



The Valley Patriot

Tennessee Valley Chapter, Alabama Society
Sons of the American Revolution—June/July 2014



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Meeting Schedule

9 June 2014

11:00am Regular Meeting
Huntsville Public Library
Main Meeting Room

14 July 2014

11:00am Regular Meeting
Huntsville Public Library
Main Meeting Room

President's Message

What a fantastic chapter! We are only two months into the new year and we have already filled all of our youth programs chairmanships except the Orations Contest. Hopefully someone will volunteer soon to fill that one. If any members want to work on the youth programs, do not hesitate to get with the chairman. Your help is always needed. The names of all chapter officers and committee chairmen are listed on the chapter website. Jim Maples does an outstanding job keeping the website up to date.

Tom Jones has once more had a successful JROTC program and several members helped him award the medals at the participating schools. It is very rewarding to see the appreciation on the faces of these young people as they receive recognition for their accomplishments.

If you are a veteran and have not provided Mark Lowman with a copy of your DD214, please do so. We want to make sure that the chapter recognizes every veteran and thanks him for his service. Without our veterans we would not be here.

Vice President Hal Thornton has had some outstanding speakers for our monthly meetings, and I know he has more to come. The speakers are always an enjoyable part of our meetings.

Our Greeters Program is a tremendous success. Both members and guests have expressed their appreciation for the program. When you arrive at the monthly meetings shake their hands and thank them for their participation. I believe enough Compatriots have signed up so that they only have to greet once or twice.

We continue to get new members and for that I am thankful. New members are the lifeblood of any organization. I encourage all our members, new and old, to attend the monthly meetings and participate in our activities.

I must give a special thanks to the ladies. Linda tells me she has had no problems getting food for our meetings. In fact, ladies have been bringing in food without being asked. What a wonderful position to be in and I promise the ladies that all of our members sincerely appreciate their effort.



Our May speaker was Tennessee Valley member and past State President Dave Billings. Dave gave a very interesting presentation on the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Bob Doherty

FLAG DAY - JUNE 14th!

Secretary's Report - April Meeting

The April chapter meeting was called to order by President Bob Doherty at 11:00 a.m. in the auditorium of the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library with the Pledge of Allegiance, the Pledge to the SAR, and the Prayer of Invocation given by Connie Cook. Thirty-six members signed the attendance roster and the guest sheet was signed by fourteen persons. Guests were recognized and each was asked to introduce himself.

President Bob Doherty presided over the meeting. First item of business was to award eight Supplemental Certificates to SAR Compatriot Luke Stephen Pearce. It was noted that compatriot Bob Hammond holds the current record of fourteen Supplementals.

Compatriot Mark Lowman made an announcement regarding the Veteran's Register of Honor. Past President Bob Anderson made an announcement regarding the Color Guard, and the possible purchase of Revolutionary War period firearms.

Vice President Hal Thornton, program chairman, introduced compatriot Dr. Dave Billings, former ALSSAR and TVGS Chapter President, who was the program speaker. Dave gave a presentation on the signers of the Declaration of Independence and some details of the events surrounding the signing. He also described the political climate regarding the colonies and their representatives at the Continental Congress meetings. We also were informed about the how the lives of the signers were affected by their commitment to the independence cause. At the conclusion of his presentation Compatriot Billings was presented a Certification of Appreciation.

The ladies who helped with the food for today's meeting were thanked and recognized: Linda Maples, Susan Crabtree, Wilma Stone, Beverly Thornton, Pat Cook, Kay Anderson, Betty Vaughn, Linda Baccus, Lynn Hammond, Sue Royer, and Linda Doherty.

Past President and Quizmaster Connie Cook conducted a history quiz about certain aspects of the conclusion of the Revolutionary War, followed by the usually tough questions.

Announcements:

TVGS Members Elected as State Officers at the State Convention, February 14-15, 2014, Dothan, AL:

George Royer, Chancellor; Brian House, Treasurer, and Larry Crabtree, Historian

Awards Received at State Convention:

Chapter Award for Largest Number of New Members

Chapter Award for Chapters with the Largest Percentage of New Members

Jim Maples Silver Color Guard Medal

Abigail Berry Alexander Lydia Darragh Medal

Nancy Carter Billings Lydia Darragh Medal

George Royer Certificate of Appreciation

Bob Anderson Certificate of Appreciation

Jim Maples Certificate of Appreciation

Connie Cook Certificate of Appreciation

Larry Crabtree Certificate of Appreciation

Our Youth Programs had an outstanding year:

----Orations winner Kylie Ledesma placed third in the state

----JROTC Cadet Lt. Sarah Rose Stough placed first in state

----Poster Contest Mary Beth Gentle placed first in state

----Brochure Contest Hannah Hembree placed first in state

The Chapter had a successful Banquet 7 March 2014 at Valley Hill Country Club with 60 members and guests. Johnny Curry, of the American Village, talked about the new program to register all veterans.

Lydia Darragh medals (presented by a past chapter president to a lady who provided significant service to him during his tour as president): Janie Byers, Kay Anderson, Susan Crabtree, Abby Alexander, and Pat Cook. Past Vice-President General of the Southern District, Jim Maples, presented the Lydia Darragh Medal to his wife Linda for her outstanding support during his tenure.

Martha Washington Medals (presented in recognition of outstanding service to SAR): Kay Anderson, and Susan Crabtree (Oak Leaf Cluster).

SAR Medal of Appreciation (presented to member of DAR for outstanding service to SAR): Sue Royer, Linda Maples (Oak Leaf Cluster)

Meritorious Service Medal: Hal Thornton and Frank Vinz

Chapter Distinguished Service Medal: Hoyt Smith, Jim Maples, Jim Alexander, George Royer, and Brian House.

Chairmen are needed for the following Youth activities: Poster Contest, Orations Contest, Essay Contest, and Brochure Contest.

Upcoming Events: Board of Managers Meeting, April 26, 2014 at Columbiana, which will be attended by Bob Doherty, Hal Thornton, Bob Anderson, Jim Maples, David Billings, Brian House, George Royer, Larry Crabtree, and Frank Vinz.

April 30th marks the 225th Anniversary of George Washington's presidential inauguration in 1789.

President Bob Doherty began a series of brief presentations on "Little Known Facts in U. S. History." The subject of today's presentation was Samuel Whittmore, then 80 years old, killed three British soldiers on April 19, 1775. He was shot, bayoneted, beaten and left for dead, but recovered and lived to be 98 years of age.

The meeting concluded at 12:20 p.m. with the SAR Recessional, and Connie Cook giving the Benediction.

Kim Keller, Secretary

Upcoming Events

9 June 2014 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Huntsville Public Library.

14 July 2014 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Huntsville Public Library.

19-23 July 2014 - National Congress, Greenville, SC

Secretary's Report - May Meeting

The May chapter meeting began at 11:00 a.m. in the auditorium of the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Hal Thornton, the Pledge to the SAR led by Larry Crabtree, and the Prayer of Invocation given by Connie Cook.

Forty-three members signed the attendance roster and the guest sheet was signed by 16 guests. Guests were recognized and each was asked to introduce himself.

Certificates of recognition: Lamplighter Awards were presented to Compatriots Mac Moon and Spike Field for their support to the SAR Center for the Advancement of American Heritage. Cliff Lanham, SAR member Florida Society, now residing in Madison, was introduced.

The following members have agreed to be Greeters at our SAR meetings: David Byers, Joe Jones, Mac Moon, Topper Birney, Ron Bledsoe, Garry McClure, Dudley Burwell, Bob Adams, Warren Adams, and Richard Chapman.

Awards presented at the recent SAR Board of Manager's meeting:

Compatriots Spike Field and Millard Earl Moon – Lamplighter Medals and Certificates for Financial contributions to the Center of Advancing America's Heritage.

Compatriot Herbert Wayne Norton, Jr also received Lamplighter Certificate and Medal.

Compatriot Norton also received a Certificate of Patriotism for his Korean War Service from the National Society and a Korean War Medal from the Chapter.

Jim Maples and Linda Maples each received Thomas Jefferson Medals for financial support to the George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest

The Chapter received the Neil Shepherd Americanism Award in recognition for promoting the Principles of Freedom and Liberty for all Americans (for Chapters with 100-199 members)

Notice was given for a grave marking in September, and an appeal was made for more members to join the Color Guard.

It was announced that Governor Bentley designated April 30 as SAR Day.

State Registrar, Ron Bearden, notified our chapter that the fee for Supplemental Applications will increase and suggested that members should try to get their applications in early to avoid the fee increase.

The following person was sworn into SAR membership: Charles Francis Edgar, Jr., descendant of patriot William Harper. Charles was presented with a SAR membership lapel rosette and membership certificate.

Reading of the minutes from the April chapter meeting was dispensed with by voice vote.

Vice President Hal Thornton introduced the speaker, Dr. Wilson Wilhite, MD. Dr. Wilhite talked about Culpepper, Virginia, and the 1714 Germanna Colony that was established there. He gave details about the oldest currently active German Lutheran Church, the Hebron Lutheran Church, established in 1740. Dr. Wilhite is a member of the General Galvez SAR

Chapter in Daphne.

Reminders: Memorial Day – May 26 -- Memorial day focuses on those men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

Youth activities: We have chairmen for all our youth activities except the Oration Committee.

History quiz: Compatriot Connie Cook quizzed the audience with questions about the bringing of culture to the history of the American Revolution through poetry.

Recognition and thanks were given to the Women's Auxiliary members and SAR members' wives, Linda Maples, Cookie Keller, Janie Byers, Wilma Stone, Carol Cornelius, Beverly Thornton, Susan Crabtree, Sue Royer, Betty Vaughn, Linda Doherty, Francis Jones, Abby Alexander who graciously provided the lunch for members and guests.

President Bob Doherty closed the meeting with his "Little Known Facts of the Revolution": The first naval battle of the war was on July 12, 1775. The British ship Marguerita was overcome by local farmers, and the captured British Sailors turned over to George Washington.

The meeting concluded at 12:00 p.m. with President Bob Doherty leading the SAR Recessional and Connie Cook giving the Benediction.

Kim Keller, Secretary



President Doherty and past Chapter President Steve Pearce hold up eight approved Supplemental Certificates which Steve accepted on behalf of his son Luke.

Treasurer's Report

January-April 2014

Income	
Annual Banquet Income	1,960.00
Corp Contributions - Youth Programs	190.00
Individual Youth Prog Contributions	0
Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	8.25
Annual Dues	707.00
New Member Application Fee	150.00
SAR AL State Medal	150.00
Total Income	3,165.25
Expense	
Awards and Grants	
Brochure Contest	200.00
Eagle Scout Award	200.00
JROTC Cash Award	250.00
Orations	300.00
Poster Contest	644.16
Accounting/Bank Fees	144.11
Facilities (Summer Social/Other)	0
Medals and Awards	204.25
Operations	
Postage	95.00
Supplies/Printing	98.00
Other Expenses	
Library Memorial Expense	0
Membership and Dues	0
Travel and Meetings	
Conference, Convention, Meeting	1985.19
Travel	582.60
Total Expense	4703.31
Net Ordinary Income	-1,538.06
Net Income	-1,538.06

ASSETS

Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Endeavor Money Market	10,044.16
RFCU Business Checking Account	663.50
Total Checking/Savings	10,707.66
Undeposited Funds	30.00
Total Current Assets	10,737.66
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities (National/State Dues Payable)	105.00
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	15,005.00
Unrestricted Net Assets	-2,834.28
Net Income	-1,538.06
Total Equity	10,632.66
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	10,737.66

Brian House, Treasurer



Mac Moon (top picture) and Spike Field (bottom picture) receive Lamplighter awards from the National Society for their contribution to the Center for Advancing America's Heritage



New member Charles Edgar shown with his wife Joyce receives his new member certificate from President Doherty.



Vice-President Hal Thornton presents a Certificate of Appreciation to our May speaker, Dr. Wilson Wilhite, MD. Dr. Wilhite's presentation was on the 1717 Germanna Colony of Culpeper Virginia.



Your Newsletter Editor (the one with the funny helmet), along with my wife Linda, attended the Tennessee State Convention in March. I'm a dual member with the Tennessee Society, and it is always great to see my Tennessee friends.

ROTC/JROTC



Chapter President Bob Doherty presents a JROTC award to Cadet Jonathan Ovalle at Athens High School.



Cadet Aaron Awai, a freshman nursing student at Oakwood University and a member of the Alabama A&M University Army ROTC Bulldog Battalion, displays his Sons of the American Revolution Certificate awarded by the Tennessee Valley Chapter on 17 April 2014.



Jim Maples
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TO: