



The Valley Patriot

Tennessee Valley Chapter, Alabama Society
Sons of the American Revolution
August/September 2023



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Meeting Schedule

14 August 2023

11:00am Regular Meeting
Huntsville Public Library
2nd Floor Meeting Room

11 September 2023

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

President's Report

I continue to be amazed at the ingenuity and energy of our chapter members. It seems there is always some kind of activity in which our compatriots are participating in and around Madison County. Our members are decisive, self starters who see opportunities to further the SAR mission and act, with very little prompting from myself or other chapter officers. It makes my job very easy!

The fruits of that energy was manifest at the 133rd National Congress which was held in Orlando from July 14-19. It was my first time at Congress and I was delighted to meet compatriots from all over the United States.

The highlight for our chapter came on Awards Night where the Tennessee Valley Chapter was recognized in two prestigious areas. The first was the President General's Activities Award and Streamer which shows evidence of the most complete practice of implementing SAR programs and resolutions for 2022-2023. A President General's Streamer was awarded along with a certificate. The Streamer is made of cloth, carries the National Society's colors with lettering in gold stating "President General's Activities Award." It may be affixed to the top of the chapter's flagstaff. A certificate signed by the President General accompanies the streamer.

The most important Award came on the heels of the Activities Award. The President General's Cup is presented to the Chapter that conducted the best overall programs and activities during the previous calendar year that created, supported or promoted a better understanding of SAR values and mission within its own community.

I'd like to mention that this award is given in four categories based on the size of the chapter. Our chapter with 208 member places us at the small end of our category (200 and larger). We were competing with much larger chapters in several metropolitan areas of the US. That makes our accomplishment even more remarkable.

Every chapter member who participated in one of our events contributed to this award. With the risk of inadvertently leaving someone out, I'd like to mention a few key players in this accomplishment. Randall Jennings for his management and promotion of our Color Guard; Bob Anderson for leading the charge in our school competitions; Ray Livingston for working with over 20 ROTC programs in our area; Jess Brown for his amazing work in keeping us in the public eye; Ray Cassell for shepherding in our new members and Benny Hannah for taking care of our Patriot graves and reporting all that we have accomplished to our National Leadership.

Congratulations, Tennessee Valley Chapter! The President General's Cup is well deserved.

Mark Hubbs
President

Vice-President Chip Pharr and President Mark Hubbs are shown with our July speaker State Vice-President Michael Martin. Michael's topic was "Masonry in the Revolution" and he portrayed Ben Franklin who was a Mason.



Revolutionary Questions by Jim Griffith

1. On what date were the battles of Lexington and Concord fought?
2. What American Officer was responsible for transporting the cannons of Fort Ticonderoga back to Boston?
3. The United States Marine Corps' first major land action occurred in which battle?
4. What successful battle for the Americans finally convinced the French to enter the American Revolution?
5. What was the name of the German officer who trained the Continental Army at Valley Forge?
6. What was the nickname of Francis Marion?
7. What is the name of the act which was part of the Intolerable Acts that required colonists to house British officers?
8. Who wrote the pamphlet "Common Sense" which heavily influenced many American Colonists opinions on the idea of Independence
9. Who said "I regret that I have only one life to give for my country"?
10. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote a poem about this American Revolution hero. Can you name him?
11. What American hero said "I have not yet begun to fight"?
12. Who created the Culper Spy Ring?

Answers from the June Newsletter

1. Can you name the individual who painted the large portraits currently residing in the United States Capitol specifically the "Signing of the Declaration of Independence".
John Trumbull
2. What physical limitation did John Trumbull have?
He was blind in one eye.

3. Who served as both the Governor of the British Colony of Connecticut as well as the State of Connecticut?

Jonathan Trumbull, Sr.

4. Do you know the official title held by Christopher Ludwick

Baker General

5. What famous American Revolution hero is buried in Warrenton, GA?

David Bushnell, the creator of The Turtle

6. On the night of July 9, 1776, there was a large statue in New York City that was torn down and used to make bullets. Who was this a statue of?

King George III.

7. Who painted the famous "porthole portrait" of George Washington?

Rembrandt Peale, son of Charles Willson Peale

8. When was the first Declaration of Independence printed that included the names of the signers and what was this print called?

The Goddard Broad sides were the first broad sides printed with the names of those individuals who signed the Declaration. It was printed in January of 1777.

9. There were only two names on the original print of the Declaration of Independence. Can you name those two individuals?

John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress and Charles Thomson, Secretary of both the First and Second Continental Congress.

10. Who was the oldest signer of the Declaration of Independence?

Benjamin Franklin

The National Society
of the
Sons of the American Revolution®



**Tennessee Valley Chapter
Alabama SAR**

has been awarded the

President General's Cup

to the Chapter, based upon size presenting evidence of the most complete
program of activities

2022 - 2023



133rd Congress
Orlando, FL
July 17, 2023

Date

C. Bruce Pickette
C. Bruce Pickette, President General

Upcoming Events

14 August 2023 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Downtown
Huntsville Public Library Main Meeting Room

11 September 2023 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Down-
town Huntsville Public Library Main Meeting Room

21 - 23 September 2023 - Fall Leadership, Louisville, KY

30 September 2023 - Board of Manager's Meeting - The
American Village

**PG Bruce Pickette presents President Mark
Hubbs with the President General's Cup
Certificate for 2022-2023 (Certificate shown
above). The Tennessee Valley Chapter has now
won the President General's Cup twice, 2021 in
Seattle and 2023 in Orlando. This is the highest
award that a Chapter can receive and is based on
size. TVC competes in the 200+ category.**

**The Tennessee Valley Chapter also won the
President General's Activities Award for our size
category. Certificate shown below.**



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C. Bruce Pickette, President General



**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.**

Welcome New Members!



Tennessee Valley Chapter Designates Alabama's First Veteran

On June 14, the 248th birthday of the U.S. Army, the Tennessee Valley Chapter (TVCSAR) conducted a special grave marking to commemorate Patriot John Wade Keyes and to designate him as Alabama's first U.S. military veteran. The event was conducted in the historic section of the Athens (AL) City Cemetery and in conjunction with the local DAR chapter, which is named for this Patriot.

The chapter undertook an extensive evaluation of the estimated 1220 Patriots with an association to Alabama and concluded that Keyes had military service in the Continental Army prior to any other person affiliated later in life with the state. Keyes had been a member of one of the first ten rifle companies of the Continental Army. These units had been created by a resolution of the Second Continental Congress on June 14, 1775.

A joint resolution of the Alabama Legislature, SJR91, sponsored by Compatriot and State Senator Tom Butler identified Keyes as having had U.S. military service more than a year prior to issuance of the Declaration of Independence. Wreaths were presented by several groups; the chapter wreath was presented by retired Captain Mike Rose, an SAR Compatriot and recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor.

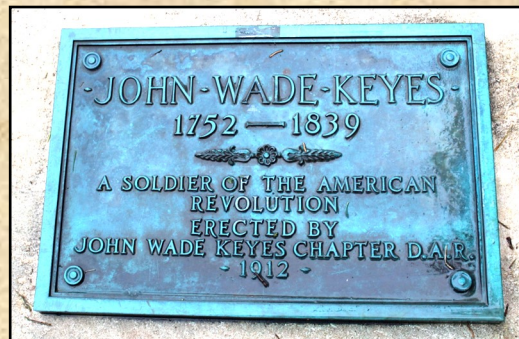
In addition to TVCSAR President Mark Hubbs, speakers included Ronnie Marks, the Mayor of Athens, and Pam Porterfield, Regent of the DAR's John Wade Keyes Chapter. Others participating in the program included Janice Jennings, 2nd Vice-Regent of the Alabama DAR; Jim Griffith, President of the Alabama SAR; John Fulwilder, former President of the Mississippi SAR; and Caroline Pennington of the John Farrar Chapter of the CAR.

A fifteen-member color guard of the Alabama SAR, commanded by Joe Barker, supported the event to include a musket firing. Special music, the anthem/hymn entitled *Chester*, was provided by DAR Daughter and accomplished flutist, Julie Estes.

TVCSAR Compatriot and ALSSAR Secretary Benny Hannah coordinates grave marking events for the chapter.

The event received extensive print and TV media coverage.

Dr. Jess Brown
Publicity Chairman



John Wade Keyes Grave Marking - June 14, 2023
See the article on page 4



At the left, Alabama Society President Jim Griffith addresses the group along with Master of Ceremonies Benny Hannah and Alabama DAR 2nd Vice-Regent Janice Jennings.

Below President Mark Hubbs and Compatriot Mike Rose lay the Chapter Wreath in honor of John Wade Keyes.



Above, President Mark Hubbs addresses the group.

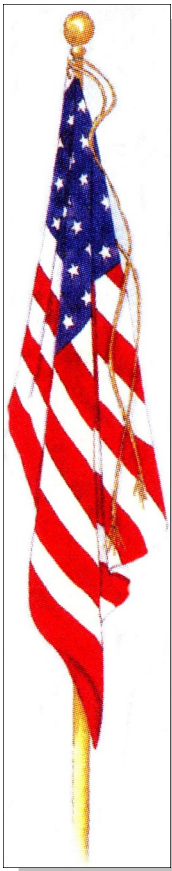
At the right the Color Guard fires a volley to salute John Wade Keyes.



"The Interview"
Season 2 Episode 2



Do you know why the duel between Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr was called "the interview"? For the answer, watch the latest episode of Revolutionary War Rarities. You can find us on YouTube, Apple, iHeart Radio, or Spotify.



Jim Maples
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TO: