



The Valley Patriot

Tennessee Valley Chapter, Alabama Society
Sons of the American Revolution
June/July 2024



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Meeting Schedule

10 June 2024

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

8 July 2024

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

Below is a recent very important message from President General John Dodd concerning the SAR Education Center and Museum

Greetings Compatriots,

It is with great pleasure that I inform you of a momentous development in our ongoing efforts to honor and preserve the legacy of our Patriot Ancestors. The Commonwealth of Kentucky's 2024 budget includes an allocation by the Kentucky General Assembly of \$5 million in the upcoming fiscal year to support the construction of the SAR Education Center and Museum in Louisville!

This monumental decision brings us closer to completion of your state-of-the-art facility that will enlighten and inspire citizens for decades. This important funding will keep construction on track, aiming for an opening date in 2026, coinciding with the 250th anniversary of our great Nation.

I would like to express our profound gratitude to the members of the Kentucky General Assembly for their support and commitment to this transformative project. In particular, I extend special thanks to State Representative Jason Nemes of Louisville for his outstanding leadership as he championed this project. Representative Nemes became aware of the project this past summer and immediately went to work to make this investment a reality. His dedication and passion have been instrumental in securing this vital funding, and we are deeply grateful for his steadfast partnership. I would also like to thank KY State Legislator, Kevin Bratcher and Senior Policy Advisor at the Office of the Speaker, Tommy Druen for their commitment to this project.

In addition to our own Phil Bloyd and Steve Vest, crucial contributors to this effort were Steve McCain, Nate Morris, Richard Quire, Patrick Wesolosky, and Steve Gahafer. Thank you all for your hard work on this important project.

As we approach this historic 250th Anniversary, the importance of fostering a deep appreciation of our heritage and the principles upon which our country was founded cannot be overstated. The SAR Education Center and Museum will honor the sacrifices and ideals of our patriot ancestors, inspiring and educating present and future citizens to uphold their values of liberty and self-government.

Even if you have supported the project in the past, as our dream becomes reality, I encourage you to consider an additional contribution. The Liberty Tree Campaign is the easiest way to give. A small, recurring, monthly credit card contribution is the simplest way to make a difference. For those who are able, naming opportunities begin at \$100,000.00. Please contact Phil Boyd for details. Thank you again for your support and for your important work on behalf of the SAR.

Yours in patriotism,

John L. Dodd
President General, 2023-2024

Revolutionary Questions by Jim Griffith

1. Who was the Father of King George III?
2. Where was the first naval battle of the American Revolution?
3. What was the nickname of Horatio Gates?
4. Who did Benedict Arnold conspire with to turnover West Point to the British?
5. After the death of his first wife, Aaron Burr was remarried for a very short period of time before his second wife sued for divorce. Who was the lawyer that represented Aaron Burr's second wife during the divorce proceedings?
6. Just before being named Mount Vernon, it was known as something else. What was that name?
7. How did the Washington family acquire the land which ultimately became Mount Vernon?
8. Who installed electricity into Mount Vernon in 1916?
9. Who provided Mount Vernon with their first Fire Engine?
10. How did the Mount Vernon Ladies Association preserve the view from the Mount Vernon Piazza?
11. What winter time product did George Washington have harvested from the Potomac River?
3. After how many rings did the original Liberty Bell crack?
It cracked on it's first ring.
4. How many times was the original Liberty Bell recast?
It was originally cast in London by the Whitechapel Bell Foundry and then recast twice by John Pass and John Stow.
5. What percentage of battles did the Colonials win?
33% of the total battles were won by the American Colonists. The British won 67% of the battles.
6. Who commanded the French expedition in the United States?
de Rochembeau
7. What was the first printed version of the Declaration of Independence that included the names of all signers?
The Goddard Broadside
8. Who painted the famous porthole portrait of George Washington?
Rembrandt Peale, Son of Charles Willson Peale
9. Who designed and created the first American submarine?
David Bushnell
10. During the American Revolution, the Liberty Bell was removed from Philadelphia and taken here. Where was it taken?
Zion Reformed Church in Allentown, PA

Answers from the April/May Newsletter

1. What member of the Committee of Five responsible for the creation of the Declaration of Independence refused to sign the document?
Robert Livingston. He believed it was too early to declare Independence and therefore refused to sign the document.
2. What happened to the Liberty Bell during the occupation of Philadelphia by the British?
The Liberty Bell was moved to the Zion Reformed Church in Allentown, PA and stored below the floorboards.

Upcoming Events

- 10 June 2024** - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Downtown Huntsville Public Library Main Meeting Room
- 8 July 2024** - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Downtown Huntsville Public Library Main Meeting Room
- 11 - 15 July 2024** - NSSAR Congress, Lancaster, PA
- 13 August 2024** - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Downtown Huntsville Public Library Main Meeting Room. **NOTE CHANGE IN MEETING DAY TO TUESDAY**



Our guest speaker at our May meeting was Rick Laws. Rick is President of the Joseph Greer Chapter in Tennessee. If you want to learn more about Joseph Greer and the book that Rick is writing entitled "House of the Messenger", click on the picture.



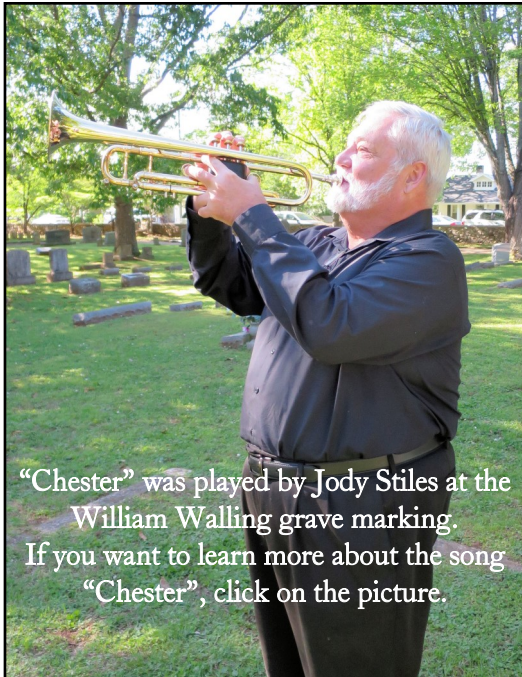
Alabama A&M Cadets Joel Metuge and Steven O'Neal receiving the Silver ROTC Medal and Certificate at Alabama A&M University.



TVC member Jason Hodges was our April speaker. Jason is the Development Director at KDS DAR School in Marshall County. Click on the picture to find out more about KDS DAR School.



Welcome new TVC Member Randall Cox!



“Chester” was played by Jody Stiles at the William Walling grave marking. If you want to learn more about the song “Chester”, click on the picture.



Pomeroy Foundation Marker dedication at the Cavett Cemetery



Color Guard and TVC Members at Elizabeth Briscoe Powell grave marking



Honor Guard at the William Walling grave marking



Color Guard and TVC Members at the William Walling grave marking



Honor Guard at the Davie Cemetery
Pomeroy Foundation Marker Unveiling



Honor Guard at the Cavett Cemetery
Pomeroy Foundation Marker Unveiling



Honor Guard at the William Walling
grave marking

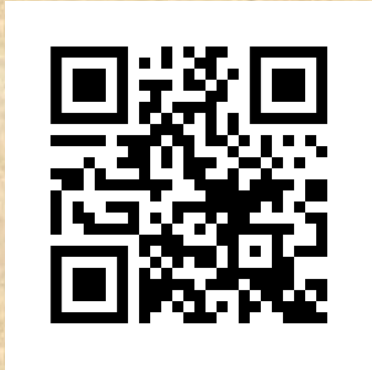


Honor Guard at the Donalson
Cemetery John Ammonett
grave marking



Honor Guard at the Donalson Cemetery
John Ammonett grave marking
(photo by Susan Sommers)

We've had several grave markings and dedications of Pomeroy Foundation markers in the last couple of months. There are several pictures of the Honor Guard on this page showing the fire generated in the pan upon firing the muskets. On the facing page are pictures of the Color Guard and TVC members in attendance at various ceremonies.



Scan the QR code above to open FastFunHistory.com, the website of Revolutionary War Rarities. You can find our podcast on YouTube, Apple, iHeart Radio, Spotify and others. The website has links to all locations where we can be seen or heard.

S2E22 "Thank You Mr. Potts"

Have you ever heard of the Pott's Family and their business that manufactured military materials during the American Revolution? You might be surprised to learn where this business was located, what happened to it, and what that land was ultimately used for.

Click on the picture of the Isaac Potts house above to take you to this episode on YouTube.



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TO: