President’s Report

Along with my duties as Chapter President I have the honor of commanding the Color Guard for our chapter. We had three events in September: we presented/posted/retrieved the Colors on the 15th at Calvary Bible Church, Huntsville, AL for the local Huntsville chapters of the DAR in their annual Ringing of the Bells (Anderson, Baccus, Hembree, Howell, Jennings, Richardson); we presented/posted the Colors on the 17th at Athens State University in Athens, AL for the John Wade Keys DAR chapters (Anderson, Maples, Baccus, Ferguson, Richardson, Vaughan); presented Colors at POW/MIA Recognition Ceremony on the 22nd at Alabama State Capitol Grounds commanded by State Commander Tom Smith (Jennings plus six others). With regards to the POW/MIA event, the URL https://www.powmiafamilies.org/uploads/9/1/5/0/91501560/alabama.pdf is the proclamation issued by Governor Kay Ivey (a member of the DAR).

The chapter voted in favor of a ten dollar increase in the chapter dues in the September meeting. This increase helps with increase cost of supplies and operations, continue cost of technology, and expansion of youth programs.

The search for chairman of our various committees has been a success with the help of our Vice President Griffith who assisted me in contacted both new prospects and a few previous chairman. Our chapter is well known throughout the society and it is because of the dedication of each member who is active in each committee. Be involved and volunteer.

Another involvement of mine is Publicity Chairman. If you read, watch or listen to various local media outlets let me know if they have public service announcements or inexpensive advertisement. At the beginning of my term I began placing a Public Service Announcement of our guest speaker outside the double doors as you enter the hallway into the meeting room at the Huntsville Library. This and other PSA should be made available elsewhere in our community, like grocery stores. I am also interested in online announcements. I recently noticed within Google Maps the ability to announce events. I am looking for knowledgeable people who can make suggestions or have the know how to let the community know we exist.

At least six of our members are going to the Board of Managers meeting on October 6th at American Village. Please join us and become more involved with the inner workings of our society.

Don’t forget to participate in the Pennies for Youth Program, a penny per day for a year, is a $3.65 donation to help any/all chapters with their youth programs: awards and/or supplies.

Randal Jennings

Our guest speaker for August was Ted Dawson. Ted has been a “Digger” for most of his life. The title of his presentation “Hunting History”. Ted brought along a large collection of his finds to share with the group.
Secretary’s Report - August Meeting

The August 13th, 2018 Chapter meeting was called to order by President Randal Jennings at 11:00 a.m. in the auditorium of the Huntsville-Madison County Library. Chaplain James Henderson was absent due to hospitalization. The Prayer of Invocation was given by Bob Baccus.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice President Jim Griffith. President Jennings followed by leading the group with the SAR Pledge.

Thirty eight (38) members and nineteen (19) guests were present. First-time visitors and guests were asked by President Jennings to introduce themselves at the meeting. Steve Androlake stood and was recognized.

Vice President Jim Griffith introduced our Speaker today. Our guest speaker is Ted Dawson. Ted works at the Port of Huntsville and has been a “Digger” for most of his life. The title of his presentation “Hunting History”. Ted also brought along a large collection of his finds to share with the group. President Jennings and Vice President Griffith presented Ted with a certificate of appreciation for his presentation.

New Member Installation: President Jennings and Registrar Charles McMurry conducted the installation of four new compatriot members attended today meeting:

- George Eldon Vinson Jr., his patriot ancestor – Samuel Henderson.
- Jeffery Eldon Vinson, his patriot ancestor – Samuel Henderson.

President Jennings asked for the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting. A motion was made by Bob Anderson to suspend with the reading of the minutes, the motion was seconded by Bob Baccus. A voice vote was called for and the motion was passed to dispense with the reading by unanimous vote. President Jennings reminded the group to go to the TVCSAR website and a copy of the minutes will be in the Newsletter.

Officers Report:

President - Randal Jennings
1) On Friday August 24th, we will have our Summer Social at the Whitesburg Church Recreation Center at 6 PM. Please sign up on the circulating sign-up sheet. The cost is free, but please indicate if you can bring a side dish. Entertainment will be provided by the “Prevailing Winds Flute Ensemble.
2) Please keep Chaplain Henderson in your thoughts and prayers as he is in Huntsville Hospital recovering from a heart condition.

Vice President - Jim Griffith
Our next speakers at the September 10th meeting will be Bob England. His topic will be “Hellish Historiography meets Wandering Welchman”.

Chaplain – James Henderson
Not in attendance.

Treasurer - Chip Pharr
Files have been updated and are included in Randal’s presentation slide.

Registrar - Charles McMurry
Information has been updated thru Thursday, August 9th, 2018. Donis Wolfe is in attendance today and his application is now at National.

Recording Secretary - Benny Hannah
Nothing New

Corresponding Secretary - Jim Maples
Our Chapter Membership is now at 215. Also, let him know if you do not have a nametag, please put your name on the list on the back table. Please sign your name the way you want it to show on the nametag, otherwise, your name will be the same as it shows on your application.

Historian – Cliff Lanham
Nothing new.

Genealogist - Don Smith
Nothing new.

Committee Report:

1) Bob Doherty announced (primarily for new members) that our group likes to recognize our veterans. Please see him if you are a vet and qualify for one of the medals. We provide medals for the following:
- War Service Medal
- Wounded Warriors or Purple Heart recipients
- Veterans Corp (sponsored by National)

2) President Jennings noted that the Color Guard performed in two events this past month:
- Hal Thornton Memorial Service
- David Billings Minuteman Ceremony

Unfinished Business:

Upcoming Events for the Color Guard:
- Sept 15th - Calvary Bible Church, Drake Ave.
- Sept 17th - Athens State College, Athens Alabama
- Oct. 21st - Maple Hill Cemetery Stroll
- Nov. 12th - Huntsville Veterans Parade (Monday) - Due to the Parade being held on Monday, our regular monthly meeting will be changed to Tuesday Nov. 13th at 11:00am.

State President Bob Anderson announced that our next BOM meeting will be held on Oct. 6th at the American Village. Bob indicated that the real work of the state is done at this meeting and recommends that all members attend. Only delegates can vote, but the learning experience makes it worth everyone attending.

President Anderson also announced that the National Society Leadership will be held in Louisville on the last weekend in September (28th and 29th of Sept). He reminded us all that school has started and we need to keep in mind our Youth Programs. Many chapters in our state are no active in the Youth Programs due to financial restraints. Please remember to donate your $3.65 ($4.00) to help these other state chapters participate in the programs.

Nancy Billings requested us to get more focus on new membership for the Ladies Auxiliary. The cost is $10 original sign up fee and $5 a year renewal.

New Business:

A question was asked about how our chapter performed in the National Society events. President Anderson responded by saying that we did win some awards and they will be presented at our next BOM Meeting.
President Anderson also noted that our Youth Programs did not win this year.

President Jennings made the following closing comments:
- Thanks to today’s greeters: John Blanchard and Richard Lewis.
- Thanks to all the ladies who provided all the food and desserts for the meeting.
- Our next meeting will be Monday September 10th, 2018 at 11am.

President Jennings asked the group to stand for the dismissal prayer by Bob Baccus. President Jennings then led the group in the SAR Recessional. President Jennings adjourned the meeting at 12:04 PM.

Benny Hannah, Recording Secretary

Secretary’s Report - September Meeting

The September 10th, 2018 Chapter meeting was called to order by President Randal Jennings at 11:00 a.m. in the auditorium of the Huntsville-Madison County Library. Chaplain James Henderson thanked everyone for their thoughts and prayers for him while he was in the hospital. James opened by reading President Washington’s “Monday Morning Prayer”. The Prayer of Invocation was then given by James.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Jennings followed by the SAR Pledge. Forty-one (41) members and eighteen (18) guests were present. First-time visitors and guests were asked by President Jennings to introduce themselves at the meeting. Don Ross and Wayne Thrasher and Danny Whitt stood and were recognized.

President Jennings introduced our Speaker today. Our guest speaker is Dr. Bob England, Ph.D. The Title of Bob’s speech today, “Hellish Historiography meets Wandering Welchman”. Bob is a former Professor at NW Shoals Community College and present Historian for the Alabama State SAR. Bob’s presentation was very interesting and educational.

President Jennings presented Bob with a certificate of appreciation and Eagle Head trophy for his presentation.

New Member Installation: President Jennings and Registrar Charles McMurry were prepared to present certificates and Buff pins for the new approved members. No new members were in attendance today. However, we had one approved supplemental certificate awarded today:


Lloyd noted that his patriot ancestor started out fighting the Cherokee Indians because they had sided with the British. His ancestor later moved to South Carolina but also noted that his son and grandson were both buried in Alabama.

President Jennings said that we have several supplements approved that need to be awarded.

President Jennings asked for the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting. A motion was made by Mac Moon to suspend with the reading of the minutes, the motion was seconded by Bob Baccus. A voice vote was called for and the motion was passed to dispense with the reading by unanimous vote.

Officers Report:

President-Randal Jennings
1) On Friday August 24th, we had our Summer Social at the Whitesburg Church Recreation Center. The social was a huge success, we had over fifty patriots and family members attending. Entertainment was provided by the “Prevailing Winds Flute Ensemble. Their performance was outstanding.

2) Jim Maples informed President Jennings that our chapter was recognized three different times in the last edition of the SAR Magazine: Bob Doherty wrote an article on the Tennessee Valley Chapter’s presentation of the bronze good citizenship medals to two second grade teachers on March 15 at Barkley Elementary School in Hartselle, Al.

New Minutemen Inducted “Class of 2018” – Clarence David Billings of the Alabama Society, Tennessee Valley Chapter.

Kay Anderson was shown in a photo of the ladies in Colonial dress.

3) During our BOO Meeting, we were informed by State President Anderson that we would be awarding three history awards for teachers this year instead of one. We will now award one teacher in elementary school, one in middle school and one in high school.

Vice President-Jim Griffith

Jim is on vacation in Jordan and Israel this week. To show his dedication, he called Randal this morning from Galilee to make sure that the Eagle Head was still on his front porch for Randall to pick up for our speakers presentation today. When President Jennings asked for his VP Report, Jim explained that he had forgotten his laptop and he did not remember who next month’s speaker will be.

Chaplain –James Henderson

No updates due to his own recent illness. James will know by this Thursday when his surgery would be scheduled. Jim Maples Informed the group that Larry Crabtree was recovering from surgery and was in need of prayers.

Treasurer-Chip Pharr

Chip is not in attendance today and his report is not available.

Registrar-Charles McMurry

We had six (6) new inductees last month. TVCSAR registrar Information has been updated through Thursday, September 6th, 2018.

Recording Secretary-Benny Hannah

The Bylaws will be updated to reflect the two new officer positions added by the chapter last month.

Corresponding Secretary-Jim Maples

Our Chapter Membership is now at or about 220. He has now caught up on the nametags. Jim made contact with Joel Weinbaum who will be conducting a class on the Revolutionary War at UAH. The class will probably start after January. Joel plans to be at our meeting next month and will provide additional information on the class.

Historian-Cliff Lanham

Nothing new.

Genealogist-Don Smith

Nothing new.

Committee Report:

President Jennings and Vice-President Jim Griffith made several calls last week to work on completing committee membership. The following is the latest status:

Administrative Committees: Programs- Jim Griffith

Recruiting/ Membership –Charles McMurry
remember to donate your $3.65 ($4.00) to help these other state chapters participate in the programs. Some kids cannot afford to buy the poster board or colored pencils.

Jim Griffith called President Jennings from Chicago while he was leaving for his overseas trip. Jim saw a post on Facebook from a friend of his who was a teacher. She was looking for someone who would come in and speak to their class about the American Revolution. President Jennings then contacted our state President Bob Anderson. Bob then contacted the school and scheduled a presentation next Tuesday to the school by Bob and his wife Kay. The school is new and named Foster Academy located on Jordan Lane. The school focuses on autistic kids and others with learning disabilities. Kudos to Jim, Randal, Bob and Kay for their dedication to the youth of our nation.

President Jennings made the following closing comments:

- Thanks to today’s greeters: John Blanchard and Skeet Vaughan.
- Thanks to all the ladies who provided all the food and desserts for the meeting.
- Our next meeting will be Monday October 8th, 2018 at 11am.
- President Jennings asked the group to stand for the dismissal prayer by Chaplain Henderson.
- President Jennings then led the group in the SAR Recessional. President Jennings adjourned the meeting at 12:06 PM.

Benny Hannah Recording Secretary

State President Bob Anderson presents a Certificate of Distinguished Service to Steve Androlake. Steve is a member of Olde Towne Brass and has served as our Color Guard Drummer for a number of State events.
Our guest speaker for our September meeting was Dr. Bob England, Ph.D. The Title of Bob’s speech was “Hellish Historiography meets Wandering Welchman”.

Upcoming Events

6 October 2018 - Board of Managers, The American Village, Montevallo, AL.

8 October 2018 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Huntsville Public Library.

13 November 2018 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Huntsville Public Library. (NOTE: This is a change in our normal schedule due to Veterans Day falling on our regular meeting day of the second Monday of the month)
Constitution Week 2018

Our Color Guard participated in two Constitution Week events. Above, the Color Guard is shown at the local DAR ceremony held at the Calvary Bible Church. From left to right in the top picture are Randal Jennings, Bob Anderson, Bob Baccus, E.C. Richardson, Larry Howell, and Keegan Hembree.

On the facing page the Color Guard participated in the annual Athens State University Constitution Day celebration. Our Color Guard has participated in this event for several years. Show in the upper right photo are three members of the local Children of the American Revolution with (left to right) Randal Jennings and Otha (Skeet) Vaughan on the first row; Bob Anderson and Jim Maples on the second row; Bob Baccus and E.C. Richardson on the third row and Emory (Smoky) Ferguson at the rear.
At the September meeting the Chapter Officers and Committee Chairs shown above were in attendance. From left to right: Bob Anderson - Brochure Contest; Ray Livingston - ROTC/JROTC; Bob Baccus - Essay Contest; Randal Jennings - Chapter President; George Royer - Medals and Awards; Otha Vaughan - Eagle Scout; Jim Maples - Corresponding Secretary/Newsletter; Charles McMurry - Registrar; Rev James Henderson - Chaplain; Mac Moon - Public Service Awards.