

Sons of the American Revolution

Tennessee Valley Chapter

January 11, 2021

January Chapter Meeting

Location: Zoom Meeting Conducted on Internet

Huntsville, AL

Attendees: Ray Livingston, Jim Griffith, Bob Anderson, Jim Maples, Jess Brown, Benny Hannah, Bob Baccus, Ray Cassell, Richard Tingle, David Billings, George Vinson, Bill Sommers, Michael Acosta, plus 14 others.

State and National Members: Fred Olive and Bruce Pickette

Total: 29

President Ray Livingston opened the meeting at 11:00 AM. Bob Baccus gave the Invocation. Ray Livingston gave the Pledge of Allegiance and the SAR Pledge.

Greetings

President Ray Livingston welcomed everyone to the meeting. No one identified themselves as a guest. Fred Olive will speaker to us later. Bruce Pickette, NSSAR Treasurer General, also attended. Michael Acosta, a new member was welcomed.

Near Term Plan

We will continue to meet using Zoom Pro in until further notice.

Board of Officers Meeting will be on Monday, Feb. 1st at 11:00 AM.

Chapter Meeting is on Monday, Feb. 8th at 11:00 AM.

PROGRAM

Dr. Fred Olive spoke on the 2021 Patriot Research System. He thanked the volunteers in TVCSAR for data entry for TVCSAR and other chapters in Alabama.

Old Business

The minutes from our meeting on 12/14/2020 have been posted for two weeks. There were no comments or questions about the minutes. The minutes were approved as posted.

Inductions/Supplementals

Ray Cassell reported that there were no new Inductions or Supplementals to be given today.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

New members that have not received their membership certificates and members that have not received their supplemental certificate or awards will receive them if we conduct in-person meetings in February or March. Those that cannot attend these in-person meetings will receive their certificates or awards in the mail.

2020-2021 Officer Nominations

The following persons are nominated to be new officers in 2021-2022: Benny Hannah is nominated to be the new president; Dudley Burwell is nominated to be the vice president and George Vinson is nominated to be the Recording Secretary.

All other offices will be held by the same person as last year. See list below:

Corresponding Secretary	Jim Maples
Treasurer	Randal Jennings
Registrar	Ray Cassell
Historian	Jim Alexander
Chaplin	James Alexander
Genealogist	Bill Sommers
Chancellor	Richard Tingle

Voting will take place at the February meeting. Installation will be in March 2021.

This is the 20th official TVCSAR meeting (Board of Officers and Chapter) using Zoom.

DAR/CAR Support – TVCSAR has worked with DAR and C.A.R for Patriot Grave markings and dedications. Also, on grave sit wreath laying.

NSSAR Youth Protection Training

Please take this online training if you are involved in youth training or an officer. The training is online at the SAR web page.

Awards

President Ray Livingston has received two Lafayette Volunteer Service Medals. These awards will be presented to two hardworking members of TVCSAR at an in-person meeting.

Americanism Award

Benny Hannah reported that he has received spreadsheets listing many areas that generate points for TVCSAR. In spite of the COVID 19 pandemic, we have had a good year. Benny needs a list of articles appearing in print or on the air. Please send Benny information by mid-Jan. 2021 for submittal by Feb. 1st, 2021.

TVCSAR Videos

- We have our own YouTube Channel. Jim Griffith will tell us more about this tool for publicity later.

Death of a Member

William Walton Vaughn, Jr died on Dec. 23rd 2020. Chaplain James Henderson is working with the Huntsville Library to give a donation as a memorial to him.

Future Chapter Meetings (Very Tentative because of COVID 19)

- Feb 8th – In-person or Zoom meeting Youth Awards and Officer Elections
- Mar 8th – In-person or Zoom installation and awards at 11:00 AM with no meal

Alabama is currently experiencing a surge in COVID-19 cases. Pres. Ray Livingston has reservation with First Baptist Church for in-person meetings. If there is a decrease in COVID-19 cases it will be possible to have an in-person meeting. If COVID-19 cases or still surging, we will have Zoom meetings.

Recent Events

Bill Sommers reported that he attended ALSSAR Jan. 9th Musket Training at Prior Field at Montevallo. It was cold! Will have another training session in the spring when it is warm.

Future Events

ALSSAR Annual Meeting:

- Feb. 20, 2021 at American Village
- Limited in-person and virtual
- Registration form on ALSSAR website. All attendees must register.

TVCSAR Future Meetings

- Zoom Pro for now with plans for in-person meetings
- COVID-19 will control where and how we meet

TVCSAR State Officers

ALSSAR Secretary for 2021-2022 is Jim Griffith.

TVCSAR Newsletter

Please provide topics and information for December and January newsletters.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR SECTION – ALABAMA VETERANS MUSEUM – ATHENS

The GWEF request for funding is working its way through the ALSSAR officers and will be sent to NSSAR. Jess Brown reported that the request for funding was sent to a person with knowledge of the GWEF funding system and suggestions made to improve the chances of gaining approval for funding. Jess is hopeful for a decision before Feb. 1.

Pres. Ray Livingston has prepared a cover letter to go with the proposal. He will send the letter to Jim Griffith, State Chair GWEF. Jim will then use the letter as is or with needed changes to help the request for GWEF Funding move forward.

MISSION OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

The Society is to be patriotic, historical and educational.

TVCSAR YOUTUBE CHANNEL

The YOUTUBE Address is: <https://youtu.be/IUOsQyLhYCw>

The alternate is to go to YouTube and type in Tennessee Valley Chapter of SAR.

Please sign on and subscribe.

Jim will post videos on the Public Service and Heroism presentation made at the City of Madison shortly. He is also working on posting videos of presentations made to City of Athens, City of Decatur, and the Madison County Sheriff's Dept.

In the future training/mentoring videos will be posted. Dr. David Billings has provided videos created for training of new members from other states. These will be used as well. Links to GWEF videos, the revolutionary war in the South and other will be posted.

OFFICER REPORTS

Vice President -Benny Hannah

Benny reported that pictures for the Public Service and Heroism awards have been given to Chief Jernigan, Madison Police Chief. The pictures were greatly appreciated. Benny plans to take pictures to the Police Chief's at Athens and Decatur. He will also take pictures to Madison County Sheriff Kevin Turner.

Corresponding Secretary – Jim Maples

Updated PRS link on the website.

Recording Secretary – Dudley Burwell

No report. Not present

Treasurer – Randal Jennings - Not present.

Checking Account	\$19,514.08	Money Market	\$9,358.17
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2021 DUES

- 158 Senior Members
- 12 Junior Members
- 74% Paid

We have lost more members than usual. The pandemic has decreased the number of members attending meetings and the number that are renewing membership. We are still getting checks for dues. Jim Maples is contacting members and asking them to renew their membership.

Registrar- Ray Cassell

Reported that he has 35 open applications, 3 have been mailed to ALSSAR, 7 are being reviewed at NSSAR and 1 has been approved. We inducted 6 at our last meeting. Seven (7) SAR Supplemental Applications have been mailed to ALSSAR, four (4) are in review at NSSAR. Three Supplemental Applications have been approved. National is approving new member applications in about eight weeks.

We submitted 30 new member applications plus 19 supplemental applications for a total of 49 for 2020. Of the applications submitted, 23 new members were approved and 15 supplementals were approved.

This past week, two new member applications were submitted.

Patriot Research System. TVCSAR has 100% of the members linked to Patriots, 100% of the Patriot lineage entered out of 684 applications and 3 missing. This is better than the National SAR at 98.9%, 66.0% and 121,808 with 2333 missing. The ALSSAR numbers are 76.0%, 39.2% and 4265 with 20 missing.

Please send in Biographical Sketches for your Patriot or Patriots.

Historian Report – Jim Alexander

No Report. Not present

Chancellor Report – Richard Tingle

No Report.

Genealogist Report – Bill Sommers

No Report.

Chaplain Report – James Henderson

No Report, not present.

NSSAR/ALSSAR

Bruce Pickette – Congratulated the TVCSAR Chapter for our activities during 2020 with the COVID Pandemic going on. Many Chapters had very low activity during 2020. He reported there is a virtual leadership meeting on the 6 March 2021 and NSSAR Congress meeting on the 13 March 2021. The purpose of the NSSAR Congress meeting is vote on a change to the Constitution to allow for virtual (Zoom) meetings by Congress. Asked that we consider a donation to GWEF. Also, there is a need for repair of the façade of the NSSAR building in Louisville.

Fred Olive – The ALSSAR has contributed to the NSSAR HQ façade. A donation will be appreciated. Thanks to the TVCSAR volunteers for PRS!

Committee Reports

Youth Awards in February

Pres. Ray Livingston will be contacting the Chairman of the committees listed below to determine who may be available for a Zoom Awards meeting.

ROTC/JROTC - Ray Livingston has one cadet nominated for the Outstanding Cadet Award,

Orations, Brochure, History Teacher - Bob Anderson

Bob Anderson has three contestants for orations, two schools and perhaps hundreds of brochure contestants at two schools. No history teacher was nominated.

Knight Essay – Bob Baccus

No response yet. Asked Bob Anderson for help. Bob Anderson thinks there may be students applying from Hartselle but not sure.

Elementary School Poster Contest – Richard Lewis

Bob Anderson has three schools that are submitting posters and Richard Lewis may have two schools.

Eagle Scout- Otha Vaughn

Otha may have at least one candidate.

Video Date

Bob Anderson and Jim Griffith will select a date to meet next week to video oration candidates.

Public Relations

Jess Brown reported that Presidents day is the third Monday in February. This year it is on Feb. 15th. Jess will try to get WLRH to use SAR and Presidents day on Moments in Time. He will also try to get other TV station to pickup SAR and Presidents day.

Ray recognized Jess Brown and Jim Griffith for their success in getting SAR recognized using PR during 2020. Ray asked if billboards might be available as they were last year.

Closing Comments

Ray thanked Fred Olive giving the program on the SAR Patriot Research System.

Next Chapter BOO meeting is on Feb. 1st.

Next Chapter membership meeting is on Feb. 8th.

Don't forget that patriotic, historical and educational are our mission.

Action Points

1. Please take NSSAR Youth Protection Training online.
2. Please send Benny Hannah information needed for Americanism Award.

3. The YOUTUBE Address is: <https://youtu.be/IUOsQyLhYCw>
Please sign on and subscribe.
4. Signup for ALLSAR meeting on Feb. 20th. You can attend in person or virtually.ar
5. Youth Awards – please work with Pres. Ray Livingston on providing information on Youth Awards. These awards are to be given in February.

BENEDICTION

Bob Baccus gave the benediction.

RECESSIONAL

Vice President Benny Hannah gave the Recessional.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:16 PM.

Dudley Burwell, Recording Secretary

Tennessee Valley Chapter, SAR

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