



The Valley Patriot

Tennessee Valley Chapter, Alabama Society
Sons of the American Revolution
September/October 2024



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Meeting Schedule

10 September 2024

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

15 October 2024

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

President's Report

It has been a busy summer. We canceled our July meeting because much of the leadership was in Lancaster, PA for the 134th SAR National Congress. The biggest change to happen there was the increase of application fees from \$100.00 to \$150.00 effective 1 September 2024. This has had a major impact on our Registrar, Ray Cassel. He's been working overtime getting new members applications to National ahead of the deadline. I'm sure he'll provide us all a more detailed report at the September meeting.

We were all saddened by the death of Jim Alexander this month. Jim was a long serving and dedicated member of the society. Remember his family in your prayers as they adjust to his loss.

Last Saturday, 21 August, Benny Hannah was struck by a falling dead limb as they were cutting down a nearby tree. Lawrence Hillis and John Rankin rushed him to the hospital where it took 32 +/- staples to close the wound. He was kept in the Neurology ICU for a couple of days undergoing tests. He's home now recovering. Keep him in your prayers. If you can help, Benny's cohorts still want to finish clearing the cemetery. Contact John Rankin at prankin64@gmail.com.

ALSSAR is considering establishing a specialty vehicle license plate for the state of Alabama. It would entail an additional cost over the normal cost for your annual vehicle tag. They need at least 250 committed SAR members to proceed. If you're interested, let the chapter know.

As a reminder, our monthly meeting will be held on the 2nd Tuesday, the 10th, in September and for the rest of the year. Due to scheduling conflicts with the library, it would have been for 3 of the next 5 months anyway. If this works out we will probably change to Tuesdays permanently. Jim Maples reports that conflicts are an ever growing occurrence on Mondays.

I hope to see you all in September.

Owen "Chip" Pharr
President

Our speaker for our June meeting was Marc Jacobson. Marc is President of the local Chapter of the Association of the United States Army (AUSA).



Revolutionary Questions from Jim Griffith

1. The building of what University could be witnessed by Thomas Jefferson from his home, "Monticello"?
2. What was the name of the Group that wrote the Declaration of Independence for presentation to the Second Continental Congress?
3. What two United States Presidents and Founding Fathers died within minutes of each other on the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence?
4. Who was the last signer of the Declaration of Independence to die?
5. How many Catholics signed the Declaration of Independence?
6. Alexander Hamilton is widely credited with creating the financial system within the United States. What was Alexander Hamilton worth upon his death?
7. Who was the wealthiest signer of the Declaration of Independence?
8. What Founding Father lived to the oldest age?
9. What Founding Father's Brother created invisible ink?
10. British Soldier's were frequently also referred to as "Red Coats". But what was used to create the Red Dye required for all British uniforms?
11. What were the names of the boats that held the tea ultimately dumped into the Boston Harbor?

Answers from the June/July Newsletter

1. Who was the Father of King George III?
It wasn't King George II. King George II had a Son named Frederick, Prince of Wales and he was the father of King George III. He died before King George II died, meaning that his Son (King George III) was crowned.
2. Where was the first naval battle of the American Revolution?
Machias, Maine

3. What was the nickname of Horatio Gates?
Granny Gates
4. Who did Benedict Arnold conspire with to turnover West Point to the British?
British Major John Andre
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?
Alexander Hamilton Jr., the Son of Alexander Hamilton whom Aaron Burr killed 30 years earlier in a duel.
6. Just before being named Mount Vernon, it was known as something else. What was that name?
Little Hunting Creek Plantation
7. How did the Washington family acquire the land which ultimately became Mount Vernon?
In 1674, John Washington and his friend Nicholas Spencer were awarded a 5,000-acre land grant from Lord Thomas Culpeper under a dispensation from King Charles II of England.
8. Who installed electricity into Mount Vernon in 1916?
Thomas Edison
9. Who provided Mount Vernon with their first Fire Engine?
Henry Ford
10. How did the Mount Vernon Ladies Association preserve the view from the Mount Vernon Piazza?
The Mount Vernon Ladies Association purchased 500 acres across the Potomac River in order to preserve the view.
11. What winter time product did George Washington have harvested from the Potomac River
George Washington had an ice house built into the side of the hill leading from the Potomac River up to his home. During the Winter, Washington would have his slaves harvest ice from the river and stored in the ice house for use throughout the Spring and early Summer.

Welcome New Members!



Above from left to right, Vice-President Don Wolfe, Kevin Bridges, William Bridges, Wesley Bridges, Christopher Bridges and Lawson Bridges. Above right James Keith. Below right, Charles Montgomery.

Upcoming Events

10 September 2024 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Downtown Huntsville Public Library Main Meeting Room. **NOTE CHANGE IN MEETING DAY TO TUESDAY**

15 October 2024 - Regular Meeting, 11:00am, Downtown Huntsville Public Library Main Meeting Room. **NOTE CHANGE IN MEETING DAY TO TUESDAY**

19 October 2024 - Board of Managers Meeting 10:00am The American Village, Montevallo, AL





Click on the link below to open the latest episode
 "The Voice, The Pen, The Sword"

<https://youtu.be/0FQeJ6-QwFY>



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 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.



Vice-President Don Wolfe presents Charles McMurry with a Supplemental Ancestor certificate for his ancestor William Calahan.



Our speaker for our August meeting was Vice-President Don Wolfe. Don gave an interesting talk on West Point and it's role in the Revolutionary War.

KDS DAR School 100th Dedication Day Festivities

October 2-4, 2024

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2

5:00-7:00 pm **Welcome Reception, Becker Hall, KDS Campus**
Sponsored by the Alabama Society DAR

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

8:15 am Depart hotels for KDS campus

9:00 am **Welcome to KDS!, Central Parking Lot**

9:45 am **Orientation and J.A.C. Program, DAR Lunchroom**

10:45 am-12:00 pm **Campus Tours, Classroom Visits, Stars & Stripes Service Stations**

12:00 pm **Lunch, DAR Lunchroom**

12:45 pm-2:00 pm **Campus Tours, Classroom Visits, Stars & Stripes Service Stations**

2:00 pm **KDS Board of Trustees Meeting, Becker Hall**

Arts & Crafts Show, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., sponsored by the KDS Art Department
Doris Pike White Gymnasium

Evening **KDS DAR School 100th Anniversary Gala***

**The Gala is a separate ticketed event and is not included in the Dedication Day registration form. If you would like to attend the Gala, tickets may be purchased [here](#). Please note: there are a limited number of tickets for the Gala.*

For dining options, a list of area restaurants can be found [here](#).

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4

9:00 am **100th Dedication Day Program, Burkey Center**

11:30 am **Famous Basket Lunch, DAR Lunchroom**

1:00 pm **100th Anniversary Project Dedication, KDS Centennial Campus Commons**

3:30 pm Alabama Society DAR Board of Management Meeting

6:30 pm **Football Game, Patriots Stadium**

Arts & Crafts Show, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., sponsored by the KDS Art Department
Doris Pike White Gymnasium