

SAR Alabama

Volume 23, Number 1

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Did you realize that Alabama played a role in the American Revolution? The Spanish government had a great affinity with the emerging young colonies, since the Spanish shared Great Britain as an enemy.

In 1780, the young governor of Louisiana Territory, Gen. Bernardo de Galvez, engaged the British at Mobile, where Spanish forces defeated the British. This defeat of the British forces took place at a crucial time in the War for Independence, since the British were beginning their Southern campaign. Galvez's efforts were vital in providing supplies for American forces at a difficult time for the Patriots.

The forces under Galvez's command fought battles at Spanish Fort and in 1782, Galvez recaptured Fort Charlotte from the British. Readers can view photos of the historical markers of these events at <http://www.alsar.org/RevWarAlabama.htm>

On Saturday, May 9, at 4 p.m., Alabamians can take advantage of the opportunity of a generation as the Revolutionary War Monument will be placed at the Baldwin County at the Bicentennial Park in Stockton. Patriots from across the South will be in Baldwin County

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ALSSAR convention votes in price increases, new officers

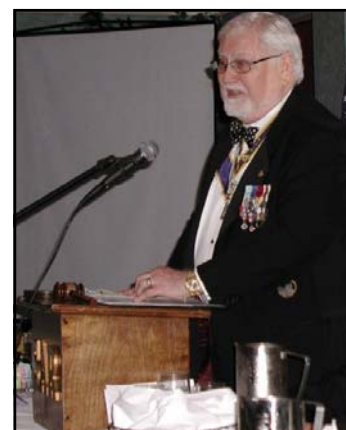
The Gen. Galvez chapter hosted the annual ALSSAR convention in Mobile on Feb. 27-28 and more than 100 members and guests attended, including several from Florida, Louisiana, Georgia, California, Mississippi and Texas.

Dignitaries included NSSAR Secretary General Edward Butler, National Congress chairman Larry Guzy; Inspector General Larry Magerkurth; Registrar General James Sympton; Vice President General of the Southern District Andrew Jones; National Awards chairman Tom Jacks and NSDAR

Registrar Yvonne Boone.

The highlight of the convention was the installation of new state officers for the upcoming year. All nominees were approved by unanimous vote and included Rev. Dr. John H. Killian of the Birmingham chapter as president; Bruce Pickette of the Gen. Richard Montgomery chapter as vice-president; Thomas Robert Thomas of the Birmingham chapter as secretary; and Curtis W. Posey Jr., of the Cahaba-Coosa chapter as treasurer.

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—Photo by Bruce Pickette

Secretary-General Ed Butler was the featured speaker at convention.

ALSSAR charters new chapter in Lamar County



—Photo by Bruce Pickette

Lamar County officers, from left: Howard Rector, Eddy Posey, Andy Johnson, Nicholas Posey and Bill Mixon, along with chapter organizer Larry Cornwell.

Sunday, Feb. 22, held special significance for the Lamar County-area members of the SAR. Not only is Feb. 22 celebrated as the birthday of George Washington, the commander-in-chief of the Continental Army that won America's independence from Great Britain, but Feb. 22 will forever be commemorated as the birthday of a new chapter of the SAR in Vernon.

Members met on the 22nd to formally organize and sign a petition to the State Society to create the 17th chapter in

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Message

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for this grand dedication. Color Guardsmen and re-enactors will be present in full regalia.

This day will celebrate the bravery of those who won independence for these United States and celebrate the fact that our country remains free after more than 200 years. The Alabama Society and, in particular, the Galvez Chapter has been instrumental in the construction of this grand monument.

Alabama SAR members would do well to make this event a priority. Let's have representation from every Alabama Society chapter for this monument dedication. An event like this comes along only once a generation. For more information, you may call Price Legg at (251) 962-2170 or e-mail him at leggpl@gulftel.com

—John Killian

Calendar of events — 2009-10

ALSSAR Institution Ceremony, Lamar County Sons of Liberty Chapter, Sulligent, April 11, 2009.

Dedication of General Galvez marker, Bicentennial Park, Baldwin County, 4 pm, May 9, 2009.

ALSSAR Board of Managers Meeting, American Village, May 2, 2009.

Blue Star Salute, Memorial Day, American Village, May 25, 2009.

National Congress, Atlanta, GA, Marriott Renaissance Waverly Hotel, Atlanta, GA, July 4-8, 2009. Registration forms available only on NSSAR website.

Fall Leadership Meeting, Louisville, Ky.,

September 24-26, 2009. Registration forms available only on NSSAR website.

ALSSAR Board of Managers Meeting, MAX Federal Credit Union, Montgomery, October 3, 2009.

National Historic Site Event, Battle of Kings Mountain, Blacksburg, S.C., October 7, 2009.

Wreaths Across America, National Cemeteries, December 13, 2009.

ALSSAR Convention, Birmingham, February 2010.

Spring Leadership Conference, Louisville, Ky., March 4-6, 2010.

ALSSAR Board of Managers Meeting, Columbiana, May 8, 2010.

ALSSAR Board of Managers Meeting, MAX Federal Credit Union, Montgomery, October 2, 2010.

In Memory

The following ALSSAR compatriots passed away in 2008:

Sept. 22, 2008	At-Large	John Alexander Perdue
Oct. 20, 2008	Birmingham	Tom Oliver Caldwell
Jan. 30, 2008	Birmingham	Hubert Theron Montgomery
Oct. 19, 2008	Birmingham	Loyal Jackson Smith
Feb. 13, 2008	Birmingham	Ralph Taylor
Dec. 19, 2008	General Galvez	Robert Eugene Becker
Sept. 17, 2008	Gen Richard Montgomery	Edwin H. Auerbach Jr.
May 28, 2008	Tennessee Valley	Henry V. Bragg
Sept. 16, 2008	Tennessee Valley	Howard Wilson Drake
Nov. 5, 2008	Tennessee Valley	John Rison Jones, Jr.
Feb. 14, 2008	Tennessee Valley	Raymond O.D. Whitt
March 6, 2008	Wiregrass	Louis Dale Kline
March 22, 2008	Wiregrass	Myron Talmage Vail

New ALSSAR Members in 2008

The following compatriots joined the ALSSAR in 2008:

John Phillip Arnold	Jesse James Morrison
Gordon Liddell Blair	James Henderson Murphy
Robert Preston Blakeley	Garth Raymond Nelsen
Mark Compton Blanchard	Michael Leon Nix
Richard Lee Blanchard	Alan Talmage Parker
Robert Eugene Blanchard	Howard Gardner Perdue, Jr.
Richard Lewis Blanton, Jr.	Daniel C.S. Rabb
Stephen Edward Bowling	William Earl Kelly Rabb, Sr.
Jimmy Ray Bozeman	William Earl Kelly Rabb, Jr.
Michael Andrew Bozeman	William Earl Kelly Rabb III
Philip Jason Bozeman	Dareth Athol Raymer
Keith William Brock	Howard Eugene Rector
Kenneth Nelson Brown, Jr.	Ronald Wayne Rector
Thomas Hugh Bufford	Kyle Daniel Redding
Marcus David Byers, Jr.	Nathan Walker Reed
Stephen Lamar Caldwell	John Lawson Robinson
Harrison Russell Camp, III	Justin James Rojek
Eugene Carter Camp	Douglas Paul Ruth
John Harold Camp, Jr.	Wade Allen Scanlan
Arnold Ray Chandler	James Wesley Sewell
Lorris Gay Cockerham	James F Sherbrook
Michael Bret Cockerham	Clarence Eugene Shirah
Richard Lorris Cockerham	Keith Eugene Shirah
John Jacob Cole	Kendall Clarence Shirah
Marvin Roscoe Courtney	Sean Keith Shirah
Ronald Pershing Davis	Christopher Ryan Shirah
William Eugene Dial	Wayne Ervin Sirmon
Clark Benton Dorsey	Marcus Herbert Smith
Colonel Mason Durden	Troy Anthony Smith
Paul Barrett Edmundson, Jr.	Edgar Leslie Smith III
Bryan Alan Farrar	George Thomas Smith III
Gregory Wayne Farrar	Luke Alexander Smith
Gresham Talmadge Farrar	Austin Liberty Smith
John Brett Findley	Travis Kelly Smith
Ira Charles Franklin, Sr.	Donald LeRoy Snyder
Geoffrey Park Gilpin	James Wesley Solze, Jr.
James Stephen Gilpin	Donald Arthur Sorensen
Stephen Park Gilpin	Matthew Preston Spivey
William Howard Hambright	Paul Benjamin Spivey
Clifford Jackson Hataway	James Melvin Steinwinder
Clifford Jackson Hataway, Jr.	Walter Brown Stevenson, Jr.
Mack Andress Hataway	Jeremy Carl Stewart
William Edward Hazen	Benton Douglass Stone
Walter Gray Hendricks, III	William Oliver Stone
Timothy Andrew Hopper	Bruce Anthony Stritter, Jr.
Randall Virgil Houston	Jeffrey E. Taylor
James Daniel Howell	John Christopher Thomas
Robert Terry Hughes, Jr.	John Wayne Thomas
Kevin Noel Hunt	James Robert Thomas
Charles Eugene Hyde, III	Ronald Johnathan Thomas
Charles Ivins, Jr.	Daniel Harris Turner
James Thomas Jackson	Henry Peters Turner IV
Samuel Andrew Johnson	Timothy Thomas Ullmann
John Fletcher Jones	Walter Perry Vickers
Stephen Matthew Jones	David Henderson Walker
Brent Michael Keith	James Ronald Warren
Raymond Allen Keller III	Jerry Don Warren
Justin Lynn Kelly	Ronald Brock Warren
Lane Darden Kramer	Jabob Morgan Wells
Kenneth Eugene Mahan	Horrall Bowlby West, Jr.
Michael Shaun Maraman	Freddie Lenton White II
Jimmy Ray Mayfield	Robert Laslie Williford, Jr.
Charles Duncan McCormick	Bobby Hughes Willis
Bobby Ray McIlwain	William Tommy Wilson
Charles William Meiser	Lee Large Winston
Michael Kevin Meiser	Chives David C. Woodruff
Willis Alexander Micheals III	Gerald Guinness Woodruff, Jr.
Williams Pierce Mixon	Gerald Guinness Woodruff III
	Harold Bowen Woodruff, USN
	Paul Wilburn Woods
	Barry Nelson Wyatt

State

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Other officers included registrar Ronald A. Bearden of the Little River chapter; genealogist Mark S. Alexander of the Tennessee Valley chapter; chancellor Edward Blount Jr., of the Gen. Galvez chapter; historian Bobby Joe Seales of the Cahaba-Coosa chapter; chaplain James G. Alexander Jr., of the Tennessee Valley chapter; and sergeant-at-Arms Dr. Richard D. Price of the Cahaba-Coosa chapter.

Michael Wells was named the national trustee and Killian is the alternate trustee, effective after the July Congress.

After a welcome reception on Friday night, the first order of business on Saturday was the George Washington breakfast with guest speaker John Jackson updating everyone on the Baldwin County Bicentennial Celebration, followed by the annual business meeting.

Compatriot Larry Cornwell presented a petition for approval of the Lamar County Sons of Liberty Chapter in Vernon and members voted to charter the new chapter. Cornwell distributed invitations to the chartering ceremony and banquet scheduled for April 11 in Sulligent.

Pickette reported the recommendations of the finance committee meeting held on Jan. 10 in Montgomery. Members voted upon the following changes or noted the recommendations:

—A proposal to exempt overseas Active Duty members from state dues was amended to exempt all Active Duty (to include Guard and Reserve on full-time active duty) members whenever assigned, if requested by the member or chapter. That is, the state would pay national dues beginning in 2010. Exemption of chapter dues would be a chapter determination.

—An increase in new member related applications from \$15 to \$20, effective Jan. 1, 2010.

—An increase in state dues from \$12 to \$15. Dues were last raised at a state meeting on Feb. 24, 2001.

—In the past, \$300 is typically given to the convention host chapter. The committee noted (a) chapters are not required to draw the money, (b) if the host chapter makes a profit, the money must be returned to State, (c) chapters may retain any



—Photo courtesy of Bruce Pickette

ALSSAR officers are installed at state convention on Saturday night.

profit above the seed amount, and (d) chapters should continue to set up separate bank accounts for the convention. The committee's results on this issue were noted as recommendations; no vote was taken.

—Members discussed whether *SAR Alabama* should be made available via electronic means in lieu of hard copy. They noted significant cost savings could be realized but not all members have email and there is significant workload involved in electronic dissemination. They agreed the newsletter is essential to keep membership informed and that it should continue to be printed and distributed and also posted on the state Web site, but that the state secretary should continue to collect email addresses. The Tennessee Valley Chapter volunteered to run a pilot program of electronic distribution of the state newsletter to members who have an email and report results.

—The committee noted support of the CAAH is vital to the Society. It suggested the state urge chapters to collect individual checks payable to "SAR Foundation" at chapter meetings and members or chapters submit directly to NSSAR. The CAAH Donation Form, available at www.sar.org, should be used in all cases. The committee also stated the state should continue to make contributions when possible.

After the election of officers for the upcoming year, president John Killian named his committee chairmen as follows: Americanism, C. Bruce Pickette; Benevolent, Jim Alexander; C.A.R., Bob Thomas;

Eagle Scout, Jody Creekmore; Endowment Fund, Tony Neathery; Flag, Wayne Finley; Government Relations, Mike Manasco; History Teacher, John Bryan; Knight Essay, Jack Oden; Library, Mike Wells; Medals & Awards, Jim Alexander; Orations, Mike McCreedy; Public Services Hero, Jim Wardlaw; Revolutionary War Graves, Gene Gravlee; ROTC/JROTC, Tony Neathery; Liaison to American Village, Johnny Curry; Liaison to DAR, Larry Cornwell; and Liaison to Reenactors, Bob McLendon.

Butler was the guest speaker at the banquet and awards ceremony on Saturday night and scholarship recipients were honored during the banquet; orations contest winner Bethany Pate of Montgomery; essay contest winner Andrew Shindi of Birmingham; and Eagle Scout award winner Daniel Glaus of Prattville.

Jim Alexander presented several medals and awards to SAR members for outstanding contributions to the society this past year. Past president Jim Wardlaw received the Liberty Bell statue with inscription, Howard Schramm and Richard Brittain of the Gen. Galvez chapter received the Meritorious Service medal and Price Legg received the Distinguished Service medal.

The new officers for the ALSSAR were sworn in by Butler and the new officers for the Ladies Auxiliary were sworn in by Mrs. Robin Butler.

As his first act, Killian inducted his son, John Killian Jr., into the ALSSAR.

—Bruce Pickette and Mike Glass

In Memory...

Le Bateman

The Gen. Richard Montgomery chapter recently lost one of its dedicated members when **JACOB LeROI BATEMAN III** passed away on Feb. 13.

Bateman, 56, had been a member of the Sons of American Revolution's Montgomery chapter for the past decade and was one of the original members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans' Camp 2002 as well.

Bateman was a graduate of Liberty Bible College with a degree in theology and Auburn University Montgomery with a

degree in history.

He was a genealogy research specialist and a member of the Alabama Genealogical Society, Inc.

Bateman was a member of St. James United Methodist Church and in addition to his membership in the SCV and the SAR, he was a life member of the Military Order of Stars and Bars.

He was commander of the William Wirt Allen chapter of the Military Order of Stars and Bars at the time of his death.

He was camp genealogist of the SCV's

Capt. Henry C. Semple camp as well.

Bateman was the second son of Jacob LeRoy Bateman Jr. and the late Miriam O. Bateman. Ironically, his mother had passed away only a week earlier.

He is survived by one brother, Charles M. Bateman; one sister, Miriam B. Harde- man; three nephews, Michael Bateman, Stephen Bateman and Matthew Bateman.

Services were held on Monday, Feb. 16, at Leak-Memory Chapel. Burial followed at Montgomery Memorial Cemetery.

—James Larose

Cheaha members attend DAR's Washington luncheon

Members of the Cheaha chapter were invited in February to attend the Bienville chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution's annual George Washington birthday luncheon at the Anniston Country Club on Feb. 28.

The guest speaker was Susan Weber, the chief environmentalist for the city of Huntsville. Weber had previously been awarded the DAR award at the National Congress in Washington, D.C., for her work in protecting our environment.

The first meeting of the Cheaha chapter this year on Jan. 14 featured a living history presentation by Harlan and Annette Askew of the Birmingham chapter of the Nationwide Freedom Foundation.

Rev. Jeff Coker was presented a supplement certificate for the service of his patriot ancestor Peter Emmons.

One of the highlights of **ANNETTE & HARLAN ASKEW** the Nov. 12 meeting was a program by Col. Robert Baker of the Center for Domestic Preparedness at McClellan on the subject of global terrorism.

The meeting included a supplement certificate presented to chapter vice-president Charles Lloyd Dinsmore for the patriotic service of his ancestor, John Parr Sr.

Jake Mask, an Eagle Scout from Wadley, spoke to the group on how he obtained his merit badges. On a motion by Charles Dinsmore with a second by Eagle Scout committee chairman Frank Boullemet, Mask was given the designation of being the Cheaha representative for the state Eagle Scout Scholarship. His parents Greg and Lisa Mask also attended the meeting.



—Photo courtesy of William Rozier

Several Cheaha members were on hand for the DAR's salute to George Washington in February.

Dr. Gerald Woodruff and his son David were welcomed as new members into the chapter at the Sept. 10 meeting.



COL. ROBERT BAKER

Former chapter president Charles Sammy Howell was awarded a certificate for distinguished service by the Alabama Society and a past president's pin by the Cheaha chapter.

Rev. Jeff Coker was awarded two supplemental certificates.

The highlight of the meeting was a program presentation by ALSSAR state registrar Ron Bearden on how to begin and complete an application for SAR membership.

—William Rozier



—Photo courtesy of Bruce Pickette

Andrew Shindi, left, is presented certificate by Roger Vaughan at the ALSSAR convention.

Hoover High student wins Knight Essay competition

Three Alabama chapters — Birmingham, Gen. Richard Montgomery and Tennessee Valley — participated in the 2009 Knight Essay Contest, with two more essays being sent directly to the ALSSAR chairman from students who found his name and address on the SAR web site.

The winning essay was “Alexander Hamilton: Revolutionary and Constitutional Crusader” by Andrew Shindi, sponsored by the Birmingham chapter. Second Place went to “Remember the Ladies” by Dominique Postma, sponsored by the Gen. Richard Montgomery chapter. Daniel Richardson of the Tennessee Valley chapter placed third with “Crossing into History.”

Shindi was presented his medal, certificate and \$200 check at the state convention by Roger Vaughan, Knight Essay chairman.

Shindi is an honors student from Hoover High School. His interests vary from performing on stage to studying American history. He aspires to become a constitutional lawyer and eventually hold public office. He has, thus far, been accepted at three universities and favors the University of Chicago.

Andrew’s essay was forwarded to the NSSAR chairman for judging at the national level.

—Roger Vaughan



—Photo by Linda Graham

Eagle Scout winner

Daniel Glaus, who was sponsored by the Gen. Elmore chapter in Prattville, accepts his check and a certificate at the ALSSAR convention for winning the Eagle Scout competition.

Pate wins orations contest

The Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest is open to all students attending home schools, public, parochial or private high schools who are in their freshman, sophomore, junior or senior year of study.

The preliminary rounds are held by chapters to select one winner from each participating state.

Alabama’s winner, Bethany Pate, is a student at Evangel Christian Academy in Montgomery and was sponsored by the Gen. Richard Montgomery chapter. She competed with other contestants at the ALSSAR convention in Mobile on Feb. 28.

The title of Pate’s speech was “George Washington: Setting the Example for Presidents Today.” She was awarded a \$300 check and medal and will represent the state at the national Congress in Atlanta on July 5, 2009.

—William Scanlan



—Photo courtesy of William Scanlan

Pate receives medal from Scanlan at convention.

Gen. Galvez installs officers for 2009

The General Galvez Chapter held their annual installation of officers on Jan. 17 by ALSSAR president Jim Wardlaw as 32 members and guests attended the presentation that included the recognition of several members for their contributions and achievements to the organization.

Outgoing chapter president Richard Britton received the past presidents' pin with a certificate of appreciation; Bud McDonald received the oak leaf cluster for his Meritorious Service Medal while serving as chapter secretary; Leroy McGaughy received the Veterans Medal with oak leaf cluster for his active participation in our veterans program; and Harold Wells was recognized for outstanding service as our veterans committee chairman.

On a more somber note, our chapter lost a very valuable and supportive compatriot. A memorial service was held for Robert E. Becker who passed away recently. His wife, Joan, was with us for the memorial. Bob, as he was known to us, was a member of the great generation. He was a bomber pilot in WWII. All who had the privilege of knowing him will surely miss him. He was a past president of our chapter.

Compatriot Legg informed the group about a granite monument honoring General Galvez has been ordered and will be dedicated on May 9 at the Veterans Park in Stockton.

General Galvez fought and won three Revolutionary battles in our area against the British. This will be part of a national program honoring all veterans of all wars and will coincide with the 200th centennial celebration of Baldwin County.

Color guardsmen and re-enactors in period attire from Alabama, Louisiana, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi and other states will be there. This event is open to the public so please mark your calendars.

New president Stan Virden in his closing remarks encouraged all compatriots to support and be involved in the chapter as well as the Alabama SAR convention.

The chapter held its February meeting at Ryan's Steak House at East Gate shopping mall, where 34 members and guests watched as Marcus Smith was inducted into the chapter and compatriot John Goss received the chapter meritorious medal for



—Photo courtesy of Mike Glass

ALSSAR president Jim Wardlaw, right, installs new officers, from left: Stan Virden, president; Mike Glass, vice-president; Leroy McGaughy, secretary-treasurer; and BOM representative Howard Schramm.

his work as head of the Law Enforcement Preservation Society.

After committee reports Virden held discussions on our chapter hosting the State SAR convention on Feb. 27-28.

The guest speaker at the February meeting was Marilyn Culpepper, executive director of the Mobile Historical and Pres-

ervation Society. The topic of her talk was "Mobile in the American Revolution: Part of the Forgotten British Colonies." Mrs. Culpepper gave a very informative and entertaining talk about the Gulf Coast region's political and cultural experience during this period.

—Mike Glass



—Photo courtesy of Mike Glass

Mobile Historical and Preservation Society executive director Marilyn Culpepper was the featured speaker at the chapter's February meeting.

Lamar

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Alabama, which they named The Lamar County Sons of Liberty Chapter. "Sons of Liberty" was the name given to secret colonial societies that sprang up in 1765 to protest and nullify the Stamp Act and were called radicals by the British for leading the colonies into revolution against the mother country.

After voting unanimously to form and name their new chapter, members voted on officers to lead them in their first year. Andy Johnson of the Bank of Vernon was voted as the chapter's first president; Nicholas Posey, who lives between Fayette and Winfield, was selected vice president; William Mixon of Sulligent was selected as the secretary-treasurer; Howard Rector of Jasper was selected as the registrar; and Eddy Posey, Nicholas' father, was selected as the chapter's chaplain. Most chapter officers and members have Revolutionary War ancestors who settled the Lamar County area.

The new chapter has agreed to meet on the third Sunday of each month at 2 p.m. in the Extension Service Building in Vernon, with the exception of the summer months and December.

Paul Hays, the District of Columbia Society president, Bruce Pickette, the Alabama Society secretary, and Larry Cornwell, the Gen. Richard Montgomery chapter registrar, as well as prospective members and members from nearby chapters, were on hand to advise and guide the members on this historical occasion.

On Feb. 28, the ALSSAR Board of Managers at its annual convention meeting voted its approval of the new chapter, which will receive its charter at its institution ceremony and banquet on April 11 at 4 p.m. at the Country Squire Restaurant in Sulligent.

This ceremony is open to all SAR members, their families and friends. Reservations are required, and must be mailed in by March 28. A copy of the reservation form is on the Alabama Society's web site, www.alssar.org, and can be downloaded by clicking on the Reservation Form hyperlink, or by contacting Larry Cornwell at lacornwell@aol.com.

—Larry Cornwell



—Photo courtesy of Mark A. Steette

Tri-State grows by 25 percent in one induction ceremony

Tri-State made history recently by welcoming six members who were all related with the same ancestor (Richard Byrd). At the ceremony were, front row, from left: Justin Kelly, Christopher Shirah, Sean Shirah and Robert Hughes. Second row: President Jerome Richardson, Kendall Shirah, Keith Shirah, vice-president Clarence Shirah and former ALS-SAR president John Wallace. Back row: Harry Dunaway and Kenny Dunaway of the FLSSAR's William Dunaway chapter in Marianna.



—Photo by Bruce Pickette

Spreading the SAR's message in the classroom

Compatriot Larry Cornwell addressed seven fifth-grade classes at Prattville's Daniel Pratt Elementary School on March 4. The teachers had heard about Cornwell's visit to one of the classes last year and brought together 230 students for this year's visit. All the students had recently visited the American Village near Montevallo and were full of questions. On hand for the visit were Bob Crane, president of the school board and a member of the Gen. Elmore chapter and ALSSAR vice-president Bruce Pickette.

Montgomery compatriots help in Fort Benning dedication

Compatriots from the Gen. Richard Montgomery Chapter traveled to Fort Benning, Ga., on March 13 to be on hand and participate in the dedication of a monument to the Revolutionary War Infantryman, the first monument to be erected next to the soon-to-be opened Infantry Museum.

Color guardsmen were on hand from a number of states and the National Society was represented by President General David Appleby and Treasurer General David Sympson.

Also on hand representing the George Washington Endowment Fund was compatriot John Wallace of the Wiregrass chapter.

The 200 members of the Coweta Falls chapter of the Georgia Society sponsored the monument.

—Larry Cornwell



—Photos by Richard Erickson

Above, from left, Gen. Richard Montgomery compatriots Brad Sanders, Ed Smith, Sam Maraman, Sam's grandson Kurt Gwathney, Douglas Ruth, Justin Rojek and Larry Cornwell pose in front of new marker at Fort Benning; at left, Color Guard members helping with the dedication of the marker include Cornwell, fourth from right, and Sanders, fifth from right.



—Photo by Bruce Pickette

Postma with Dick Erickson, left, and chapter president Stan Phillips at January meeting.

Postma second in Montgomery essay contest

The Gen. Richard Montgomery chapter held its annual Knight Essay Contest and honored the first place winner at its January lunch with a medal, certificate and cash award of \$100 presented by President Stan Phillips.

Dominique Postma won first place with her essay, "Remember the Ladies," which described the role of women in the Revolutionary War and the effect it had on their lives. She is a junior at Alabama Christian Academy. Dominique is involved in Key Club, Fellowship of Christian Students, school chorus, and editor of both the school newspaper and yearbook. She is active in her church, works with inner city children and has been on several mission trips. She plans to attend Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tenn., in the fall of 2010.

Marlan Golden garnered second place with his essay, "Self-Government: America's Greatest Unalienable Right." He is also a junior at Alabama Christian Academy and a straight-A student. He is a member of the National Honor Society, school chorus and theater department. He is active in his church and is a volunteer in local and statewide political campaigns. Marlan plans to attend Auburn University.

Postma placed second at the state competition in February. She received a check for \$100 and a certificate. Alabama Christian Academy plans to recognize both students for their achievements.

—Dick Erickson



The Alabama Society Sons of the American Revolution
and the General Bernado de Galvez Chapter
cordially invite you attend the dedication of a monument to
General Bernado De Galvez
honoring his contributions to the American Revolutionary War
effort along the Gulf Coast.

**Location: Baldwin County, AL Bicentennial Park
Stockton, Alabama**

Time/Date: 9 May 2009, 1600 hours CDT

Park is located on Al. 225. Driving directions from I 65 take exit 31 and go North 1.6 miles. From Pensacola take I 10 West and take exit 35 to Spanish Fort go .3 mile to highways US 90 & 98 turn right and .2 mile to Al. 225 North. Driving time from Pensacola to the Park is 1 hr. & 15 min.

Color guard elements from across the Southern District and the South Atlantic District will be participating. Each state society is encouraged to bring their state flag as battle streamers will be awarded. Chapter, state and district wreaths will also be presented during the program.

Please contact one of the following with information on your color guard participation, and if your chapter or society will be presenting a wreath along with the name of the presenter so it can be incorporated in the program.

**Mike Glass (251) 947-5077 or msglass@gulftel.com
Price Legg (251) 962-2170 or leggpl@gulftel.com**

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Visit the ALSSAR Web site at www.alssar.org

Send in your chapter's news to be included in the next newsletter

Please submit any information about your chapter's activities or notice of upcoming events by June 10 to Tim Gayle at 3573 Foxhall Drive, Montgomery, AL 36111 or send photos or stories via e-mail to timgayle@knology.net.

ALSSAR compatriots honor soldiers at Kettle Creek

A pair of ALSSAR compatriots ventured to neighboring Georgia recently to attend a "Revolutionary Days Celebration" weekend in Washington, Ga., to commemorate the 230th anniversary of the Battle of Kettle Creek.

John Wallace, past ALSSAR president and former Vice President General of the Southern District and Bruce Pickette, ALSSAR secretary and past president of the Gen. Richard Montgomery chapter, attended the event, held every year to recognize one of the most important battles of the Revolutionary War in Georgia.

The battle, which was fought on Feb. 14, 1779 in Wilkes County near the town of Washington, has been recognized with an annual celebration for the past 12 years by the Georgia Society. Activities included a parade, living history, battleground tours, memorial ceremony, colonial church service, presentations by authors and a special remembrance program at the grave of Elijah Clarke – one of the leaders of the battle.

Ninety-five organizations, including several state societies and chapters of the C.A.R., DAR, and SAR, were represented at the memorial ceremony to honor the gallant militia soldiers who fought at Kettle Creek. The Hon. Judge Edward Butler represented NSSAR President-General David Appleby at the program, while Compatriot Wallace presented the Southern District wreath and Compatriot Pickette presented the Alabama Society wreath.

—Bruce Pickette



—Photo courtesy of Bruce Pickette

ALSSAR compatriots Bruce Pickette, left, and John Wallace, right, with NSSAR Secretary General Ed Butler on the town square of Washington, Ga.