

FEBRUARY 10, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Sons of the American Revolution

Tennessee Valley Chapter

The February 10th, 2020 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. Before **Chaplain James Henderson** opened the meeting with prayer, Jim would like to take a minute to remember a member that we lost this week. Mac Moon was a past President of this chapter and a very special person. Jim read a special note from Bob England to the group to express how special Mac was. The following list shows some of Mac's achievements:

1969 – Jefferson County Sheriff's Department
Bachelor of Arts in History at UAB
Master of Arts in Counseling Guidance at UAB
Master of Science in Criminal Justice at UAB
Doctorate in Administration and Instructional Leadership with an Emphasis in Criminal Justice from University of Alabama
Went to the Jefferson County Juvenile Court
Alabama Board of Pardons and Parolls
State Probation Officer
Federal Probation officer in 1975
After 8-9 Weeks, they moved Mac to Huntsville.
Retired from Federal Probation in 1998 as a Supervising US Probation Officer
1969 – Spent 7 years in the Army National Guard
Transferred into the Air Force Reserve and became a Special Agent in the Air Force Office of Special Investigations. He retired as a full Colonel in 2006.

After a moment of silent prayer for Mac, Chaplin Henderson continued with the opening prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Vice-President Ray Livingston**, followed by the SAR Pledge.

Thirty two (32) members and thirty eight (38) guests were present for today's meeting.

President Griffith indicated that he would like to recognize any first time guests or visitors, but due to the large number this morning, he only asked that they stand as a group to be welcomed by the chapter.

Introduction of Today's Program: 'Youth Program Awards'

President Griffith welcomed all the winners in this year's Youth Program's : Richard Lewis is our Youth Program chairman but was unable to attend due to work commitments. President Griffith asked Bob Anderson to make the presentations. Bob first explained the poster program and the huge response that we had for this year's program. We had almost 600 posters and nearly 100 Brochures to be judged. First, we have the top three winners with their posters. The following Certificates and checks were presented by President Griffith and Bob Anderson:

Youth contest Chapter Award Winners: Americanism Elementary School Poster Contest;

1st Place-Brady Stiles, Hartselle Intermediate- Certificate and Check for \$100.
2nd Place-M J Bullard, Hartselle Intermediate - Certificate and check for \$75
3rd Place-Kaylee Fortinberry, Priceville Elementary - Certificate and check for \$50
Teacher Award presented to Debbie Simmons (Hartselle) - Certificate and check for \$100.

Youth contest Chapter Award Winners: Sgt. Moses Adams Memorial Middle School Brochure Contest;

1st Place- Avery Early, Priceville Jr. High School- Certificate and check for \$200.
2nd Place- Abbey Throneberry, Priceville Jr. High School-Certificate and check for \$150
3rd Place- Zaira Dimas, Holy Family School-Certificate and check for \$100
Teacher Award presented to Kari Sharbutt (Priceville)- Certificate and check for \$100.

Bob Anderson was pleased to announce to the chapter that both of our 1st place winners in Poster and Brochure were also the Alabama State winners and would compete in the National competition this summer in Richmond, Virginia.

ORATION AWARDS: were presented at last month meeting:

Runner-up award was presented to **Samantha Simmons**. \$100

3RD Place award was presented to **Brinkley Cottingham**. \$200

2nd Place award was awarded to **Olivia Patterson**. \$300

1ST Place award was presented to **Caleb Knapp**. \$400

Mr. Ray Livingston was next on the agenda to introduce and present this year's winner of the JROTC. Ray indicated that the chapter supports twenty different High Schools in the area. This year's winner is Cadet Meredith Camacho from Huntsville High School. She was presented with a Certificate, a check for \$250 and a Medal. Cadet Camacho then ended by reading her impressive essay to the group.

Mr. Otha Vaughan was next on the agenda to introduce and present this year's winner of the Eagle Scout Award. This year's Chapter winner was James Schomburg III. James had a previous commitment,

so his Dad sat in and accepted the Certificate and a check for \$250. Otha noted that James has earned over 27 Merit badges and has written a 500 word essay on the "Battle of Yorktown".

Bob reminded everyone that there is a luncheon on February 22nd for all the Youth Awards 1st place winners. This will be part of our Annual Business meeting and Convention at the Embassy Suites in Hoover, Alabama. Make sure that all members complete their registration to attend the convention.

President Griffith suggested that we take a five minute break to allow all the contestants get their pictures taken and allow time for their families to exit the meeting room. We will then continue with the remainder of our Business meeting.

After the Students and their parents departed, Jim called the meeting back to order. He first asked Sarah Curtis and Donis Wolfe to come up front. Jim presented a certificate to Sarah, while her husband, Donas placed a pin on her Jacket for becoming the newest George Washington Fellow. Congratulations to Sarah. This makes the 8th from our chapter this year. The National goal for this year was 100 and at last count showed we were at 80. This means that our chapter has contributed roughly 10% of the National goal.

President Griffith asked our Flag Chairman, Randal Jennings to come up and update us on his upcoming presentations. Randal indicated that James Alexander had recommended a flag certificate for the 5th grade class at Westminster Christian Academy. Randal also indicated that he would be presenting a Flag Certificate to John Knight, the school coordinator and PE teacher who has been leading these activities for several years.

OLD BUSINESS

Last month's meeting Notes have been posted on the website two weeks prior to today's meeting. If there are no objections or comments, the minutes stand approved as posted. No additional comments were made, minutes are approved.

The next order of business is the election of officers. The Nominating Committee has been active and included: Mac Moon – Chair, Bob Baccus, David Byers, and Jim Griffith (Ex-Officio). Thanks to all for their time spent and dedication to the process.

- Current slate of Officers that we are proposing in today's meeting:
 - Ray Livingston – President
 - Benny Hannah – Vice President
 - Jim Maples – Corresponding Secretary
 - Dudley Burwell – Recording Secretary
 - Ray Cassell – Registrar
 - Bill Sommers – Genealogist
 - Randal Jennings – Treasurer
 - Jim Alexander – Historian
 - Richard Tingle – Chancellor
 - James Henderson – Chaplain

Jim went thru each position and asked for nominations from the floor. After going thru each position, there were no new nominations from the floor. Jim asked again if there were any nominations for any officer positions. Again, there were no nominations from the floor. Bob Anderson then made a motion that the Nominations be closed. The motion was seconded by Charles McMurry and passed by unanimous vote. Bob Anderson then made a motion that all the nominees be elected by Acclamation. The motion was seconded by Chip Pharr and passed by unanimous vote.

Jim announced that the Officers will be installed at our Annual Spring Banquet – March 20, 2020 at the Huntsville Country Club. Cost is \$40.00 per person. Please sign up today. If you have signed up and have not paid, you have not signed up. Forms are in the back of the room. We only have 15 members and 16 guest signed up to date. We would like to have another 40 people to sign up.

Officers Report:

President-Jim Griffith

- Public Relations Initiatives
 - February 17th – Big, big day at the American Village. Please attend as we will be dedicating two trees on that day to the American Village! We have joined with the “Alabama Brigade”, who is descendants of Washington’s Army at Valley Forge. The first dedication of a tree is a Sycamore Tree from Mt. Vernon. It is being planted next to the replica of Mount Vernon. The second dedication is a Liberty Tree (Tulip Poplar) which is a graft from the last surviving Liberty tree. Brochures will be provided with a full description of the trees.
 - Please use our Speaker’s Bureau and our Patriot’s Chest. Patriot Chest is about to be expanded. Jim is planning to purchase more items for the chest
 - President’s Day “Moment’s in History” has been recorded and will be broadcast on WLRH on February 17th.
- Amazon Smile, please sign up and help the Chapter.
- Dudley Burwell is a member of the Huntsville Country Club and will help us with the reservations for our Chapter Banquet. Annual Spring Banquet – March 20, 2020 at the Huntsville Country Club. Cost is \$40.00 per person. Please sign up starting today. Forms are in back of the room.
- The State Convention is scheduled for February 21st & 22nd at Embassy Suites in Hoover Alabama. Please sign up and attend.
- Jim also commented that this would be his last full meeting as Chapter President. He wanted to express his appreciation on all the help he had received this year from the chapter members and officers. He would provide more details in our March Banquet.

Vice President-Ray Livingston

Next month will be our Banquet, Our speaker will be David Jones, our new State President.

Chaplain –James Henderson

Please let him know if anyone is in the hospital. He knows that many of us have our own ministers, but he would like the opportunity to visit.

Treasurer-Randal Jennings

A graph was displayed on the overhead showing our checking account and our money market account totals. The January totals were \$9338.37 in the money market and \$10896.22 in the checking account.

Registrar-Charles McMurry

SUMMARY AS OF 06 FEB 2020

1. SAR COMPATRIOTS APPROVED / REGISTERED AWAITING INDUCTION—0
2. SAR APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AT NSSAR AWAITING REVIEW — 3
3. SAR APPLICATIONS MAILED NOT RECEIVED AT NSSAR—4
4. SAR APPLICATIONS STARTED, NOT FINALIZED —23
5. SAR PROSPECTS: AWAITING PROSPECT’S FAMILY DATA INPUT – 57
6. SAR SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATIONS APPROVED, CERT NOT AWARDED--1
7. SAR SUPPLEMENTAL APPS RECEIVED AT NSSAR AWAITING REVIEW—7
8. SAR SUPPLEMENTAL APPS MAILED NOT RECEIVED AT NSSAR—0
9. NEW SAR MEMBERS INDUCTED AT LAST REGULAR MEETING 13 JAN 2020 - 2
10. SAR SUPPLEMENTAL CERTIFICATES AWARDED AT MEETING 13 JAN 2020 —1

Recording Secretary-**Benny Hannah**

Americanism Award is still in progress. The totals for 2018 were just over 12,500 points. This year (2019) is still working and the total points at this point are just over 18,000.

We have a great start for the 2020 Americanism Award. We have already exceeded the maximum points allowed for the youth program.

Corresponding Secretary-**Jim Maples**

Still slightly behind on the Nametags, but catching up. If you have not received your nametag, make sure that your name is on the Nametag sheet in the back.

Also slightly behind on the Newsletter, but expect to get it posted on website today.

Historian –**Cliff Lanham**

Nothing new to report.

Genealogist-**Warren Adams**

Nothing new to report.

Committee Report: (none)

Randal Jennings needed to know if we had Color Guard members who would be available for Mac Moon's memorial service. The time has not been set but expects it to be late this week. We had six members who should be able to attend.

Upcoming Activities:

Feb 13, 2020- Memorial Service for Mac Moon in Huntsville.

Feb 17, 2020- TVCSAR Tree Dedication at American Village.

Feb 22, 2020- ALSSAR Annual Business Meeting Hoover, AL.

Mar 06, 2020- ALDAR State Convention Auburn, AL.

Mar 20, 2020- Chapter Banquet at HCC.

April 18, 2020- Folk Life Festival @Early Works (Tentative)

April 25, 2020- Folk Life Festival @Early Works (Tentative)

May 9, 2020- Blue Star Memorial @ US Veterans Museum in HSV.

July 3, 2020 – Fourth of July Baseball Game in Madison, AL.

President Griffith made the following closing comments:

The State Conference:

- State meeting will be held on 21st & 22nd of February at the Embassy Suite in Hoover, Alabama. The reception will be held on Friday evening and the Banquet will be on Saturday. Saturday Noon will be the luncheon for the Youth Award winners.

Chapter Banquet:

- Jim has reserved the Huntsville Country Club for our Chapter Banquet. This will serve as our monthly meeting and be held on March 20, 2020. Induction ceremony of new officers will be a key part of the banquet ceremony.
- Thank you to Richard Lewis and Bob Anderson for their focus on the Youth Contest!
- Thank you greeters (George Stone & Sam Upton)
- Thank you to all of our visitors for joining us today
- Thank you Ladies Auxiliary for your undying support!

We look forward to seeing everyone on March 20th Banquet , which replaces our next meeting!

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

President Griffith adjourned the meeting at 12:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Benny Hannah, Recording Secretary
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