

December 9, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Sons of the American Revolution

Tennessee Valley Chapter

The December 9th, 2019 Chapter meeting was called to order by **President Jim Griffith** at 11:00 a.m. at the auditorium of the Huntsville-Madison County Library. Jim began the meeting by asking everyone to please silence their cell phones. **Chaplain James Henderson** was absent so Jim asked Bob Baccus to open the meeting with a moment of silence for Officer Billy Clardy and prayer.

President Griffith asked the group to remain standing while our Chapter Color Guard presented the Colors. The Color Guard was represented by Bob Anderson, Randal Jennings, Jim Maples, Chip Pharr, Ray Cassell, Don Wolfe and Bob Baccus. Bob Anderson noted during the ceremony that the black streamer on the flag represents a flag at half mast in memory of Officer Clardy.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Vice-President Ray Livingston**, followed by the SAR Pledge.

Thirty-seven (37) members and fifty two (52) guests were present for today's meeting.

President Griffith indicated that he would normally recognize any first time guests or visitors, but due to our special program today, we will not go through that exercise.

President Griffith announced that we welcome everyone! We are happy to have you with us today. This is a growing, dynamic, and active chapter. If you have any questions about our Chapter or SAR, please do not hesitate to ask one of our members.

President Griffith asked Mac Moon to come up and introduce today's program. Mac was honored and thrilled to have something to do with recognizing and honoring a portion of what you do for the community, because every man and woman that goes out every day whether they are law enforcement, fire fighters, EMT, they make sacrifices, sometimes even risking their own lives. Their families also make sacrifices; they miss out on many holidays and family time. Billy Clardy was a great guy. Mac did not know him well himself, but his son who is also a police officer did know him well. His loss is felt of course by his family and the HPD, but also all of us. The people in this room and in the community support you more than you know. Most of you already know that Billy's father was a police officer and killed in the line of duty. His uncle Tim is also a retired police officer. It's obvious that the Clardy family is invested in Law Enforcement. It is very hard to express how deeply we feel for his loss.

Mac said that this outfit does a lot of Praying, Pledging, Presenting and Photography so get ready. He asked all the 19 award recipients to come up front and get a group picture first for our National

Magazine. Then he will ask you to come back up individually or in small groups to get your awards and your picture taken again.

The order of the presentations is as follows: Individual pictures were taken, and then the family was invited up to take a group picture. Mac read the award details for each individual as they were invited up to the stage.

(FOR CLARITY IN THE NOTES, THE INDIVIDUAL COMMENDATIONS ARE SHOWN IN THE NEXT SECTIONS OF THE NOTES)

FIRE SAFETY COMMENDATION MEDAL-presented to the following:

- Lieutenant Shaun P. Chandler (Decatur Fire and Rescue) was first up to receive his award.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMENDATION MEDAL- presented to the following:

- Officer Jordan T. Rodgers (HPD) & Officer Kevin D. Lambert (HPD) were involved in the same incident and received there awards together.
- Officer James K. Pratt (HPD)
- Investigator Jefferey M. Kreiter (HPD)
- Investigator Michael G. Morrison (HPD)
- Sergeant Jack W. Pugh (HPD)
- Investigator Jonathan M. Harvey (Madison Co. Sheriff's Department)
- Deputy Jesse W. Geer (Madison Co. Sheriff's Department)-Not in attendance-Award accepted by J M Harvey.
- Officer Blake R. Bell (Madison PD)
- Officer Troy M. Vickers (Madison PD)-Not in attendance-Award accepted by Sgt. Steven Reeves

LIFE SAVING MEDAL -presented to the following:

- Officer Elam M. Wallace (Madison PD) & Officer Andrew D. Slaughter (Madison PD) were involved in the same incident and were presented their awards together.
- Firefighter/Driver Colton W. Hill (Athens Fire and Rescue) , Firefighter/Driver Roger C. Green (Athens Fire and Rescue) & Firefighter/Driver Giles D. Durisseau (Athens Fire and Rescue) were all involved in the same incident and were presented their awards together.

HEROISM MEDAL:

- Firefighter/EMT David J. Knox (Hartselle Fire and Rescue) & Volunteer Firefighter Steven A. Gay (Hartselle Fire and Rescue) were involved in the same incident and were presented their awards together.

- Lieutenant Linda J. Fox (Hartselle PD)

The following is the specific award for each individual honored today:

FIRE SAFETY COMMENDATION MEDAL

Awarded to: LIEUTENANT SHAUN P. CHANDLER

Lieutenant Shaun P. Chandler has been a career firefighter with the Decatur Fire and Rescue since June 1996. His exceptional career has included service as a Firefighter, Driver/Engineer, and as a Lieutenant. He has been the lead instructor for Decatur Fire and Rescue recruit academies. He has earned a well known reputation for the exceptional quality of his recruit trainees. Lieutenant Chandler has taught various rescue courses, serves as an instructor for a number of Alabama Fire College courses and travels the country sharing his knowledge and skills with other firefighters. Lieutenant Chandler has been an outstanding asset to both the department and the community he serves.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMENDATION MEDAL

Presented to: OFFICER BLAKE R. BELL

Officer Blake R. Bell is recognized as a highly effective patrol officer for the Madison Alabama Police Department. His supervisors have taken note of his on duty performance as well as a number of innovative suggestions to improve service to the community. Officer Bell responded to one call where a suicidal subject was barricaded in a local apartment complex with a firearm. Upon his arrival he heard a gunshot. However, he could not determine where the round went or the intent of whoever had fired. Officer Bell calmly took steps to warn other responding officers and attempted to evacuate the building. In 2019 he has made 76 arrests ranging from simple misdemeanors to complex felonies. Of these arrests 23 were involved with taking drugs off the streets. His professionalism and dedication mark him as an asset to his department and his community.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMENDATION MEDAL

Presented to: OFFICER TROY M. VICKERS

Officer Troy M. Vickers serves the Madison, Alabama Police Department as a Crisis Intervention Team Officer (C.I.T. Officer). Officer Vickers has demonstrated an ability to deal with individuals who exhibit signs of instability or an altered mental status. Even when individuals have exhibited evidence of non-compliance or are in a manic phase, Officer Vickers seems able to calm them through a personal connection and encourage them to accept professional help. He has also been able to implement an effective approach to community policing due to his personal interactions with people in his patrol zone. Officer Vickers has demonstrated leadership and professionalism in his approach to mentoring and training new officers. His superior officers recognize him as a team player who is a valuable asset to his department and the community.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMENDATION MEDAL

Presented to: INVESTIGATOR JONATHAN M. HARVEY

Investigator Jonathan M. Harvey has served with the Madison County Sheriff's Office for about 10 years and is currently assigned to the Criminal Investigations Division. He served as a Patrol Deputy and as a Crime Scene Investigator prior to his current assignment. Investigator Harvey handles crimes against property and crimes against persons. He is active in the community and has initiated narcotics cases, apprehended fugitives, and identified serious traffic violations which affect the safety of citizens. His willingness to work with other officers, including those from surrounding agencies mark him as a true professional. Investigator Harvey is a credit to his department and his community.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMENDATION MEDAL

Presented to: DEPUTY SHERIFF JESSE W. GEER

Deputy Sheriff Jesse W. Geer responded to a prowler call in early 2019. When he arrived at the residence he found a female who had moved to the home from Oklahoma to escape a stalker who had terrorized her in her home in that state. She was in fear for her life, convinced that the stalker had followed her to Alabama. An eyewitness he interviewed reported a man dressed in black who fled the back porch and yard of the lady's home when he realized he had been spotted. Deputy Geer began to search the neighborhood. He refused to give up even when his search expanded to almost 2 miles away because he had a hunch this was a serious situation. Deputy Geer located a man matching the description moving toward a vehicle in a supermarket parking lot. The man had a handgun strapped to his side. At first he refused to respond to Deputy Geer's commands, forcing Deputy Geer to draw his own weapon and take him into custody. The man turned out to be the Oklahoma stalker with a loaded pistol and binoculars. His car had hunting gear he could use for surveillance of the lady he was stalking. Deputy Jesse W. Geer's professionalism and determination very likely prevented a much more serious situation from developing.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMENDATION MEDAL

Presented to: INVESTIGATOR MICHAEL G. MORRISON

In 1986 Michael G. Morrison began his career with the Huntsville, Alabama Police Department. He served as a patrol officer for 6 years, during which time he became a Field Training Officer. In 1992 he was promoted to Investigator and worked in the Burglary Unit. Investigator Morrison later was moved to the North Precinct General Investigations Unit working all types of investigations. He rotated back to the Burglary Unit in 2011 and then back to North Precinct General Investigations. In 2017 when HPD moved back to specialized investigative units, Investigator Morrison was assigned to the General Investigations Unit. As the Senior Investigator in the General Investigations Unit, he shares his knowledge and his ability to identify offenders and their associates with many of the law enforcement officers. He is a highly valuable asset to his unit, his department, and his community.

LIFE SAVING MEDAL

Presented to: OFFICER ELAM M. WALLACE

On September 23, 2019, Officers Elam M. Wallace and Andrew D. Slaughter of the Madison, Alabama Police Department, were dispatched to a call involving an overdose of heroin. The caller reported she and her husband had stopped at Hughes Road and Conger Road in Madison and the husband had overdosed on heroin. The caller said he was turning blue and not breathing. Both officers quickly acted to provide prompt medical first aid. Officer Wallace started CPR and Officer Slaughter assisted him. The man regained his pulse and breathing just as Madison Fire and Rescue personnel arrived and were able to provide fluids and oxygen. The man survived but likely would not have done so without the quick thinking and professional actions of these two officers.

LIFE SAVING MEDAL

Presented to: OFFICER ANDREW D. SLAUGHTER

On September 23, 2019, Officers Andrew D. Slaughter and Elam M. Wallace of the Madison, Alabama Police Department, were dispatched to a call involving an overdose of heroin. The caller reported she and her husband had stopped at Hughes Road and Conger Road in Madison and the husband had overdosed on heroin. The caller said he was turning blue and not breathing. Both officers quickly acted to provide prompt medical first aid. Officer Wallace started CPR and Officer Slaughter assisted him. The man regained his pulse and breathing just as Madison Fire and Rescue personnel arrived and were able to provide fluids and oxygen. The man survived but likely would not have done so without the quick thinking and professional actions of these two officers.

LIFE SAVING MEDAL

Presented to: FIREFIGHTER/DRIVER COLTON W. HILL

On April 14, 2019, Firefighters Colton W. Hill, Roger C. Green, and Giles D. Durisseau, of the Athens Fire and Rescue, responded to a call of a child swept away in a creek. When they arrived on the scene, bystanders said a 12 year old girl playing near the creek had been swept away. The creek was at flood stage but these three firefighters found the young lady clinging to a submerged limb. The force of the water had stripped off her clothes and she was struggling to hang on to the limb. Without hesitation the three formed a human chain in the six foot deep water and grabbed the girl before she lost her grip. She was given a t-shirt and was otherwise unharmed. Without the professionalism and quick actions of these three men the little girl probably would not have survived.

LIFE SAVING MEDAL

Presented to: FIREFIGHTER/DRIVER ROGER C. GREEN

On April 14, 2019, Firefighters Roger C. Green, Colton W. Hill, and Giles D. Durisseau, of the Athens Fire and Rescue, responded to a call of a child swept away in a creek. When they arrived on the scene, bystanders said a 12 year old girl playing near the creek had been swept away. The creek was at flood stage but these three firefighters found the young lady clinging to a submerged limb. The force of the water had stripped off her clothes and she was struggling to hang on to the limb. Without hesitation the three formed a human chain in the six foot deep water and grabbed the girl before she lost her grip. She was given a t-shirt and was otherwise unharmed. Without the professionalism and quick actions of these three men the little girl probably would not have survived.

LIFE SAVING MEDAL

Presented to: FIREFIGHTER/DRIVER GILES D. DURISSEAU

On April 14, 2019, Firefighters Giles D. Durisseau, Colton W. Hill, and Roger C. Green, of the Athens Fire and Rescue, responded to a call of a child swept away in a creek. When they arrived on the scene, bystanders said a 12 year old girl playing near the creek had been swept away. The creek was at flood stage but these three firefighters found the young lady clinging to a submerged limb. The force of the water had stripped off her clothes and she was struggling to hang on to the limb. Without hesitation the three formed a human chain in the six foot deep water and grabbed the girl before she lost her grip. She was given a t-shirt and was otherwise unharmed. Without the professionalism and quick actions of these three men the little girl probably would not have survived.

MEDAL FOR HEROISM

Awarded to: LIEUTENANT LINDA J. FOX

On July 18, 2019, Lieutenant Linda J. Fox, Hartselle Police Department, was on patrol duty when a civilian drove up to her car and told her there was a car in a five foot deep ditch. Lieutenant Fox responded and while still about 20 feet away, she heard cries for help. She had already called a wrecker to come to the scene, but when Lt. Fox heard the occupant she knew she could not wait. Brenda Allen was trapped in the car and could not open a door because the water was already halfway up the doors. Lieutenant Fox grabbed a hand held window punch and without hesitation headed for the vehicle. She slipped in the mud and the rushing water carried her toward the stranded vehicle. She managed to brace herself to keep from being swept into an underground drain, she also held to a caution sign while she used her free hand to break out the driver's side window. Water filled the car to the steering wheel so Lieutenant Fox had to break out a rear window to get Allen out. Officer Lucas Hogan arrived and pulled Allen from the water, then returned to help Lieutenant Fox out of the dangerous situation. Lieutenant Fox injured her knee and suffered serious injuries to her shoulder which required surgery. Thanks to her prompt and unselfish action no lives were lost.

MEDAL FOR HEROISM

Awarded to: FIREFIGHTER/EMT DAVID J. KNOX

On May 30, 2019, Firefighter/EMT David J. Knox and Volunteer Firefighter Steven A. Gay, Hartselle Fire and Rescue, responded to a call at a residence at 1800 Nethery Road just outside the city limits. The house was heavily involved in fire and thick smoke. A woman was trapped inside and could not get out. Knox and Gay did not hesitate, without regard for their personal safety they entered the very dangerous situation and carried the woman out of the burning home.

MEDAL FOR HEROISM

Awarded to: VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER STEVEN A. GAY

On May 30, 2019, Volunteer Firefighter Steven A. Gay and Firefighter/EMT David J. Knox, Hartselle Fire and Rescue, responded to a call at a residence at 1800 Nethery Road just outside the city limits. The house was heavily involved in fire and thick smoke. A woman was trapped inside and could not get out. Gay and Knox did not hesitate, without regard for their personal safety they entered the very dangerous situation and carried the woman out of the burning home.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMENDATION MEDAL

Presented to: OFFICER JORDAN T. RODGERS

Late on Wednesday, September 25, 2019, a 15 year old stole a Dodge Challenger. Officers Jordan T. Rodgers and Kevin D. Lambert of the Huntsville, Alabama Police Department, became involved in a pursuit after 1:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 26, 2019, when the stolen vehicle was spotted near the Northwoods Housing Development. Someone in the vehicle fired shots even as the chase continued in a populated area. HPD Officers used spike strips to force the automobile to stop near Pulaski Pike and Poplar Avenue. Suspects ran from the vehicle and the 15 year old and another individual were captured. The 15 year old was charged with the theft, the second person was released, and a third person was later arrested and charged with firing at the officers.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMENDATION MEDAL

Presented to: OFFICER KEVIN D. LAMBERT

Late on Wednesday, September 25, 2019, a 15 year old stole a Dodge Challenger. Officers Kevin D. Lambert and Jordan T. Rodgers of the Huntsville, Alabama Police Department became involved in a pursuit after 1:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 26, 2019, when the stolen vehicle was spotted near the Northwoods Housing Development. Someone in the vehicle fired shots even as the chase continued in a populated area. HPD Officers used spike strips to force the automobile to stop near Pulaski Pike and Poplar Avenue. Suspects ran from the vehicle and the 15 year old and another individual were captured. The 15 year old was charged with the theft, the second person was released, and a third person was later arrested and charged with firing at the officers.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMENDATION MEDAL

Presented to: OFFICER JAMES K. PRATT

Officer James K. Pratt has served as a Huntsville, Alabama Police Officer since 2016. He is considered an exemplary officer who has an outstanding work ethic. Officer Pratt serves as a Field Training Officer who has a very positive impact on new officers. He assumes the lead role in the Crash Reduction and School Zone Details as well as participating in the Crime Suppression Detail and University Drive Initiative. He has been complimented numerous times from various supervisors and citizens for his professional performance of his duties. Officer Pratt has received three Letters of Appreciation and an Outstanding Unit Citation during the past year.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMENDATION MEDAL

Presented to: INVESTIGATOR JEFFREY M. KREITER

Investigator Jeffrey M. Kreiter has served with the Huntsville Police Department for approximately 10 years. He was promoted to Investigator in May of 2018 and has been assigned to the property crimes unit since that time. He also serves on the Crisis Negotiations Response Team. In 2019 he has identified a suspect from a video and arrested the individual, clearing a total of 9 burglaries from the Jones Valley Area. Investigator Kreiter arrested an offender from a construction trailer burglary at the 911 Center and cleared six other burglaries from the same location. He also arrested an offender on 2 counts of burglary in the 5-Points area and cleared 9 additional burglaries in the 5-Points and Blossomwood area. Investigator Kreiter made an arrest in a burglary on Buckingham Drive and cleared 6 additional burglaries in South Huntsville and Madison County. Investigator Kreiter has been awarded an Outstanding Unit Citation for his contributions to the Property Crimes Unit. He is recognized as a tremendous asset to his department and the citizens of his community.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMENDATION MEDAL

Presented to: SERGEANT JACK W. PUGH

Sergeant Jack W. Pugh has served with the Huntsville, Alabama Police Department for approximately 32 years. He is currently the Major Crimes Unit Supervisor. Under his leadership Sergeant Pugh's Major Crimes Unit investigated 18 criminal homicides this past year and cleared all 18 cases by arrests. A 100% clearance rate in a city the size of Huntsville, Alabama is exceptional to say the least. He also works closely with the HPD Crime Scene Unit and the Traffic Homicide Unit. Sergeant Pugh's leadership skills include excellent interpersonal and communication skills. He is respected by his peers and citizens in the community. He is a credit to the Huntsville Police Department and the community whose citizens he serves.

Induction Ceremony

President Griffith asked our newest member to come up front for his induction. Roscoe Eugene Bryson came up and was given the oath by President Griffith.

His Patriot Ancestor— James Barmore was a blacksmith who worked day and night to provide for his family. He had lost his hearing probably due to his occupation. He served as a Waggoner during the Revolution, providing clothing and feeding the troops as well as moving the troops around. He was paid 12 shillings per day.

President Griffith asked our Registrar Charles McMurry to come up front and present our new inductees with the SAR Rosettes. Pictures were taken by Jim Maples.

President Griffith spoke to the new members; we appreciate your interest in this organization. The Tennessee Valley Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution is a growing, dynamic organization that is active in our community. There are a lot of activities that we do; there is a heavy schedule of Color Guard activities. You can see that this is an active organization. We are happy that you are here today and encourage you to volunteer in activities that match your skills. We do not know what those skills are, so please let us know. If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to ask a member or an officer.

OLD BUSINESS

Last month's meeting Minutes were posted on the website two weeks prior to today's meeting. Jim asked if there are any corrections, no corrections were noted, the minutes stand approved as posted.

Officers Report:

President-Jim Griffith

Public Relations Initiatives:

- Please plan on attending the Constitution Hall Park Flag Project this Friday at 3 pm for placement of a 23-Star Flag in the same building where the original Alabama Constitution was created. A plaque will be placed underneath stating that it was provided by our SAR Chapter.
- Please use our Speakers Bureau and our Patriot's Chest. We would love to start using these.
- Membership Retainment – Dues are due now, if you have not paid, please do so. We have contacted all members at this point. We need to make one more push to get everyone renewed. Randal indicated that about 70% have turned in their dues.
- Sign-up sheet has been circulated for the Spring Banquet. Please sign up!
- Pearl Harbor Day 'Moments in History' was broadcast this past Saturday on WLRH Radio.
- Media coverage has already occurred in the Huntsville Times and the Athens News Courier about today's meeting. (Recognition of our public servants)

Amazon Smile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as "amazon.com". The difference is that when you shop on Amazon Smile, the Amazon Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice. If you shop on Amazon.com, consider using Amazon Smile (smile.amazon.com). Then, identify "National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution" in Huntsville as your Charity.

Please remember that Constitution Hall is always looking for volunteers. Julie is not with us today but you can contact her for their needs.

Our Color Guard has been very active, check out the schedule. Go to the website and open up the Calendar and view all the activities. Please consider volunteering.

Our Chapter now has over 10% of all new members in the GWEF across the entire Nation. Let's keep that momentum going! Please talk to Mac Moon.

Annual Spring Banquet-Scheduled for March 20, 2020 at the Huntsville Country Club. Cost is \$40 per person. Please sign up today. Sheets are being passed around the room. The meal choice is between chicken and salmon. Jim asked the group if anyone is a member or knows anyone who is a member of the HCC? Having a member in the club could save our Chapter a couple of hundred dollars. Beverly Thornton suggested that Jim should check with Dudley Burwell.

Nominating committee has been active and included: Mac Moon-Chair, Bob Baccus, David Byers and Jim Griffith (Ex-Officio).

Proposed slate of officers will be officially presented for consideration in February, per the By-Laws. Note that nominations from the floor are an option at the February meeting.

The current slate of officers that we anticipate proposing in February is as follows:

President: Ray Livingston

Vice-President: Benny Hannah

Corresponding Secretary: Jim Maples

Recording Secretary: Dudley Burwell

Registrar: Ray Cassell

Genealogist: Bill Sommers

Treasurer: Randal Jennings

Historian: Jim Alexander

Chancellor: Richard Tingle

Chaplin: James Henderson

Schedule of upcoming events:

December 9, Christmas time visit to Tut Fann Home scheduled for 1 PM just after today's meeting.

December 13, Friday, Flag dedication at Constitution Village at 3 PM.

December 14. Saturday, Wreaths Across America, (National Event)

Next Meeting will be on **Monday January** 13th at our usual location in the Library.

Vice President-Ray Livingston

Ray announced that the January meeting program will be by one of our new members Perry Scalfano.
Title: Colonel Tye and John Kizell: The Black Loyalist Experience.

Chaplain –James Henderson

Not in attendance .

Treasurer-Randal Jennings

A graph was displayed on the overhead showing our checking account and our money market account totals. The November totals were \$ 9320.49 in the money market and \$17,828.35 in the checking account. The large increase in the checking account was due to the collected dues. We will soon be writing a check to the State for our dues. Randal also relayed the cost of becoming a Life-Time member with the SAR. Forms are on line along with a chart of the cost based upon your age. A PDF file can be downloaded from the website and filled out. This only covers your National dues; you will still be responsible for State and Local Chapter dues.

Registrar-Charles McMurry

SUMMARY AS OF: 2019 DEC 5

1. SAR COMPATRIOTS APPROVED / REGISTERED AWAITING INDUCTION—3
2. SAR APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AT NSSAR AWAITING REVIEW — 0
3. SAR APPLICATIONS MAILED NOT RECEIVED AT NSSAR—2
4. SAR APPLICATIONS STARTED, NOT FINALIZED —24
5. SAR PROSPECTS: AWAITING PROSPECT’S FAMILY DATA INPUT – 55
6. SAR SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATIONS APPROVED, CERT NOT AWARDED--2
7. SAR SUPPLEMENTAL APPS RECEIVED AT NSSAR AWAITING REVIEW—1
8. SAR SUPPLEMENTAL APPS MAILED NOT RECEIVED AT NSSAR—6
9. NEW SAR MEMBERS INDUCTED AT LAST REGULAR MEETING 13-Nov - 2
10. SAR SUPPLEMENTAL CERTIFICATES AWARDED AT MEETING 13-Nov - 0

Recording Secretary-Benny Hannah

We only have about 3-weeks remaining in this year to complete all our input for the Americanism award. If you have any awards or certificates to present, donations to make, school presentations, make sure you get them done before the end of the year.

Patriot Biographies (11-B) forms are online. This is another area where we can go in and provide information on our patriots and also add points for our Americanism award.

Speakers Bureau-please let me know if we have any activity that I need to record for Americanism.

Corresponding Secretary-Jim Maples

We have 226 members in the Chapter now. Members and Guests, please remember to sign in at the back table. If you do not have a nametag, please sign the Nametag form on the back table as you would like your name to show on your nametag. Also please keep him (Jim) informed of any e-mail changes. We are going to Tut Fann after the meeting to distribute Christmas Cards and take a few pictures. Everyone is welcome.

Historian –Cliff Lanham

Cliff noted that there is nothing new with the Historian, but wanted to share that He and Bob Anderson are participating in the OLLI Program at UAH. Bob will begin his seven week course on the American Revolution in January. Cliff will also begin his course on Genealogy. Go to the UAH website under OLLI for additional details, or go to Wilson Hall in person. (OLLI= Osher Lifelong Learning Center)

Genealogist-Warren Adams

Nothing new to add today.

Committee Report:

Ray Livingston reported that the ROTC Outstanding Cadet nomination packets were due to him by December 7th and that he needed Chapter members to help evaluate the packets. We need 3-4 people to help evaluate the packages. It will take about 30 minutes per package. ((I did receive three packets and called on folks to review them, so that is all done at this point. I did not get any volunteers.))

Bob Anderson reported that the Youth Program is progressing very nicely. We have contacted the schools and anticipate that we are going to need several teams to help us judge posters. We estimate that this year's number may approach 800 posters. If you can spare some time, you should really enjoy it. Jim Griffith noted that the number in the whole state last year was about 800 posters.

Randal Jennings updated the chapter on the current **Color Guard** activities:

Recent activities included:

Dec 8th Ceremony unveiling the historic monument for the 200 year old Crabbe-Stewart-Key-Dotson home in Morgan county.

Upcoming Activities:

December 13, Friday, Flag dedication at Constitution Village at 3 PM.

December 14. Saturday, Wreaths Across America, (National Event) at Roselawn Cemetery in Decatur.

Bob Baccus also announced that he would be performing at Beach Grove Cemetery in Tennessee. Bob will be playing taps and recognized as part of the Tennessee Valley Chapter SAR.

The Color Guard is still looking for new members. One of our challenges this year is to increase our numbers. Randal would like to have enough members to form two units. This would allow us to cover two events at the same time. If anyone is interested we have some extra uniforms. Please contact Randal for information. Randal said that he is working with two new members. His goal is to get enough guardsmen to have two complete units.

Randal noted that the Flag Committee has presented over 100 Flag Certificates over the years. Today he would like to add one more to that number. Randal invited Bob Anderson up front to receive the Flag award. The certificate of accommodation was presented to Bob for his exculpatory patriotism for displaying the flag of the United States of America.

Bob Anderson wanted to let us all know about Tara Ross's new book. If you have a daughter or a granddaughter, this is a great book for a gift. It tells the story of "She Fought, Too: Stories of Revolutionary War Heroines" tells age-appropriate stories of sixteen women and girls who contributed to the American war effort, behind the scenes.

NEW BUSINESS

After the December Chapter Meeting, we plan to go to the Tut Fann Veterans Home. We will distribute Christmas Cards and take pictures in front of their big Christmas tree.

We will be recognizing the Alabama Flag Company in our January meeting.

President Griffith made the following closing comments:

- We have been invited to attend the Civil War Roundtable. Their meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday Night @ 6:30 pm at the Elk's Club. Bob Baccus said that they have great speakers and meeting last about 1-hour.
- Our banquet is set for March 20th at the Huntsville Country Club

- Thank you greeters: **Warren Adams** and **Conley Ownby**.
- Thank you Ladies Auxiliary for your undying support. Your efforts are appreciated more than you know!
- The Tennessee Valley Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution is a growing, dynamic organization that is active in our community. We are happy that you are here today! If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to ask a member or an officer.
- Your Membership dues are due, Please get your check to Randal.
- Special Congratulations to Mac Moon for a fantastic job on today's meeting.
- Also, Jim wanted to thank the Chapter members for all they do all year long and let them know how much he appreciates it. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Years.
- And don't forget our next meeting will be: **Monday January 13th** at 11 am at the library.

Jim addressed one final point. The Cullman Chapter will not be continuing as a SAR Chapter. We are welcoming them to our chapter. Randal Jennings then noted that their Color Guard members have also expressed interest in joining our Color Guard.

President Jim Griffith asked the group to stand for the dismissal prayer led by Bob Baccus. Jim then led the group in the SAR Recessional.

President Griffith adjourned the meeting at 12:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Benny Hannah, Recording Secretary
Doc # 2019-12-09-RS-017-A