The Valley Patriot

Tennessee Valley Chapter, Alabama Society
Sons of the American Revolution
November/December 2026

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Meeting Schedule

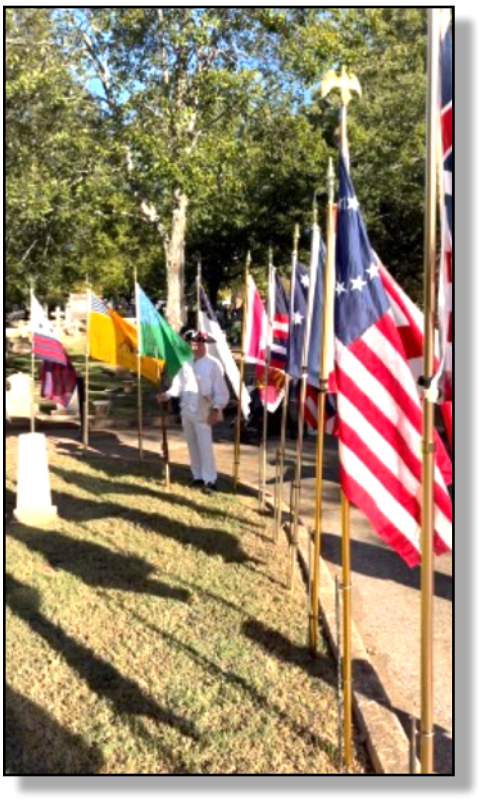
9 November 2026
11:00am Regular Meeting
Huntsville Public Library
1st Floor Meeting Room

14 December 2026
11:00am Regular Meeting
Huntsville Public Library
1st Floor Meeting Room

Greetings Compatriots,

We have had wonderful weather for the last two weeks in October. I hope it continues into November and that you have a chance to get out and enjoy it.

On October 18th, the Maple Hill Cemetery Stroll was again a huge success this year. There were 75 people playing the characters of people who are buried in Maple Hill. This year Bill Summers and David Poehlein played the parts of patriots Albert Russel and William Walling. The SAR color guard led the opening parade and presented the colors to the audience. Our chapter received a lot of exposure by displaying 16 flags representing the colonial period and revolutionary era (picture at the right).



Bob Anderson, Steve Brouse and I explained the history of the flags to those who stopped by our set up. Benny Hannah was with the John Hunt Society of the Children of the American Revolution while they read information about patriot John Ward and laid a wreath at his grave site.

Other than Independence Day, I believe the Veterans Day events are our other most active time of the year. Two of my favorite events are the Monrovia Middle School Tribute on November 6th. There are usually well over 100 veterans who are honored by the school. The veterans will parade into the gym and are received by all of the students standing and cheering.

On November 11th, we will have a float in the Huntsville Veterans Day Parade. We will use the new float which was built for the Huntsville Independence Day Parade. Members are dressed in 18th century clothing sitting in the front of the float portraying the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Another group will be sitting to the rear of the float while a member in a Continental uniform is reading the Declaration to village people. Please come to the parade if possible. It begins at 11:00 and follows the usual parade route through downtown Huntsville.

Continued on next page

The next two monthly member's meetings are important. On November 9th, Dr. John Omenski will speak us about the new Veterans Memorial Museum. He will discuss ways we could be involved. On December 14th, we will honor and recognize heroes of the first responders. Please try to attend and show our appreciation to our first responders.

Thank you compatriots for your part in honoring our Patriot ancestors. Whether you attending events or you fly the American flag at your house, you are preserving our heritage and educating the community. Please continue your efforts to accomplish our mission statement to honor the patriots who secured our independence and to show our appreciation of our nation's founding principles.

Lawrence Hillis
President





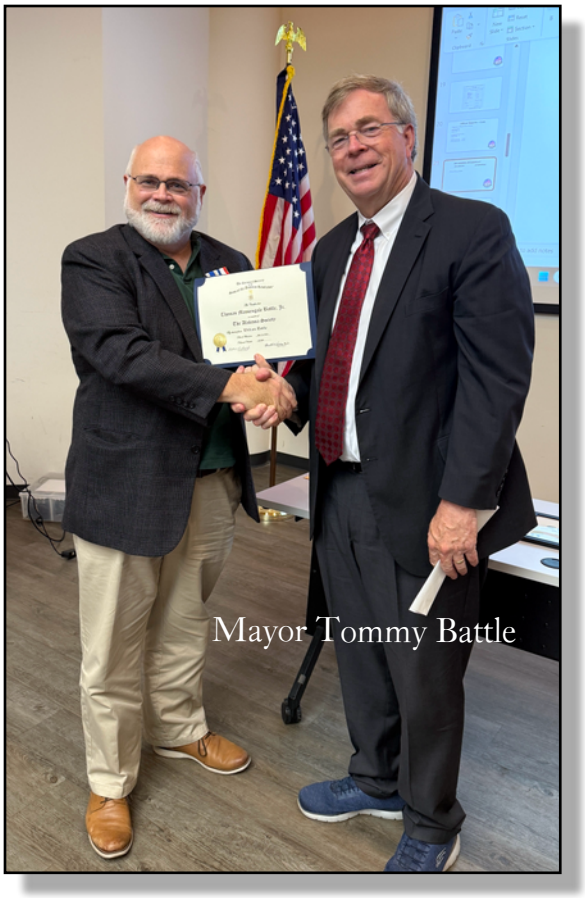
At the left Scott Owen was our October speaker. Scott's presentation was "Using Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Genealogical Research." Scott is shown with Vice-President Ray Cassell who presented a Certificate of Appreciation and a Gold America 250 Medal.

Above, President Hillis presents Don Wolfe with a Bronze America 250 Medal.

At the right, Vice President Ray Cassell presents a new member certificate to Huntsville Mayor Tommy Batttle.

Below, Ray presents a Certificate of Appreciation to our September speaker Mark Hubbs. Mark's presentation was "Clothing the Army after Valley Forge: The French Contract Uniforms of 1778."





Mayor Tommy Battle

Upcoming Events

Monday, 9 November 2026 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Downtown Huntsville Public Library Main Meeting Room.

Monday, 14 December 2026 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Downtown Huntsville Public Library Main Meeting Room.

Monday, 11 January 2027 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Downtown Huntsville Public Library Main Meeting Room.

Tuesday, 9 February 2027 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Downtown Huntsville Public Library Main Meeting Room. **NOTE: SECOND TUESDAY**

Friday - Saturday, 19-20 February, ALSSAR State Convention, Hoover Embassy Suites

Friday, 12 March 2027 - Chapter Banquet, 6:00pm, Valley Hill Country Club - DETAILS TO FOLLOW LATER

Monday, 12 April 2027 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Downtown Huntsville Public Library Main Meeting Room.

Benny Hannah presents David Poehlein with a War Service Medal and Certificate. David is now our Publicity Chairman (see the information below) and also Chairman of our Veterans Committee.



We have a Publicity Chairman! David Poehlein has stepped up and volunteered to be our Publicity Chairman. With the size of our Chapter and the number of Chapter activities, this is a much needed and critical position. If you need to contact David, his email is: david.poehlein@gmail.com.

David has created an online form for members to submit activities and pictures. Use the following link to open the form:
https://form.jotform.com/261617790688068

Scan the QR code at the right 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. Please subscribe!

Click on the link below for the latest episode entitled:

"Season 5 Episode 5, "The "Flushing Remonstrance"

https://youtu.be/XXBaakQ2g7Q




Photo by Victoria Poehlein


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Photo by Benny Hannah


Photo by Victoria Poehlein

Annual Maple Hill Cemetery Stroll

The Maple Hill Cemetery Stroll was held on Sunday, October 18th. Above left, Bill Sommers portrayed Revolutionary War soldker Albert Russel, above right David Poehein portrayed Revolutionary War soldier William Walling. At the bottom right, Color Guard members (right to left) Bob Anderson, Lawrence Hillis and Steve Brouse presented the Colors at the beginning of the Stroll. Above left, the John Hunt Society, Children of the American Revolution laid a wreath at the grave of Revolutionary War Patriot John Ward. On the front page, President Lawrence Hillis is shown with the flag display.