

# Sons of the American Revolution

## Tennessee Valley Chapter

November 9, 2020

### November Chapter Meeting

**Location:** Zoom Meeting Conducted on Internet  
Huntsville, AL

**Attendees:** Ray Livingston, Jim Griffith, Bob Anderson, Jim Maples, Jess Brown, Benny Hannah, Richard Blanton, Dudley Burwell, Bob Baccus, Ray Cassell, Don Wolfe, Chip Pharr, Jim Alexander, David Byers, Lynn Helms, Kim Keller, Steven Brouse, Richard Tingle, David Billings, George Vinson, Mark Hubbs, Ken Michel, Skeet Vaughn, Roger Whiteside, Randal Jennings (27)

Unidentified: Lawrence's phone, Bill (2)

Total 29

President Ray Livingston opened the meeting at 11:00 AM. If you want to speak, unmute your microphone.

President Ray Livingston gave the Invocation, led pledge of Allegiance and the SAR Pledge.

### Greetings

President Ray Livingston welcomed everyone to the meeting. He noted that there were no visitors today. The meeting is being recorded for the Recording Secretary.

### Near Term Plans

We will continue to meet using Zoom Pro in December. Ray and Benny Hannah are looking for locations to have in-person meetings. Latham Methodist Church is open to meeting but the location is not good for many members.

Board of Officers Meeting will be on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday, Dec, 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM.

Chapter Meeting is on Monday, Dec. 14th at 11:00 AM.

Public Service and Heroism awards are given in December. Ray and Benny are looking for a location to give the awards. If a location is found, we could have an in-person meeting rather than the Zoom meeting.

## **PROGRAM**

Our speaker was Bob Anderson. Bob presented "Battle of Blackstock's Plantation".

### **Old Business**

The minutes from our meeting on 11/9/2020 have been posted for two weeks. There were no comments or questions about the minutes. The minutes were approved as posted.

A donation has been made to the Huntsville library to honor deceased members. This item is closed.

### **Inductions/Supplementals**

No new members were induced today.

President Ray Livingston announced that he plans to have new member inductions in December and January 2021. He and Benny hope to have an in-person meeting. If an in-person meeting is held in December or January, new members will be induced, Supplemental certificates, Public Service and Heroism awards will be presented. If meetings cannot be held or persons cannot attend these meetings, Certificates and Rosettes will be mailed to new members and members earning supplementals.

### **Presidents Report**

This is the 16<sup>th</sup> official TVCSAR meeting which includes both BOO and Chapter meetings held using Zoom. President Ray Livingston is continuing to look for locations to have in person meetings. If the risk of COVID 19 continues to increase or if the Public Health rule prohibit in-person meetings, we will continue to have Zoom meetings.

Twickenham Town Chapter of DAR and SAR grave marking for Henry Harless at Bellview Cemetery on Oct.24<sup>th</sup> was successful.

President Ray made a presentation of the Bronze Metals, Certificates and Checks to John Hunt Society and Captain John Farrar Society Children of the American Revolution on Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>.

Ken Michel is handling DAR and CAR participation in our Grave Markings on Sat. Nov 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM at Chambless-Byrne Cemetery and at 1:00 PM at Mt. Paran Cemetery.

Remember to take the online NSSAR Youth Protection Training.

**IMPORTANT:** If your committee is planning to present Awards and/or Certificates, check your calendar and be sure you allow adequate time to get the items needed. Contact Randal Jennings for ordering procedures.

TVCSAR is creating videos about our Chapter. Videos are being created of Awards presentations, events and programs. Jess Brown, Dudley Burwell, Jim Griffith and Jim Maples are working videos. A TVCSAR YouTube Channel has been created by Jim Griffith. Please go to YouTube and look for TVCSAR to find the channel. When you find it, like the channel.

Our deferred Installation and Awards were made on Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> at the Early Works Museum. ALSSAR Pres. David Jones formally installed the 2020-21 Officers. New members certificates and rosettes were presented. Member supplementals were also presented.

### **Alabama Veterans Museum in Athens**

Jess Brown and Lynn Helms reported their plan and activities on this project. They plan to meet with the museum before Thanksgiving on this project.

### **MISSION OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

President Ray Livingston pointed out the importance of the mission of SAR. Remember that the object of the Society is to be patriotic, historical and educational.

Ray told us about telling people at the Athens Veterans Day Parade about the work of SAR to promote patriotic, historical and educational activities.

Jim Griffith told us that Jess Brown and Bob Anderson were on WHNT TV telling about the Athens Veterans Day Parade. This will be recorded and used in Americanism report.

### **TVCSAR YOUTUBE CHANNEL**

The YOUTUBE Address is: <https://youtu.be/IUOsQyLhYCw>

Please sign on and subscribe.

### **Officer Reports**

**Vice President** -Benny Hannah

Sent out email describing how to use the PRS to find patriot graves. The information was created by a North Carolina Chapter. Benny gives it high marks!

**Corresponding Secretary** – Jim Maples

The ALSSAR Newsletter has been posted. We need to send more information to the State. We only had one small listing this time.

**Recording Secretary** – Dudley Burwell

No report.

**Treasurer** – Randal Jennings

We have \$8,235.35 in the checking account and \$9354 in the money market.

Checks were written to cover expenses for various activities in October. Hardware for new flags was ordered. New Veteran banner was received and used in the Athens Veteran's day Parade.

Dues for 2021 cards will be sent out this week. Please send a check after you receive the mailing.

Color Guard Report. Four members Color Guard participated in the Athens Parade. Four will in the two grave markings this week-end. Seven people rode in the Float at the Parade. Four were in the National Defense luncheon for the Hunts Springs Chapter of DAR. There is a wreath laying coming up on December 6<sup>th</sup>. Also, there is an event in Decatur on Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Registrar-** Ray Cassell

Reported that he has 28 open applications, 4 have been mailed to ALSSAR, 8 are being reviewed at NSSAR and 1 has been approved. We inducted 3/5 at our last meeting. Six (6) SAR Supplemental Applications have been mailed to ALSSAR, four (4) are in review at NSSAR. Six Supplemental Applications have been approved. National is approving new member applications in about five (5) weeks which is very good compared to last year.

Patriot Research System. TVCSAR has 100% of the members linked to Patriots, 100% of the Patriot lineage entered out of 675 applications. This is better than the National SAR at 95.4%, 54% and 121,105 with 1,783 missing. The ALSSAR numbers are 73.2%, 29.5% and 4244 with 25 missing. TVCSAR is now working on Cullman. After that their effort will be on the rest of Alabama.

Please send in Biographical Sketches for your Patriot or Patriots.

**Historian Report** – Jim Alexander

No Report.

**Chancellor Report** – Richard Tingle

No Report.

**Genealogist Report** – Bill Sommers

No Report.

**Chaplain Report** – James Henderson

No Report, not present.

**Committee Reports**

**Youth**

**ROTC/JROTC** - Ray Livingston

The Outstanding Cadet Award – Nomination packets for the award have been sent. Usually they are returned in mid-December.

### **Orations, Brochure, History Teacher - Bob Anderson**

He has several people interested in Orations. The Brochure contest will be starting soon. He has been in contact with the School but does not know who he will be working with. He does not expect a nomination for best History Teacher; no one has been nominated for years. As with other awards he will begin to hear from teachers in December and January.

### **Knight Essay – Bob Baccus**

No response yet. Asked Bob Anderson for help. Bob Anderson thinks there may be students applying from Hartselle but not sure.

### **Elementary School Poster Contest – Richard Lewis**

Not present. Bob Anderson has sent information to Schools he usually gets applications from but no response yet. He expects to get application but not sure.

### **Eagle Scout- Otha Vaughn**

Not present

### **Public Relations - Jess Brown and Jim Griffin**

- Reported that we will have some of his pictures in the Athens News Courier in the paper edition on Tuesday and the electronic edition on Wednesday. He has 46 pictures of veteran's graves from Revolutionary War (1781) to Afghanistan (2018 approx.) that he is going to make available to the Veterans museum. Jess has developed a format for displaying these pictures. There will be six "TVCSAR Moments in History" on WLRH.
- Bob Baccus will be playing at Redstone Village at 9:30 on Veterans Day.
- Jess said the Pictures will be posted on the Facebook page for Athens City Government.
- Patriot Henry Harless, Sr., Bellview Cemetery, Descendants are Virginia Harless Cook and Fred Olive. The Marking was conducted on Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>. Present were TVCSAR President Ray Livingston, the TVCSAR Color Guard, Chaplain James Henderson and Bugler Bob Baccus.
- SAR Patriot Grave Markings: Two in Madison County on Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>
  - Patriot Richard Johnson, Chambliss-Byrne, Descendant is Karen Gilliam Andress
  - Patriot Jacob Caulk, Mt. Paran Cemetery, Descendant is Kathryn Vernor
- Jess Brown is trying to get WHNT to cover the Chambliss-Byrne Marking but is not sure a reporter will be available on Saturday at the remote location.

Ken Michel is working with CAR and DAR Chapters to attend these events.

- Please consider picking up Christmas Cards from Ray and wishing a Tut Fann State Veterans Home Resident Merry Christmas. Thank the veteran for his service. Jim Maples has Christmas cards. Please add a comment and thank them for their service. Usually the cards are delivered after the December meeting. A time will be selected to deliver the cards. Jim Maples will provide that information.
- The 2021 Nominations Committee has been appointed. Consider being an officer next year if you are called.

- Need text and photos for December Chapter Newsletter.
- Future meetings will remain Zoom Pro until COVID 19 cases are reduced. Ray and Benny are looking for new physical locations for face to face meetings when COVID 19 decreases.

### **Closing Comments**

Thank you, Bob Anderson, for your program on “Battle of Blackstock’s Plantation”. Our next Chapter BOO meeting will be Monday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> and the regular Chapter meeting will be on Monday, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>. Don’t forget the Mission. Our Heritage and our History are important. Thank everyone for the work being done.

### **Grave Markings**

The headstone for Patriot Richard Johnson buried in the Chambless-Byrne Cemetery has been received and is in place. The descendant is Karen Gilliam Andress. At Mt. Paran Cemetery the headstone for Patriot Jacob Caulk is in place with SAR marker. The marking date for both is Saturday, Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>. These are SAR Chapter and Color Guard Events.

### **NSSAR REPORT – David Billings**

David requested a meeting to discuss the member retention materials he handed out at the previous meeting. Ray will hold the Zoom meeting structure open after the regular meeting closes. He requested the following people: Ray Livingston, Jim Maples, Jim Griffith, Richard Tingle, Benny Hannah and Ray Cassell attend.

### **Action Points**

1. Ray Livingston and Benny Hannah to continue to look for location for Face-to-Face meetings.
2. Plan to attend two TVCSAR grave markings on Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>  
Chambless-Byrne at 11:00 AM near Maysville  
Mt. Paran Cemetery 1:00 PM near New Market
3. Visit our new YOUTUBE channel. See address above.
4. Pickup Christmas Cards for Tutt Fann Veterans. Ad thanks for service and sign.

### **BENEDICTION**

Bob Baccus gave the benediction.

**RECESSIONAL**

President Ray Livingston gave the Recessional.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:07 PM.

Dudley Burwell, Recording Secretary

Tennessee Valley Chapter, SAR

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