



SAR Alabama



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

If I have visited your chapter meeting so far this year you heard me make a request of you.

I asked you to assist in recruiting new members for your chapter. I asked you to tell your SAR story as the first step in recruiting a new member.

Each of us joined SAR to honor and preserve the achievements of our patriotic ancestors but we all have our own story about why we joined. Please join me in our recruitment efforts this year by sharing your SAR story with prospective members.

If you (we) do not ask we will lose the opportunity for a new member to join us in our very special work.

Come join us at the fall Board of Managers meeting at the American Village on Oct. 8. Remember all members of the Alabama Society are encouraged to attend the BOM meetings.

—Fred Olive

Spring BOM establishes committee, distributes promotional brochure

The new ALSSAR brochure and the selection of members for the ALSSAR executive committee were among the highlights at the spring Board of Managers meeting on May 7 at the American Village in Montevallo.

American Revolution: Alabama Brochure was distributed recently to the state Department of Tourism and Travel, which in turn will be placed in the state's welcome centers. Chapters

represented at the BOM were given additional brochures to distribute to teachers and students when making presentations in schools.

The ALSSAR executive committee, which was created by a change in bylaws which was approved at the 2016 state convention, was announced. The participants include the ALSSAR

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—Photo courtesy of Carl Thornton

ALSSAR Color Guard joined DAR members in Tuscaloosa ceremony on June 25.

Revolutionary War plaque dedicated

By ANGEL COKER
Tuscaloosa News

Alice Jones pointed to three names on the new Honor Roll of Patriots of the American Revolution plaque at Tuscaloosa's Capitol Park that was rededicated on Saturday.

James Robertson, Abel Pennington and Turner Hamner -- she is a descendent of each of the

men, who were patriots or soldiers in the American Revolution before settling in Tuscaloosa.

Jones, a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, joined more than 50 people on Saturday to witness the unveiling of the new plaque honoring the 52 individuals whose

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Historic marker honoring Bernardo de Galvez dedicated by ALSSAR at Fort Morgan

On April 14, the Sons of the American Revolution joined with the Fort Morgan State Historic Site to dedicate a historic marker to commemorate Bernardo de Galvez and the first documented construction of a fortification on Mobile Point in February, 1780.

During the American Revolution, Spain declared war on Great Britain and became an ally of the 13 American colonies that were fighting for their independence. Bernardo de Galvez, the Spanish governor of Louisiana, led a force of 12 ships and more than 700 troops from New Orleans to attack Mobile.

After a series of setbacks, including the loss of his largest warship when it grounded off Mobile Point, Galvez's force landed near Mobile and eventually captured the city from the British on March 14, 1780. While Galvez was preparing for the attack on Mobile, he ordered the construction of the first documented fortification on Mobile Point, garrisoned by 100 men and armed with eight cannon.

The unveiling ceremony began at 2 p.m. at Fort Morgan. Site director Michael Bailey gave a brief history of Galvez's operation in Mobile Bay and the construction of the Spanish fort.

The keynote speakers for this historical event were Bailey, ALSSAR president Fred Olive, ALSSAR vice-president Hal Thornton and Gen. Galvez chapter president Edmon McKinley.

Many Americans do not know about the Revolutionary War battles fought in this part of our country. Gen. Galvez joined the American cause and took tremendous pressure off Gen. George Washington by defeating the British on what was known as the Southern front. This allowed Washington to concentrate on defeating Gen. Cornwallis.

At this time in history, America was subject to the whims of the British Crown and this was not an enjoyable time. We had no freedom to choose our leaders, jobs, schools, churches, laws or taxes. We were slaves to Britain.

After we gained our freedom we became the only country in the world where all citizens could choose to accomplish whatever they wanted, within the limits of their abilities, education and determination. Our guarantee was freedom to choose without government interference.

Also, we became a "nation of laws," not a "nation of men." Everyone must obey the same laws without regard to name, position, economic status, religion or any other impediment. Lest we forget and lose this freedom we will become a "nation of men" who pick and choose the laws they want to obey and they force everyone else to obey laws the men in power create. When this happens everyone will become slaves to the government.

—Mike Glass



—Photos courtesy of Mike Glass

ALSSAR president Fred Olive, left, Gen. Galvez chapter president Edmon McKinley and ALSSAR senior vice-president Hal Thornton, right, at Fort Morgan dedication. Below, Gen. Bernardo de Galvez marker adds Revolutionary War touch to Civil War historic site.



Galvez meetings feature noted authors, historians

Mike Bunn, director of operations at Blakeley State Park in Spanish Fort, was the guest speaker at the Gen. Galvez chapter's June meeting at Bass Pro Shop in Daphne.

Bunn is author of several books, including *Well Worth Stopping to See: Antebellum Columbus, Georgia Through the Eyes of Travelers*; *Civil War Eufaula*; *Battle for the Southern Frontier: The Creek War and the War of 1812*; and *Images of America: The Lower Chattahoochee River*.

Bunn directs the development of the Creek Heritage Trail in southeast Alabama and southwestern Georgia, and is editor of *Muscogiana*, the journal of the Muscogee County (Ga.) Genealogical Society.

After an outstanding presentation, the Daphne resident received the SAR certificate of appreciation from chapter president Edmon McKinley.



—Photo courtesy of Mike Glass

June speaker Mike Bunn, left, president Edmon McKinley.

The next order of business was to induct a new member known to most of our members. Rep. Steve McMillian was sworn in by McKinley.

This induction raised our chapter membership to 72, making our chapter one of the largest in Alabama.

Longtime member Art Perez was able to join us again after a short absence. His ancestor served under General Galvez during the American Revolution. It is good having him back with us.

Merlin Miller, a new member, was in



—Photo courtesy of Mike Glass

May speaker Judge Ed Butler, right, president Edmon McKinley.

attendance and will be inducted next month. We had a prospective new member, Ian Hantz, in attendance as well.

At the May meeting, past NSSAR President General Ed Butler was the featured speaker, discussing his book "*Galvez/Spain – Our Forgotten Ally In The American Revolutionary War*."

Butler, who served as President General in 2009-10, is an honor graduate of the Vanderbilt University school of law and has served as a judge at the city, county, state and federal levels, retiring as a federal administrative law judge.

His topic for this evening was "Without the Assistance of Spain, We Would still be under the British Flag."

At a private audience with then Crown Prince (and now King) Felipe of Spain, Judge Butler was asked to write a book about Spain's assistance to the American Revolution.

His book is the result of that meeting. This book is a must have for anyone interested in real historical events.

After Butler's presentation, McKinley inducted two new SAR members, Greg Lybarger and John Myers. Earlier, he had recognized three prospective new members (Jerry, Mark and Tyler Smith) as well as John Van Zant, an SAR member visiting from Mississippi.

David Walby, a retired stock broker and a volunteer at the Fort Pickens visitor's center, was the guest speaker at the March meeting.

Walby has authored several books, including *Geronimo Comes to Pensacola*, *Andrew Jackson Comes to Pensaco-*

la, How Pensacola Got Its Name and *Bond Daddy*, which received a USA book award. Walby lives in Gulf Breeze, Fla., on Santa Rosa Sound with his wife Emily.

William Henry Chase was the topic of his program. Graduating from West point at the age of 16, Chase was destined for greatness. He was a planner, developer and builder of massive fortresses, railroads, banks, insurance companies and plantations. As a world traveler, Chase and his wife Anne attended the coronation of Queen Victoria.

This is a story of the birth of the industrial age in America and Europe. It was a time when slavery was the major capital holding in the southern states. You have heard that economics, not slavery, caused the Civil War; however, econom-



—Photo courtesy of Mike Glass

March speaker David Walby, left, president Edmon McKinley.

ics was slavery.

He alone was responsible for the industrialization of Pensacola. The national destiny and the destiny of William Henry Chase were the same.

Three new members, Jack, Mark and Phil Davis were inducted into the chapter and another new member, Dan Lumpkin, transferred from Virginia.

Two ALSSAR past presidents from the chapter and their wives were then asked to come forward for the presentation of the Lydia Darragh medal and certificate of appreciation to Mrs. Jean Legg and Mrs. Gisela Wardlaw for their support and assistance during their husbands' tenure as ALSSAR president.

—Mike Glass

In Memory...

John Francis Conrad

JOHN FRANCIS "JACK" CONRAD, a retired businessman, died May 4 in Scottsdale, Ariz., at the home of son BJ and daughter-in-law Paula. He was 83.

Conrad was born in Maryland and grew up on Long Island, where he developed a lifelong love for the Dodgers. He graduated from Steubenville (Ohio) High in 1950 and earned a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering from Purdue in 1954. He earned an MBA from the University of Hawaii in 1975. He was a licensed industrial engineer and held a California real estate broker's license.

Jack served in ROTC in college, then was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army on Jan. 2, 1955. A Ranger and veteran of the Korean War, he spent most of his service at Fort Riley, Kansas, with the 531 Transportation Corps. He achieved the rank of first lieutenant before leaving the Army on March 27, 1957.

After his discharge, Jack and his family moved to La Mirada, Calif. In 1958, he moved to Forest Hills, Penn., where he worked for U.S. Steel and then Westinghouse. In 1963 he moved to Montclair, Calif., for a few months, where he worked for General Dynamics, before he joined C. Brewer and Company in Hilo,

Hawaii in January 1964.

After working for Brewer for 9 years both in Hilo and in Wailuku, Maui, he joined Alexander & Baldwin as Director of Development for the Wailea Resort on Maui, during which time he lived in Honolulu and in Sprecklesville, Maui.

In 1979, Jack moved his family to the Bay Area and worked for Gabrielsen & Co. before joining the Port of San Francisco as Director of Finance and Administration.

He retired from the City and County of San Francisco in 1993 to care for his wife, Pat, during her battle with brain cancer.

After her death, he joined Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. in Las Vegas and then Phoenix as a Business Associate from 1996-2005. In 1998, he married Norma Easley Potts and they resided in Lincoln, CA. Norma recently relocated to her native state of Oklahoma to live near her daughter's family and friends, while Jack moved last month to Scottsdale to live with BJ and Paula.

An avid sportsman and enthusiast, Jack played lacrosse and squash in school, and then regularly engaged in softball, bowling, golf, diving, and hiking. He traveled extensively, proud that he had taken the official tour in all 50 state capitol build-

ings, as well as Europe, Central and South America, and Australia. He loved trains, going back to his youth when he was free to ride the Pennsylvania Railroad because of his father's job.

Jack strongly supported youth athletics for many years, serving as a coach for football and baseball. He also supported the US Olympic Team and Special Olympics. He enjoyed watching and supporting his grandchildren's athletics, from preschool athletic programs all the way through watching them play in college.

Jack was a longtime member of the American Legion, the Germany 40 & 8ers Association, ANAVICUS, the Purdue University Alumni Association, Sons of the American Revolution (national #114467, state #2366) and Sons of Union Veterans.

Jack is survived by his wife, Norma J. Conrad, of Norman, Okla., seven children: John, Catherine S. Baker, Brian, Robert, Patricia A. Wall, Mark and Kevin, 16 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Visitation was held at Messinger Mortuary in Scottsdale on May 13, followed by a Celebration of Life Service the following day.

Interment was at San Joaquin Valley National Cemetery in Gustine, Calif.

BOM

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president, senior vice-president, secretary and treasurer, the state chancellor (in a non-voting roll), two chapter presidents as selected by the president who will strive for the widest possible geographical distribution and a past state president as selected by the committee members.

ALSSAR president Fred Olive selected Cheaha chapter president Ed Killgore and Gen. John A. Elmore chapter president Paul Whaley to fill the committee, while other members selected past ALSAR president John Killian.

Bruce Pickette gave a report from the budget forecast committee regarding the

monetary amounts and travel expenses associated with the youth awards.

Olive announced the creation of a risk management committee, which is charged with investigating issues of general liability, officers insurance and similar issues. The committee members are (chairman) Harold E. Thornton, Allen Herod and Price Legg.

Olive asked for two recommendations — one, directed toward the State Society as to what the committee has determined are best practices for the Society to adopt, and two, directed toward the chapters as to what the committee has determined are best practices for the chapters to adopt.

Olive appointed Bob Doherty as

speaker bureau coordinator. Doherty was asked to create a list of speakers who have spoken at chapters over the past two years and to place it on the ALSSAR Web site. The list will include a speaker's name, topic or title of speech and the chapter hosting the speaker. We will ask anyone interest in talking with the speaker about coming to your meeting to contact the host chapter for contact details.

A committee was created to explore the possibility of moving ALSSAR state conventions, beginning in 2019, to a centralized location. The committee will consist of chairman Hal Thornton, Jim Maples, Ed Killgore, Malon Murphy and Greg Holston.

Former NSSAR President General visits Cheaha

The Cheaha chapter conducted its annual installation dinner at Clasicon Noble in downtown Anniston on May 11.

The meeting was well attended by members of the Chinnabee-Ft. Strother chapter of the DAR, along with Cheaha chapter members, their wives and guests. Chapter president Ed Killgore and regent Linda Haynes welcomed NSSAR past President-General Edward F. Butler (2009-10) and his wife Robin as the guests of honor.

Past Regent Annette Smith presented the chapter with a certificate of commendation for outstanding historic preservation in the grave marking of RWS James Caldwell.

President Ed Killgore, in turn, presented Smith a certificate of appreciation for her continued support and assistance to the chapter throughout the year.



—Photo courtesy of Ed Killgore

See CHEAHA, Page 6 *Past President-General Edward Butler was guest of honor at Cheaha meeting.*

Cheaha honors Calhoun deputy with law enforcement medal

Lt. Jon Garlick of the Calhoun County Sheriff's Department was the guest of honor at the April 13 meeting of the Cheaha chapter when he was presented with the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal at the chapter's monthly meeting.

The prospective SAR member serves as the mental health officer, holding numerous certifications as a counselor, hostage negotiator, crisis intervention specialist and a juvenile treatment specialist, as well as serving on the Boards of Family LINKS and the Calhoun County Crime Stoppers.

Garlick is a recent graduate of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Va., and has been decorated with the Law Enforcement Medal for Valor following an incident when he voluntarily put his life in danger during a hostage situation involving an armed and suicidal suspect.

Garlick is a licensed pilot and has served 12 years as a captain with the Civil Air Patrol, holds a certification as a scuba diver and is an avid yachtsman. He enjoys acting and has been on stage locally, in television commercials and several locally produced movies. In 2013 he received the Randy Award from the Community Actor's Theatre for Best Actor in a Play. Additionally, he is a member of the Alabama All Hazards Incident Management Team.

Addressing those gathered, Chief Deputy Matthew Wade described Lt. Garlick as "a co-worker, a friend, and one of the

most valuable assets of the Sheriff's Department." The SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal was presented to Jon Garlick by chapter president Ed Killgore.

In addition, Killgore awarded the chapter Distinguished Service Medal and a 20-year service pin to past chapter president Rev. Jeff Coker for his continued outstanding service to the chapter. Also recognized at the meeting were chairman Louis Quigley of the grave marking committee, registrar Ron Burson (who also served as chairman of the flag commendation committee) and chapter vice president Henry Smith who were recipients of distinguished service certificates.

Annette Smith of the DAR was recognized with a certificate of appreciation, along with Wade, deputy Phil Rodrigue and Scout Master Tom Anderson representing Boy Scout Troop #4007 for their participation in the grave marking ceremony of James Caldwell.

The members were treated to a presentation on the Bill of Rights by featured speaker Rev. John Killian, who kept everyone enthralled with a comprehensive and informative program. The ALSSAR past president was presented with the "Victory or Death" Challenge Coin.

The meeting was concluded with the election of next year's officers which was the re-election of those who had just recently served.

Cheaha

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President-General Butler, following a lavish lunch enjoyed by all, presented a very interesting and informative program on General Bernardo de Galvez and Spain's contribution to the Revolutionary War effort and then installed the 2016-2017 chapter officers.

The officers for next year are Ed Killgore, president; Henry Smith, vice president; Bob Folsom, secretary; Rev. Jeff Coker, chaplain and treasurer; Jim Reighard, registrar, Pete Morgan, genealogist; Ed Wilson, historian; John Thomason, chancellor; and John Gruenewald, sergeant-at-arms.

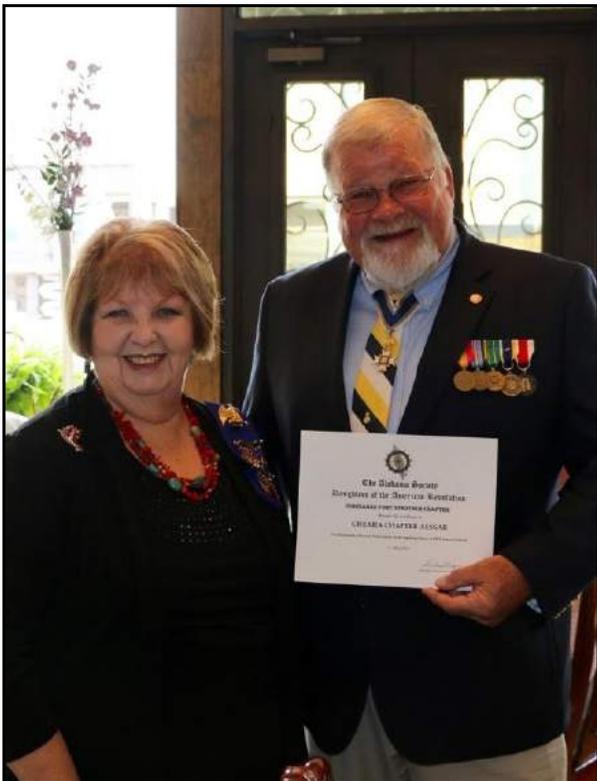
President-General Butler was thanked for his visit and presentation to the chapter and was presented with the "Victory or Death" Challenge Coin by Ed Killgore.

—Ed Killgore



—Photo courtesy of Ed Killgore

From left, Rev. Jeff Coker and his wife Joy with former President-General Ed Butler and his wife Robin at Cheaha chapter luncheon.



—Photos courtesy of Ed Killgore

At left above, past DAR regent Annette Smith presents chapter president Ed Killgore with certificate of appreciation for recent grave-marking ceremony of James Caldwell; above right, former President-General Ed Butler, left, accepts Victory or Death Challenge Coin from Killgore.

Plaque

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names are inscribed in the black granite.

“The monument is to honor these 52 patriots and soldiers that served in the American Revolution, many who have descendants here in Tuscaloosa County,” Jones said. “It means a lot to me.”

The plaque was replaced in the slate monument earlier this month after someone stole the original plaque with 17 names on it in the 1970s soon after it was erected.

“A whole generation grew up playing on these very historical grounds and not realizing what the purpose was of this large stone,” said Richard Rhone, a member of the Sons of the American Revolution’s Black Warrior River chapter. “The story does have a happy ending, because 40 years later... (SAR and DAR) joined together in a determination to rededicate this monument for this generation and for future generations.”

Walter Dockery, also of the SAR’s Black Warrior River chapter, said one of the main purposes of replacing the plaque is to educate people about Tuscaloosa’s relation to the war that ended in America’s independence

“I think it’s a place we can bring school children to learn and make the Revolutionary War more meaningful to them because they think of this happening at Valley Forge and Boston, and these men were there, but then they came here,” Jones said.

Through extensive research and with technological advances, the Sons of the American Revolution and the Daughters of the American Revolution were able to discover more names of individuals who passed through, died or settled in Tuscaloosa.

Rhone urged the crowd to reflect on those names and what the people behind them accomplished. He also urged people to bring their children and grandchildren to see the monument and other monuments that recognize history in an effort to remember the country’s past.

He said the only way to preserve history is to work together in teaching history, honoring ancestors and living our nation’s values, and the monument serves as a reminder to do that.

“Let this monument remind us that the greatness of our republic does not begin in Washington, D.C., nor did it begin in the 21st century. It began with the American Revolution for independence and with the citizens such as the 52 names here,” Rhone said. “America’s greatness is found in them. They lead in seeking new opportunities, and it still lives in each of us – in the mighty spirit of a free people perpetuating the values of these patriots as we live each day...”



—Photo courtesy of Mike Glass

Plaque, above, waits on unveiling among flag display at ceremony.



Tuscaloosa plaque provides method for sharing early history

By ANGEL COKER

Tuscaloosa News

A worker chiseled away at a slate monument in Capitol Park on Tuesday in preparation for a black granite plaque that will be glued on to it.

The plaque, inscribed with 52 names of soldiers and patriots from the American Revolution, is a replacement of a smaller plaque that had about 13 names on it when it was stolen soon after it was installed in the 1970s.

“The stone has been there and we just decided it’s time now to put (the plaque) back,” said Walter Dockery, a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, which along with the Daughters of the American Revolution, is responsible for the replacement plaque, which cost around \$2,000.

The formal dedication of the plaque will be at 1 p.m. on Saturday, June 25.

Dockery said the plaque is meant to honor the people who impacted the beginning of Tuscaloosa’s history, but it’s also a way to share that history.

“The primary reason for doing it... we want to draw attention to history. History is



—Photo courtesy of Carl Thornton

Black Warrior River chapter’s Richard Rhone speaking at plaque dedication.

not being taught in schools anymore. We thought that it would create an interest with children, adults too,” Dockery said. “Tuscaloosa has a unique opportunity, I think, for history and so forth, to study the Revolution through these men (and one woman).”

He said the names on the plaque include soldiers and patriots who passed through,

died or settled in Tuscaloosa between 1775 and 1783. They were found through extensive research of records, he said.

Dockery said Tuscaloosa, one of the first counties in Alabama, was like a funnel to the West, with many people passing through it. Some bought cheap land and settled down.

One was his great-great-

great-grandfather, Thomas Keates Sr.

“We had some unique people that came through here,” Dockery said. “They formed this country. We wouldn’t be here today if it wasn’t for that group. We can’t do anything else for them, but we do need to remember them.”

And the plaque, he said, is the perfect way to do that.

ALSSAR expected to send 13 delegates to Congress

The Alabama Society is expected to send 13 delegates to the 2016 Congress that runs from July 9-13 in Boston.

The ALSSAR is permitted two dozen delegates but only eight are expected to make the trip to New England on their own, including Larry Crabtree, Donald Roberson, Jim Maples, Hal Thornton, David Billings, ALSSAR president Fred Olive, Robert Shawn Thornton and Felton Mitchell.

Other ALSSAR members that will attend as part of their duties as a national office holder include ALSSAR past president and NSSAR alternate trustee Bill Stone, Bruce Buehler, NSSAR Librarian General Bruce Pickette, Vice-President General Michael Wells and Walter Stephenson.

The event opens on Saturday (July 9) with a tour of Lexing-

ton and Concord, along with a host reception that evening.

The highlight Sunday is the annual Memorial Service in the historic Old South Church.

Congress opens on Monday and the national youth award contests are held.

On Tuesday, nominations for the national offices will be held as well as committee meetings in the afternoon and the President General’s banquet in the evening.

On Wednesday, the business session of Congress wraps up with the election of national trustees. Afternoon tours of the Adams Historical National Park and the U.S.S. Constitution are followed that evening by the installation banquet.

Auburn High junior emphasizes equal rights in winning essay

Editor's Note: Suah Jang, a junior at Auburn High, had just moved from New Jersey to Alabama in August, 2015, when she was presented with an opportunity to enter the Knight Essay Contest. Sponsored by the Richard Henry Lee Chapter, her state-winning entry is featured here.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal..." states the Declaration of Independence (US 1776). Quoted numerous times, this famous line of the thirteen colonies' declaration, along with the rest of the document, impacted the United States many times during its history of 240 years, as well as the rest of the world. More specifically, the Declaration of Independence played an important role in adding the Bill of Rights to the Constitution, uniting the participants of the Seneca Falls Convention, and drafting the French Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen. The Declaration of Independence will forever remain a major document.

As the new states began to solidify their ideals for the new government, disagreements arose. The Constitution outlined the powers of the central government, but "the U.S. Constitution of 1787 [did] not explicitly mention natural rights and the social compact," as stated in *The Declaration of Independence: Origins and Impact* (Gerber 73). The Federalists agreed that there was no need for a separate Bill of Rights because the federal government will be limited. In order to persuade the states to ratify the Constitution without a Bill of Rights, Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay, three prominent figures of the Federalists, worked together to publish *The Federalist*. On the other hand, Anti-Federalists strongly advocated a Bill of Rights to have the satisfaction of knowing that individual rights would be protected under the new government. As the disagreements became harder to reconcile James Madison switched sides and agreed that a Bill of Rights should be added. Without the influence of Thomas Jefferson and the Declaration of Independence, Madison would not have agreed to change his opinion. When the Constitution's framers turned to Thomas Jefferson, who replied, "A bill of rights is what the people are entitled to against every government on earth, general of particular, and what no just government should refuse, or rest on inference." (The Bill of Rights). As stated in *Origins of the Bill of Rights*, Jefferson "had a profound influence on Madison" (Levy 33). Jefferson also added in his letter to Madison that the effects of not having a bill of rights would be "permanent, afflicting, and irreparable," so it must be added to the Constitution (Levy 34). As the writer of the Declaration of Independence, Jefferson successfully persuaded the framers and Madison to include a Bill of Rights. The idea that "...they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights..." (US1776) was exemplified once more through the Bill of Rights.



—Photo courtesy of Jason Williams

ALSSAR essay winner Suah Jang, a junior at Auburn High, with essay chairman Mike Wells, left, and ALSSAR president Fred Olive.

Further down the road of American history, other arguments arose with the Declaration of Independence as the foundation — women's rights. The Women's Rights Convention held at Seneca Falls brought together hundreds of women and men to discuss the rights of women. Drafted by Elizabeth Cady Stanton, the Seneca Falls Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions was signed by the participants of the convention. Simply reading the first few lines of the Declaration of Sentiments will show that the document used the Declaration of Independence as its model to outline the rights of women. The Declaration of Independence did not specify whether or not "all men" included women as well, so the new Declaration states, "that all men and women are created equal" to clarify who is considered "equal" (Declaration of Sentiments). The use of the Declaration of Independence as Stanton's model was deliberate and had a positive impact. When Stanton read her Declaration to the people at the Convention, "The audience must have been surprised and at first puzzled to recognize words of the Declaration of Independence, as comforting to their ears as the most common verse from the King James version of the Bible." (Wellman 198). The familiar words allowed the audience to relate to the new document and the women's fight for their rights. Women are humans as well, so they believed that women should also be allowed to vote and have a say in how the government is run. Since men get to make decisions, why can't women make them as well? The ideas included in the Declaration of Independence, that "all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain

unalienable Rights" planted the seed for women to rise up and revive their suppressed rights (US 1776). The powerful words of the Declaration of Independence brought about another significant change for the United States — women's suffrage.

The impact of the Declaration of Independence extends not only in the United States, but overseas in France. Shortly after the United States declared independence from Great Britain, France took its first steps towards the revolt against the monarchy. The unfair treatment of the Third Estate by the First and Second Estates had finally reached its maximum point as the representatives of the Third Estate took the Tennis Court Oath. Swearing to never break before a new constitution is established, the National Assembly worked to overthrow King Louis XVI and establish a brand new government of the people. One of the first steps taken was drafting the Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen. This document outlined the rights of individuals and called for equality among all men. Written by Marquis de Lafayette, the document used ideas from the American Declaration of Independence as well. Lafayette and Thomas Jefferson worked together to draft the French version. The French revolutionaries, "Given that they were struggling to bring rights into being, not asserting them as a premise for political independence, ... were eager to spell them out." (Gerber 200). Influence of the Declaration of Independence is evident in the first Article of the Declaration of the Rights of Man: "Men are born and remain free and equal in rights." (Avalon Project). The success of the American Revolution became an example for revolutionaries globally, especially in France. The idea that citizens had "unalienable rights" created hope for those who wanted to overthrow the monarchy and establish a government concentrated solely on the people. The French did not hesitate to act according to their newfound ideals and beliefs in the equality of men, an idea that was solidified by the Declaration of Independence. Overall, the vastness of the Declaration of Independence's influence was proven through the French Revolution.

All in all, the great impact of the Declaration of Independence cannot be ignored or denied. The famous lines of the document remind citizens of the basic beliefs that our country was built upon. Not only was the Declaration influential during the time it was drafted, but throughout history. Shortly after the American Revolution, the framers of the Constitution sought Jefferson to aid their debates. Later on, women based their arguments on the Declaration of Independence. Globally, France was greatly influenced by the words of the Declaration and went through with its own revolution against the monarchy, drafting the Declaration of the Rights of Man along the way. As American citizens, the Declaration of Independence will always remain engraved in our memories.

**ALABAMA SOCIETY, SONS OF
THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

NEWSLETTER OF THE ALSSAR

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Please send in your chapter news for the next newsletter

If you're submitting material for the next newsletter, please e-mail your pictures and information to timgaylesar@gmail.com or send information about your chapter's activities or upcoming events by September 10 to Tim Gayle at 3104 Cabot Street, Montgomery, AL 36110.

—Photo courtesy of Dan Berry

***Rehobeth High cadet
earns SAR award***

***Tri-State chapter secretary
Dan Berry, left, presents
Rehobeth High cadet
Collin Donley the Sons of
the American Revolution
Bronze Medal and Certifi-
cate during a ceremony at
the school on May 2.***

