

Sons of the American Revolution
Tennessee Valley Chapter
May 11, 2020
May Chapter Meeting

Location: Zoom Meeting Conducted on Internet
Huntsville, AL

Attendees: Topper Birney, Ray Livingston, Jim Griffith, Jim Canon, Bob Anderson, Kim Keller, Jim Maples, Jess Brown, Harold Whiteside, Randal Jennings, Eddie Winkles, George Vinson, Richard Tingle, Jim Alexander, James Henderson, Charles Thompson, Benny Hannah, Gene Bryson, James Henderson, Chip Pharr, Bill Sommers, Tim Gayle, Richard Raleigh, Mark Hubbs, Nathan White, Dudley Burwell, Allie Swann (new member) Bill Vaughn, Skeet Vaughn (29)

Guest: Bruce Pickette (Treasurer General, NSSAR), Warren Alter (past NSSAR President General, NSSAR EXCOM), Eric Alford (ALSSAR Recording Secretary), Fred Olive (Past ALSSAR President and NSSAR EXCOM), William Stone (Historian General, NSSAR) (5)

Unidentified: ecr, Harrell, dspberg, 256-233 5278, Ken, Donisi Ipad (6)

Total 40

Meeting Opened at 11:00 PM. President Ray Livingston said that all microphones will be muted. If you want to speak, unmute your microphone.

James Henderson, Chaplain gave the invocation. President Ray led the Pledge of Allegiance and the SAR Pledge.

President Ray welcomed NSSAR and ALSSAR officers and new members that have not been inducted. He announced that the meeting was being recorded on Zoom. He also explained how problems will be handled related to security. Zoom bombs, hacking and proper etiquette are topics mentioned.

Program

Benny Hannah, Vice President introduced our Speaker Bob Anderson. Bob is a member of TVCSAR, past President of TVCSAR, past President of ALSSAR, was Capt. in the USAF and a 28-year employee of Boeing. The title of the Program was "BATTLE OF RAMSEUR'S MILL". The battle was really a civil war between the loyalists who were from of the area supporting the King. The rebels (patriots) were also from the area and wanted freedom from the King. In this battle the patriots won.

New Members and Supplementals

We have six new members that have been approved by NSSAR but have not been inducted into the Chapter. Allie Swan attended the Zoom meeting. Allie Swann, Joseph Scott Haynes and Gideon Haton Haynes will receive their Certificates when we can have a face to face meeting. Three additional new members have been added since the last meeting.

George Vinson also attend the Zoom meeting. He will receive his supplemental certificate when a face to face meeting is held.

Old Business

The minutes have been posted for two weeks prior to this meeting. There were no corrections. The minutes were approved as submitted.

Officers and Committee Chairmen that have not submitted the SOP's for their positions were asked to submit their SOP's.

The Library Memorial Donation is still on hold. Since the Library is still closed, the

Donation has not been made.

Refund checks for the Installation Banquet have been mailed. Several have not been cashed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT by RAY LIVINGSTON

This is the fourth official TVCSAR meeting (BOO and Chapter) using Zoom. This is the best way to continue Chapter functions while the COVID 19 virus health regulations are in effect. These regulations may impact schools related service projects. Thanks to each volunteer that makes the Chapter continue to function under difficult circumstances.

The refunds for the cancelled Installation Banquet have been completed. Plans for the summer social are still in progress because the Churches used have been closed.

Two new committees have been appointed. The US Semiquincentennial Committee will be chaired by Mark Hubbs. The purpose of this committee is to make contacts and coordinate with ALSSAR, NSSAR and others planning to be involved in this event. The event occurs in 2026. We will be ready when work begins.

Ken Michel has been appointed Chairmen of DAR/CAR. There are now seven DAR groups in Madison, Morgan and Limestone Counties. Ken will work with organizations to provide better coordination.

The ALSSAR Board of Managers will be a Zoom meeting held at 10:00 AM Saturday, May 16th. Four people from our Chapter have signed up to attend.

The NSSAR National Congress plans to meet July 10-16 in Richmond, VA. Persons interested in attending must register by June 10th. Contact Ray if you would like to attend. There are twenty-five delegates from Alabama. You most likely can be a delegate. Fred Olive announced that a decision on the meeting will be made on May 29th. The EXCOM will make a decision if it will be a virtual congress or person to person meeting. Warren Alter said this is an opportunity for people to attend and be a delegate to the meeting. June 12th is the final date for signing up to be a delegate.

The Zoom meetings held in April and by TVCSAR were perhaps the first held by an SAR Chapter. An article has been submitted to SAR Magazine on April 17th.

We hope that the public safety guidelines will permit in person meetings soon. We will be prudent in deciding to return to face to face meetings. A hybrid meeting is possible.

OFFICER REPORTS

VICE PRESIDENT REPORT – BENNY HANNAH

Mark Hubbs will make his presentation when in person meetings are permitted. We will have a short 15-minute speaker if the next meeting is a Zoom meeting. The Patriot Research system has inputted 280 old manual applications into the system plus 150 patriots. Gary Green has asked Benny to be the publisher-editor for the Alabama Society.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY REPORT – JIM MAPLES

We have 199 members. Ray is doing a great job with the Zoom meeting. Will be happy to return to the Library for person to person meetings.

RECORDING SECRETARY REPORT – DUDLEY BURWELL

The Chapter Report has been submitted to ALSSAR. The SOP for the Recording Secretary has been submitted and Minutes for the BOO meeting completed and submitted.

REGISTRAR'S REPORT: MAY 2020 – RAY CASSELL

New SAR APPLICATIONS

Awaiting Family Data	Applications Open	Mailed to ALSSAR	In Review At NSSAR	Approved	Inducted
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57	28	5	1	6	0
SAR SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATIONS					
Mailed to	In Review		Approved	CERT Given at	
ALSSAR	ALSSAR			Last Meeting	
1	6		1	0	

Since our last meeting we have three more people that have been approved but have not been inducted. NSSAR is continuing to work on applications even with the pandemic. We now have a total of six people to be inducted as members. George Vincent's supplemental has been approved but has not been awarded.

PATRIOT RESEARCH SYSTEM – BENNY HANNAH

The TVCSAR has now 42-43% on the manual applications that have been entered into the digital system. Looking for volunteers for entering lineage information from approved applications. You can work at your own pace.

PATRIOT BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

There is very little information on patriots in the NSSAR system at present. Adding Biographical sketches is greatly needed.

Benny encourages you to E-mail information to him and he will input data on your patriot.

Randal asked Benny about information in his patriots file. Benny said you can access the files to determine if information you entered is present or he will work with you to determine if the information is in your patriots file at NSSAR.

TREASURER'S REPORT – RANDAL JENNINGS

There is \$10,243.59 in the checking account and \$9,345.80 in the money market account.

There are checks from the refunds and from awards to students that have not been cashed. Bob Anderson asked for a list of youth awards that have not been cashed. Randal promised to send a list.

HISTORIAN REPORT – JIM ALEXANDER

Reported that he is filing current documents in a loose-leaf binder. Documents are filed by the month. Items files so far are copies of the minutes, officer reports, SOP documents, color guard activity.

CHANCELLOR REPORT – RICHARD TINGLE

No Report.

GENALOGIST REPORT- BILL SOMMERS

ALSSAR is taking applications. If you have a question about a new application or a supplemental, he will be happy work with you.

CHAPLAIN REPORT – JAMES HENDERSON

Jim sent a copy of the SAR Prayer Guide to Ray Livingston. It is a good style guide for prayers. Will send you a link to the document if you ask. Will promote TVCSAR on WDZY FM 101.7 Huntsville and FM 98.9 Decatur.

Jim will also be attending a Defense Group Memorial Press Release meeting at the

Veteran Memorial. He will plug SAR and Association of US Army since he is Chaplain for both Groups.

NSSAR/ALSSAR COMMENTS

Warren Alter commented to Chaplain James Henderson that the Chapter should claim credit for his promotion of TVCSAR in our Americanism report.

Bruce Pickette asked if we had started sending applications to Ron Bearden, State Registrar. Bob Anderson answered the question since Ray Cassel was not on the call. He said he thought we were sending applications in small groups. Until recently NSSAR had been closed. Bruce encouraged us to send applications and get the process restarted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Benny Hannah, Chair of the Public Service and Heroism Committee.

Benny is taking over for Mac Moon. When Mac died, many documents, names and information were not available. Benny has been able to find information needed from letters and other documents. He recently met with City of Madison Police Chief David Jernigan. Chief Jernigan had three officers in mind for heroism awards. He also is a member of fourteen groups that can help Benny find people in Public Service awards.

ACTIONS POINTS

1. Induct six new members and award supplemental certificate when meetings at the Huntsville Library resume.
2. Present Library Memorial Donation when Library reopens.
3. Officers attend ALSSAR BOM Zoom meeting on Saturday, May 16th at 10:00 AM.
4. Need volunteers for data entry for Patriot Research Project. Contact Benny Hannah.
5. Provide Bios for you Patriot. Send info to Benny Hannah.
6. Randal to send list of Youth Award Checks not cashed to Bob Anderson.
7. Record Chaplain James Henderson's PR efforts to be used for Americanism Award.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Topper Birney was concerned that teachers and students in the Huntsville are not participating in SAR educational contests. Bob Anderson told him that others had tried to approach the Huntsville School System and there was no response. Topper said that the teachers he talked to had never heard of the SAR contest. Topper offered to contact the current Superintendent. Bob offered to talk with Topper after the meeting.

Benediction – Chaplain James Henderson

The benediction was given by Chaplain Henderson.

Recessional

President Ray gave the Recessional.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:16 PM.

Dudley Burwell, Recording Secretary
Tennessee Valley Chapter, SAR

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