



The Valley Patriot

*Tennessee Valley Chapter, Alabama Society
Sons of the American Revolution—April/May 2023*



President's Report

April 19th is Patriot's Day which commemorates the beginning of the American War of Independence. "The Shot Heard Round the World" and the Battles of Lexington and Concord occurred on that fateful day in 1775. Although Lexington and Concord are the place names remembered, most of the blood letting that day occurred along the British retreat route from Concord to Boston. The names of the North Bridge, Merriam's Corner, Brook's Hill, Bloody Angle, Parker's Revenge and Bloody Bluff should also remain fresh in our collective memories. In our April program we will discuss the types of firearms that would have been used along "Battle Road" in April, 1775.

April will also be a busy month for our chapter. Ray Livingston has been hard at work arranging awards to deserving ROTC and JROTC cadets in our area. Nine Junior ROTC cadets will be honored at eight different high schools in our area. Plus a ROTC cadet at Alabama A&M will also be recognized. Thanks for all the Chapter members who have volunteered to make these presentations! (Two of the presentations are shown on the back page.)

A year of hard work came to fruition on March 26th when our Chapter and the State Society Color Guard assisted in the marking of the graves of Patriot Richard Cavett and his wife Rutha. You will remember that the Cavett Cemetery has been a top priority restoration project of Benny Hannah's. He and his volunteers have made a remarkable transformation of this once lonely and forgotten family plot. The Twickenham Town Chapter of the DAR organized the March 26th event. They installed bronze plaques on each of the restored above ground tombs. The restored tombs with the DAR markers can be seen along with the Color Guard on page 5. Our chapter had previously installed a SAR marker last year. Benny has also applied for a Pomeroy Foundation marker for the Cavett Cemetery.

As your new Chapter President, I'm looking forward to the coming year. I appreciate your trust in me. I feel blessed to be involved in an unapologetically patriotic organization.

Mark Hubbs



**Tennessee Valley Chapter
President 2023-2024
Mark Hubbs**

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Meeting Schedule

10 April 2023

11:00am Regular Meeting
Huntsville Public Library
Main Meeting Room

8 May 2023

11:00am Regular Meeting
Huntsville Public Library
Main Meeting Room

Revolutionary Questions by Jim Griffith

1. How long were the lanterns lit in the Old North Church Steeple for the purpose of sending the message to Paul Revere?
 2. What were the objectives of the Redcoats on April 19, 1775?
 3. What were the original Declaration of Independence prints that were distributed around Philadelphia on July 4th 1776 called?
 4. How much did the last Dunlap Broadside sell for a few years ago?
 5. Why were these prints referred to as “Dunlap Broadside”?
 6. The poem entitled “Paul Revere’s Ride” has made the evening and the events of April 18, 1775 very famous. Can you name the poet who wrote those famous words?
 7. He said to his friend, “If the British march
By land or sea from the town to-night,
Hang a lantern aloft in the belfry-arch
Of the North-Church-tower, as a signal-light,—
One if by land, and two if by sea;
And I on the opposite shore will be
- So the question is: What was the name of the community on the opposite shore that the poet is referring to in the poem “Paul Revere’s Ride”
8. In Brooklyn, New York is a statue entitled “Minerva”. Minerva is waving / saluting. Who is Minerva waving to/saluting?
 9. What is the term for “irregular warfare” where small units attack the enemy’s support operation to ensure that the main force enjoys favorable conditions for decisive battles? This was a tactic widely used during the Winter of 1777 in New Jersey.
 10. What rather unknown junior officer, who we now refer to as a Founding Father, joined George Washington’s staff in New Jersey in the Winter of 1777?

For more information on these various subjects or to find the answers to these questions, we recommend that you listen or watch Revolutionary War Rarities – The Podcast from the Sons of the American Revolution. It is available on most podcast applications as well as YouTube. Simply go to YouTube and search @revolutionarywarrarities790

Answers from the December Newsletter

1. What was the largest battle of the American Revolution in number of troops who participated?
Battle of Brooklyn, approximately 40,000 total troops
2. Can you name the troops who held off the British while the remaining American troops escaped attack at the Battle of Brooklyn?
The Maryland 400
3. How did the remaining American troops escape Brooklyn and avoid total defeat?
They secretly escaped by boat into Manhattan across the East River.
4. Do you know the location today where the secret escape across the East River happened during the Battle of Brooklyn?
That location is referred to as Fulton Landing and resides in the Brooklyn Bridge Park at the base of the Brooklyn Bridge today.
5. Can you name two important individuals who were recruited by Silas Deane to participate in the American Revolution?
**Baron Von Stuben
Marquis de Lafayette**
6. What was Silas Deane accused of that led to his recall from France during the American Revolution?
Financial improprieties
7. Who invented the invisible ink used by the Americans during the revolution?
James Jay
8. What was unique about the invisible ink employed by the American during the revolution? In other words, how did it differ from the British invisible ink?

The British invisible ink required heat in order to reveal the message. The American invisible ink required another chemical that would be brushed over the document and would then reveal the message.

9. Although James Jay is not considered a traitor, what did he do that led to a fallout with his Brother John Jay?

James Jay reached out to the British attempting to reconcile with them as he felt that the American Revolution could not be won by the Americans.

10. Do you happen to know the altitude of Battle Hill at the Battle of Brooklyn? That is the highest point in Brooklyn.

250 feet above sea level.

11. Do you happen to know the altitude of New York City (Manhattan)?

33 feet above sea level



Scan the QR code above to open Revolutionary War Rarities on YouTube.

Be sure to subscribe and hit the notification button. You can also find our podcast on Apple, iHeart Radio, Spotify and others.

Upcoming Events

10 April 2023 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Downtown Huntsville Public Library Main Meeting Room

6 May 2023 - 10:00 am Board of Managers Meeting, The American Village Rotunda

8 May 2023 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Downtown Huntsville Public Library Main Meeting Room

12 June 2023 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Downtown Huntsville Public Library 2nd Floor Meeting Room (NOTE CHANGE IN MEETING ROOM)

10 July 2023 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Downtown Huntsville Public Library Main Meeting Room

15 - 19 July 2023 - NSSAR Congress, Orlando, FL



Registrar Ray Cassell and President Dudley Burwell present an approved Supplemental Certificate on Benny Hannah's Patriot Ancestor Samuel Hanna/Hannah

Chapter Banquet - March 17, 2023



Chapter Officers 2023 - 2024

Left to Right, President Mark Hubbs, Vice-President Chip Pharr, Recording Secretary Bill Sommers, Corresponding Secretary Jim Maples, Registrar Ray Cassell, Historian Jim Alexander, Genealogist Mark Icenogle, Chaplain James Henderson, Chancellor Richard Tingle. Center Front, Gene Bryson Treasurer



State President Jim Griffith was our guest speaker at our Annual Chapter Banquet.

In the picture above Ray Cassell receives the Chapter Distinguished Service Medal. This is the highest award that a Chapter President can give and he can only give one Distinguished Service Medal





On Sunday, March 26th, the Twickenham Town Chapter, DAR marked the graves of Richard Cavett and his wife Rutha. Shown above behind the box tombs are the Alabama Society Color Guard from left to right, Martin Brady, Bill Sommers, Ray Cassell, Michael Martin, Commander Joe Barker, Randal Jennings, Lawrence Hillis, Don Wolfe, and Cade McCool.

This cemetery was restored and the box tombs rebuilt by Benny Hannah and his team of volunteers including John Rankin and others. Later this year a Pomeroy Foundation marker will be installed at the Cavett Cemetery.



Above left, State President Jim Griffith presents Harold Whitesides with a certificate that he earned at the State Convention for having the most approved Supplemental Applications in 2022.

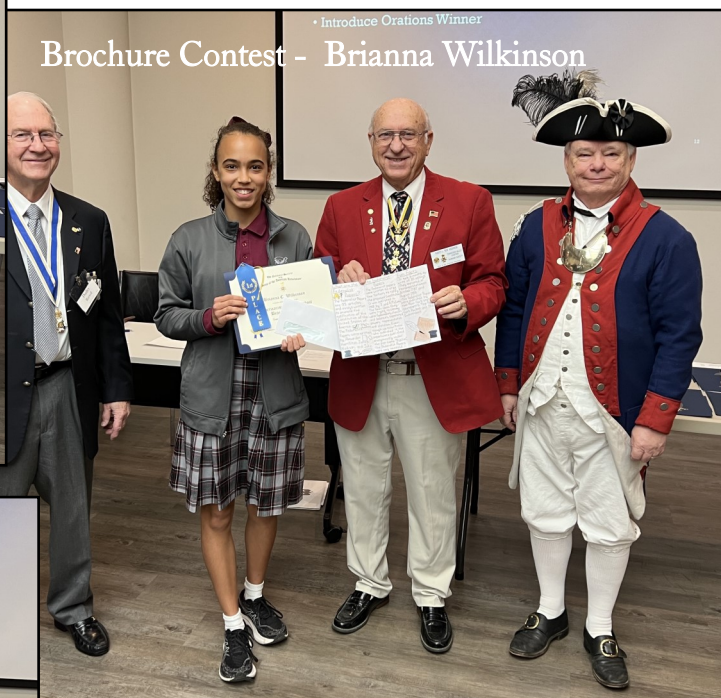
Above right, Chapter President Dudley Burwell presents Iris Hannah with a Martha Washington Medal.

Youth Contests Winners

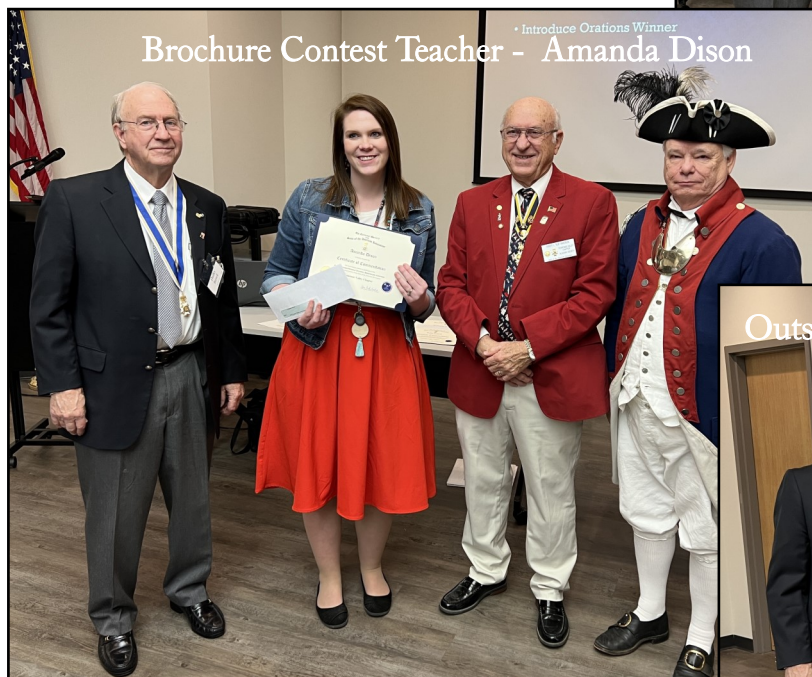
Orations Contest - Samantha Simmons



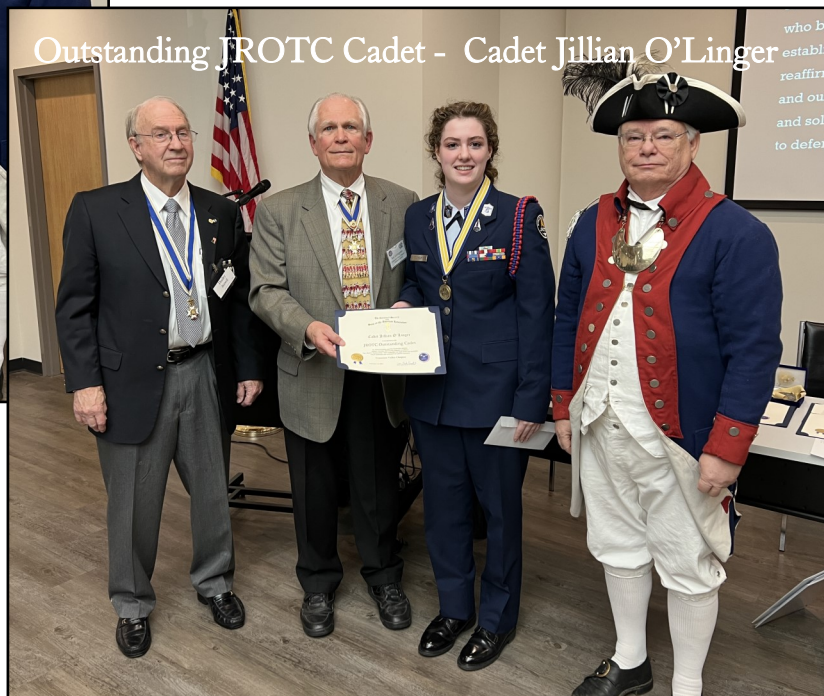
Brochure Contest - Brianna Wilkinson



Brochure Contest Teacher - Amanda Dison



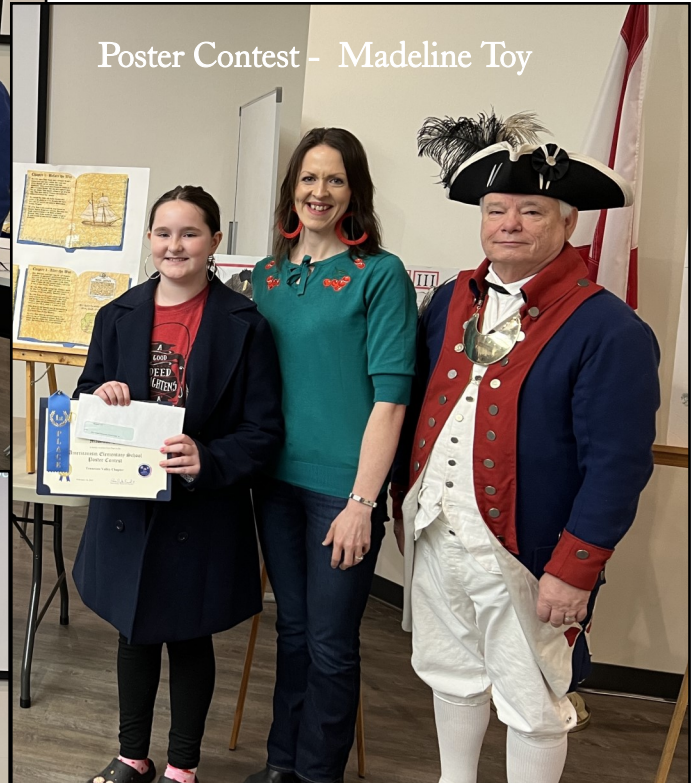
Outstanding JROTC Cadet - Cadet Jillian O'Linger



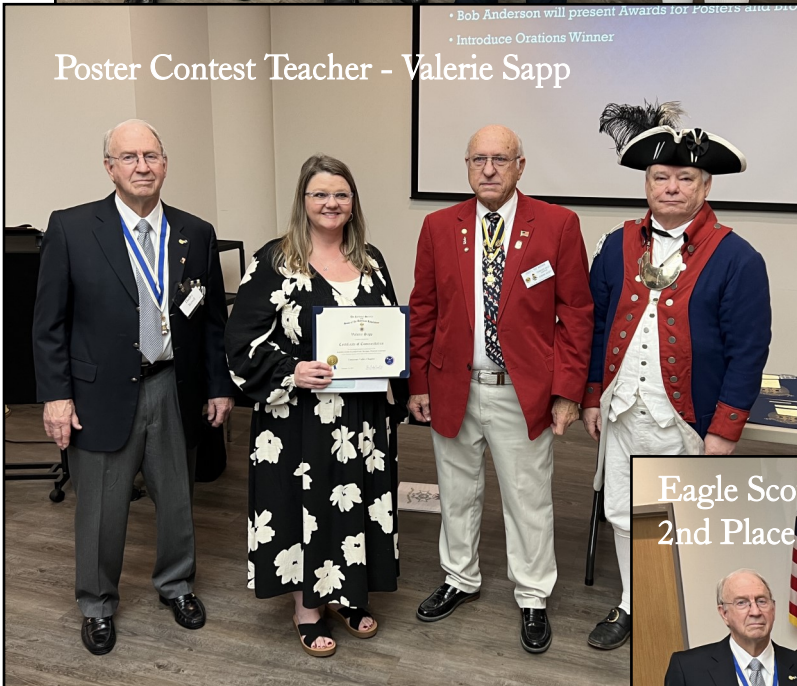
Essay Contest - Zachariah Beauregard



Poster Contest - Madeline Toy



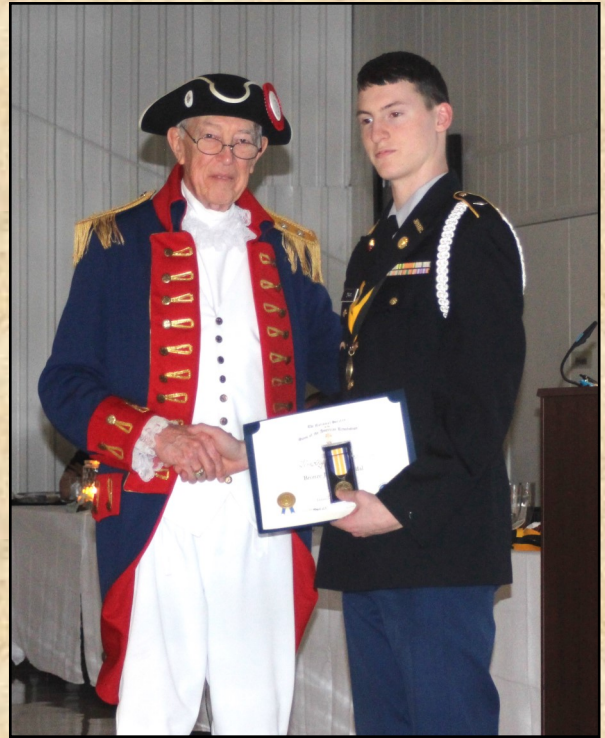
Poster Contest Teacher - Valerie Sapp



Eagle Scout Contest - 1st Place Samuel Wilson - left
2nd Place - Mason Freeman - right



JROTC Awards



Above left, Lawrence Hillis presents a JROTC Award to Cadet Alonzo Carrington at Sparkman High School. Above Right, Smoky Ferguson presents a JROTC Award to Cadet Timothy Craige at Marshall Technical School



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TO: