



# The Valley Patriot

Tennessee Valley Chapter, Alabama Society  
Sons of the American Revolution  
July/August 2025



## President's Report

Compatriots,

June had an important milestone with the 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday of the US Army on the 14<sup>th</sup>. It was a busy time for our Color Guard that participated in activities for that and Flag Day at the American Village and other places. We are going to be very active this year with the start of activities for the Semi quincennial (250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary) of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, July 4<sup>th</sup> next year.

Our Registrar, Ray Cassell, reported in our last meeting that already this year we have had 12 new and 3 junior members approved with 9 in review and 40 other prospects. The approval time is now down to 12 weeks. The potential is still there to make our goal of 300 members this year if we all continue to seek new applicants.

We have started having lunch gatherings following our monthly meetings that have gone well. In May we went to Walton's Southern Kitchen and in June we tried Cracker Barrel. In July, we plan to dine at the Blue Plate Café on Governor's Drive. Please plan to join us there after our next regular monthly meeting on July 8<sup>th</sup> in our usual meeting place at the Library.

Plans are also underway to resume our annual picnics and this year, it is scheduled for August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Details will be provided later. All compatriots and their families are invited to come.

Hope to see you at our gatherings.

*Don Wolfe*  
Don Wolfe  
President

**Vice-President Lawrence Hillis  
presents our June speaker Cheryl  
McAuley with a Certificate of  
Appreciation and a gift bag.**



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### Meeting Schedule

#### 8 July 2025

11:00am Regular Meeting  
Huntsville Public Library  
1st Floor Meeting Room

#### 5 August 2025

**NOTE: FIRST TUESDAY**

11:00am Regular Meeting  
Huntsville Public Library  
1st Floor Meeting Room

### *Revolutionary Questions*

1. What was the significance of the 1776 Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge?
  - a) It secured New England for Patriots
  - b) It crushed Loyalist forces in North Carolina
  - c) It marked France's entry into the war
  - d) It ended British control of Virginia
2. What was the primary role of the Committees of Correspondence?
  - a) Raise funds for the Continental Army
  - b) Coordinate colonial resistance
  - c) Draft the Constitution
  - d) Negotiate with Native Americans
3. Who was the American diplomat who secured the 1778 French alliance?
  - a) John Adams
  - b) Benjamin Franklin
  - c) Silas Deane
  - d) Arthur Lee
4. Which battle in 1776 saw Washington's army retreat across the Delaware River?
  - a) Battle of Long Island
  - b) Battle of White Plains
  - c) Battle of Harlem Heights
  - d) Battle of Fort Mifflin
5. Who was the Hessian commander captured at the Battle of Trenton?
  - a) Johann Rall
  - b) Wilhelm von Knyphausen
  - c) Carl von Donop
  - d) Friedrich von Steuben
6. Who trained the Continental Army at Valley Forge?
  - a) Marquis de Lafayette
  - b) Baron von Steuben
  - c) Tadeusz Kościuszko
  - d) Casimir Pulaski
7. Which 1778 battle ended in a stalemate but showed American resilience?
  - a) Battle of Monmouth
  - b) Battle of Rhode Island
  - c) Battle of Savannah
  - d) Battle of Camden
8. What was the significance of the 1779 Battle of Stony Point?
  - a) It secured the Hudson River
  - b) It ended British control of Georgia
  - c) It was a major naval victory
  - d) It captured a key British fort

### *Answers from the May/June Newsletter*

1. Which colony initially refused to join the First Continental Congress in 1774?
  - a) Virginia
  - b) Georgia**
  - c) New York
  - d) Rhode Island
2. Who proposed the Albany Plan of Union in 1754, a precursor to colonial unity?
  - a) Benjamin Franklin**
  - b) John Dickinson
  - c) Samuel Adams
  - d) Thomas Hutchinson
3. What was the primary purpose of the 1774 Suffolk Resolves?
  - a) Declare independence
  - b) Boycott British goods
  - c) Demand repeal of the Coercive Acts**
  - d) Form a colonial army
4. Who was the British commander at the Battle of Lexington and Concord?
  - a) Thomas Gage**
  - b) William Howe
  - c) John Burgoyne
  - d) Henry Clinton
5. What was the significance of the 1775 Second Virginia Convention?
  - a) It ratified the Declaration of Independence
  - b) It elected George Washington as commander
  - c) It featured Patrick Henry's "Give me liberty" speech**
  - d) It formed the Virginia militia
6. Which battle saw the first use of American naval forces in 1775?
  - a) Battle of Valcour Island
  - b) Battle of Machias**
  - c) Battle of Bunker Hill
  - d) Battle of Sullivan's Island
7. Which American general led the failed invasion of Quebec in 1775?
  - a) Benedict Arnold
  - b) Horatio Gates
  - c) Nathanael Greene
  - d) Richard Montgomery**
8. Which British general devised the 1777 campaign that led to defeat at Saratoga?
  - a) William Howe
  - b) John Burgoyne**
  - c) Henry Clinton
  - d) Charles Cornwallis

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!



David Sims



Eddie Hilliard



Frank Wilson



Tom Feary







Past President Chip Pharr presents a Roger Sherman Medal and certificate to Michael Acosta for his outstanding work with the Eagle Scout Program.



President Don Wolfe presents the new member certificate for Floyd Maurice Belrose to Andrea Belrose, his daughter. Maurice Belrose passed away on the day that his membership was approved. Don shared with the group that he had previously worked for Maurice.

### *Upcoming Events*

Tuesday, 8 July 2025 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Downtown Huntsville Public Library Main Meeting Room.

13 - 18 July 2025 - National Congress - Uncasville, CT

Tuesday, 5 August 2025 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Downtown Huntsville Public Library Main Meeting Room.  
**NOTE: FIRST TUESDAY RATHER THAN THE SECOND TUESDAY**

Saturday, 23 August 2025 - Summer Social - 12:00 noon at the home of Steve and Martha Brouse - details soon

Tuesday, 9 September 2025 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Downtown Huntsville Public Library Main Meeting Room.

Tuesday, 14 October 2025 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Madison Library Auditorium 2: **NOTE: CHANGE IN LOCATION TO MADISON**

Monday 10 November 2025 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Madison Library Auditorium 1: **NOTE: CHANGE IN LOCATION TO MADISON AND CHANGE TO MONDAY DUE TO VETERANS DAY HOLIDAY**

Tuesday, 9 December 2025 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Downtown Huntsville Public Library Main Meeting Room  
**NOTE: WE ARE BACK TO THE DOWNTOWN HUNTSVILLE LIBRARY**

The pictures below are from the June meeting where David Byers was recognized for his service to the Tennessee Valley Chapter. Several years ago David was our Chapter Registrar and he recruited many new members. In the bottom picture David is shown with the members who were in attendance in June who were sponsored by David. Below left Past President Chip Pharr presents David with a Henry Knox medal and certificate and on the right, State President Benny Hannah presents David with a Silver Liberty medal recognizing that he was the first line signer on 100 applications plus an oak leaf cluster recognizing 10 additional members that he was first line signer on.



Chip Pharr

David Byers



Benny Hannah



Lawrence Hillis

Mark Hubbs

Randal Jennings

Bob Anderson





### JROTC Awards

At the left Cadet Captain Hailey Carlisle at Mae Jemison High School and above Cadet Logan O'Riley at Brewer High School

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