Paris 1783

Sept. 5–Oct. 26: [The First Continental Congress](#) meets in Philadelphia and issues [Declaration and Resolves](#) 1774

Sept. 8: Greene defeated at Eutaw Springs, SC 1781

Sept. 11: The British win the Battle of [Brandywine, Pennsylvania](#) 1777

Sept. 15: French fleet drives British naval force from Chesapeake Bay 1781

Sept. 15: The British occupy New York City 1776

Sept. 16: Rainout at the [Battle of the Clouds](#), Pennsylvania 1777

Sept. 16: Generals George Washington, [Nathanael Greene](#), and Israel Putnam triumphantly hold their ground at the Battle of Harlem Heights 1776

Sept. 17: [U.S. Constitution](#) signed 1787

Sept. 19: Colonel David Williamson's Pennsylvania militia forces attacked by Cherokees at Coweecho River, NC 1776

Sept. 19: Burgoyne checked by Americans under Gates at Freeman's Farm, NY. This is part of the "Battles of Saratoga." 1777

Sept. 21: [Paoli Massacre, PA](#) 1777

Sept. 23: John André arrested, leading to the exposure of Benedict Arnold's plans to cede West Point to the British 1780

Sept. 23: John Paul Jones, aboard the *Bonhomme Richard*, captures British man-of-war *Serapis* near English coast 1779

Sept. 26: British under Howe [occupy Philadelphia](#) 1777

Sept. 28: The Tappan Massacre ("[No Flint](#)" Grey kills 30 Americans by bayonet) 1778

### **Oct.**

Oct. 4: Americans driven off at the [Battle of Germantown](#) 1777

Oct. 7: Burgoyne loses second battle of Freeman's Farm, NY (at Bemis Heights). This is part of the "Battles of Saratoga." 1777

Oct. 7: King's Mountain, SC: battle lasts 65 minutes. American troops led by Isaac Shelby and John Sevier defeat Major Patrick Ferguson and one third of General Cornwallis's army 1780

Oct. 7–25: [The Stamp Act Congress](#) 1765

Oct. 9: American attempt to recapture Savannah, GA fails 1779

Oct 10: Battle of Point Pleasant, Virginia (disputed as to whether it was a battle of the American Revolution or the culmination of Lord Dunmore's War) 1774

Oct. 11: [Benedict Arnold](#) defeated at the Battle of Valcour Island (Lake Champlain), but delayed British advance 1776

Oct. 14: Washington names Nathanael Greene commander of the Southern Army 1780

Oct. 17: Burgoyne surrenders to American General Gates at Saratoga, NY 1777

Oct. 19: Cornwallis surrounded on land and sea by Americans and French and surrenders at



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Yorktown, VA 1781

Oct. 20: [The Association](#) (prohibition of trade with Great Britain) 1774

Oct. 22: Hessian attack on Fort Mercer, NJ repulsed 1777

Oct. 24: [Galloway's Plan](#) rejected 1774

Oct. 28: The Americans retreat from White Plains, New York. British casualties (~300) higher than American (~200). 1776

### **Nov.**

Nov. 16: The Hessians capture Fort Washington, NY 1776

Nov. 16: British capture [Fort Mifflin](#), Pennsylvania 1777

Nov. 20: Lord Cornwallis captures Fort Lee from Nathanael Greene 1776

Nov.–June 23, 1780: Washington's 2nd winter at Morristown, NJ (the harshest winter of the 18th century) 1779

Nov. 25: British troops leave New York City 1783

Nov. 30: British and Americans sign preliminary Articles of Peace 1782

### **Dec.**

Dec. 5–7: Americans repulse British at [Whitemarsh, Pennsylvania](#) 1777

Dec. 11: Virginia and NC patriots rout Loyalist troops and burn Norfolk 1775

Dec. 14: British leave Charleston, SC 1782

Dec. 16: [The Boston Tea Party](#) 1773

Dec. 19: Washington's army retires to winter quarters at [Valley Forge](#) 1777

Dec. 22: Colonel Thomson with 1,500 rangers and militia capture Loyalists at Great Canebrake, SC 1775

Dec. 23–30: Snow Campaign, in SC, so called because patriots are impeded by 15" of snow 1775

Dec. 23: Washington resigns as Commander 1783

Dec. 26: Washington [crosses the Delaware](#) and captures Trenton from Hessians 1776

Dec. 29: The redcoats occupy Savannah 1778

Dec. 30–31: American forces under [Benedict Arnold](#) fail to seize Quebec 1775

Source: <https://www.ushistory.org/declaration/revwartimeline.html>



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