



# The Valley Patriot

Tennessee Valley Chapter, Alabama Society

Sons of the American Revolution

March/April 2026



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**Meeting Schedule**

**20 March 2026**

Annual Banquet

Valley Hill Country Club

**13 April 2026**

11:00am Regular Meeting

Huntsville Public Library

1st Floor Meeting Room

My Fellow Compatriots,

This will be my last report, as my term is ending, and I want to take this chance to thank you all for the honor of being your Tennessee Valley Chapter President this past year. I am so grateful for all the tremendous support of so many members of the chapter who are the real heroes for accomplishing so much and keeping everything running smoothly.

Vice-President Lawrence Hillis brought in several outstanding speakers for our monthly programs, and to him I send my special thanks for helping to keep meetings running efficiently and without any glitches.

When I took office, I set the very ambitious goal of increasing our membership to 300 from where we were at about 265 in the chapter. If I have my numbers right, we did increase our membership by 41, which would have put us over the goal, but we also lost about that many, so perhaps next year. This coming year should be very good for the SAR with the Semi-quintennial (250th Anniversary) of the signing of the Declaration of Independence coming up on July 4th. Many special celebratory activities have already been planned in the area, and our chapter will be participating in several. For our new members, we now have Welcome Packages containing a membership handbook and information about our chapter and the SAR. We have also developed a mentorship program to assist them in any way we can.

During the past year efforts have gone in many directions. Our chapter documents have been updated. The Bylaws were reviewed and our Standard Operating Procedure Guidance has been brought up to date and posted on our chapter webpage. Online information has also been brought up to date. A TVCSAR Yearbook should be available soon.

A "Dutch treat" lunch following our monthly membership meetings is now taking place, giving compatriots and their wives a better opportunity to get to know each other. We found a great venue at the City Café Diner with readily available space for all to sit together, a very large variety of items on the menu, reasonable prices, and large portions.

This past August we reinstated the chapter's annual BBQ outing. We had a large turnout, and a great time was had by all.

The chapter also had a well-attended Farewell Luncheon for our long-time Compatriot and friend Dr. David Billings. He was recent Vice-President General of the SAR Southern District and past holder of many prominent positions at SAR Chapter, State, and National levels.

Our annual Installation Banquet is almost upon us. It will be on March 20th at the Valley Hill Country Club. If you haven't already signed up, please let me know soon if you plan to attend. There is a registration form on the last page.

Continued on the next page

Thanks again to all those who have worked so hard this year to keep our chapter one of the Best in the Nation! Many have been filling critical positions for several years. Others have had to step down, but members have immediately come forward to volunteer to fill critical officer and committee positions when the call went out. I still can't get over how I never had to beat the bushes for a single replacement, and several were needed this year. To you all, my sincerest and genuine thanks.

It has been such a great honor serving you this past year. My best wishes to the Tennessee Valley Chapter in all its future endeavors.

*Don Wolfe*  
Don Wolfe  
President

**Vice-President Lawrence Hillis presents five approved Supplemental applications to George Royer at the January meeting.**



### *Answers from the January/February Newsletter*

1. Who was the upholsterer in Philadelphia that made George Washington's first pair of tents in 1776?  
*Plunket Fleeson*
2. Who was George Washington's enslaved valet that slept in the tent and was later freed in his will?  
*William Lee*
3. During the Civil War, from which location was George Washington's tent seized by Union soldiers?  
*Arlington House*
4. Who protected George Washington's tent fabric when Arlington House was ransacked during the Civil War?  
*Selina Norris Gray*
5. In what year was George Washington's tent returned to the Lee family after a Supreme Court case?  
*1901*
6. Where is George Washington's tent currently displayed?  
*Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia*
7. Who created a 1782 watercolor painting depicting George Washington's tent at Verplanck's Point?  
*Pierre Charles L'Enfant*
8. What material was primarily used for the roof of George Washington's tent?  
*Linen*

## Welcome New Members!



Quimby Rains



Dr. Scott Field

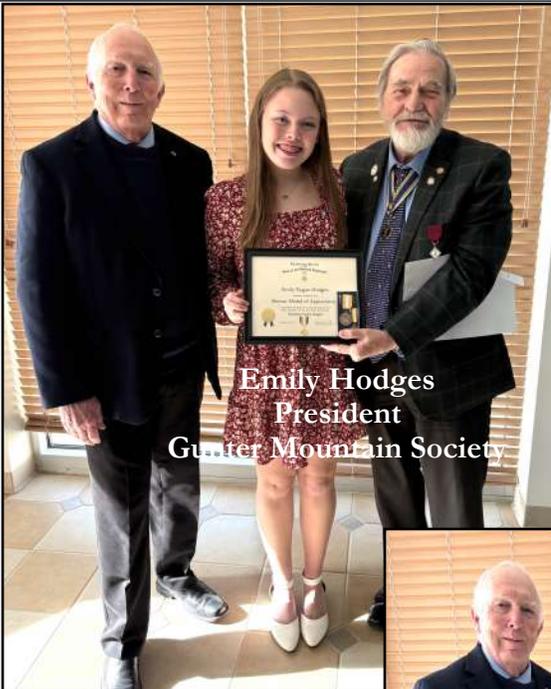
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<https://youtu.be/f13c6kGFyHc?>





Emily Hodges  
President  
Gunter Mountain Society

At a joint meeting of the Captain John Farrar Society, Gunter Mountain Society, and John Hunt Society Children of the American Revolution, State President Benny Hannah and Chapter President Don Wolfe presented SAR Bronze Medals of Appreciation along with a check for \$100 to each Society President.



Aurora Deshazer  
President  
John Hunt Society



Caroline Pennington  
President  
Cpt John Farrar Society

## *Upcoming Events*

Friday, 13-14 March, Alabama Society Annual Meeting and Banquet

Friday, 20 March 2026, 6:00 pm - Annual Chapter Banquet - Valley Hill Country Club - **REGISTRATION FORM ON THE LAST PAGE**

Monday, 13 April 2026 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Downtown Huntsville Public Library Main Meeting Room.

Monday, 11 May 2026 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Downtown Huntsville Public Library Main Meeting Room.

Monday, 8 June 2026 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Downtown Huntsville Public Library Main Meeting Room.

Monday, 6 July 2026 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Downtown Huntsville Public Library Main Meeting Room.

**NOTE: FIRST MONDAY**

Tuesday, 11 August 2026 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Downtown Huntsville Public Library Main Meeting Room.

**NOTE: SECOND TUESDAY**



At the left the winning teacher for the Poster Contest was Valerie Sapp. Below the winning teacher for the Brochure Contest is Matthew Mooneyham. Each teacher was presented with a certificate and a check for \$100.



At our February meeting we held our annual meeting for Youth Contest Winners for the JROTC, Eagle Scout, Brochure, Essay, and Poster contests. The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners are shown at the left.



Our Color Guard presented the Colors at an “I Love My Flag Day” ceremony at Montview School in Huntsville. At the left they are shown with the students and below presenting the Colors.



At the left, the Color Guard presented the Colors at our annual Youth Contest winners meeting in February.

**Sons of the American Revolution  
Tennessee Valley Chapter  
Annual Installation Banquet**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 20<sup>th</sup> At 6:00 pm**

**Valley Hill Country Club  
8300 Valley Hill Drive SE, Huntsville, AL 35802**

**Social - 6:00 pm Dinner - 6:30 pm  
Cash Bar prior to Dinner**

Cost of the buffet is \$48.00 per person with spouses and guests welcome

*Garden Salad and Rolls, Chicken Piccata, Herb Roasted Pork Loin  
Green Beans Amandine, Steamed Vegetable Medley, Baked Potato Casserole,  
Ultimate Chocolate Cake, Apple Pie, Coffee and Tea*

Contact Don Wolfe (doniswolfe@aol.com or 256-508-0640) if you  
have special dietary requirements

Dress is coat and tie for men and appropriate dress for ladies  
Deadline to register is Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>

Number for Buffet \_\_\_\_\_ NAME \_\_\_\_\_

NAME of Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Special Dietary Request \_\_\_\_\_ NAME of Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Total Number of Meals \_\_\_ x \$48.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ + \$ \_\_\_\_\_ contribution for Youth Programs Sorry,

I cannot attend but would like to contribute \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to Chapter's Youth Programs

**Make check payable to TVC SAR and mail to:  
Don Wolfe  
1007 Mira Vista Drive  
Huntsville, AL 35802-3225**