



Tennessee Patriot

Tennessee Sons of the American Revolution

EQUIPPING OUR EDUCATORS



**2023-2024 Dr. Tom & Betty Lawrence American
History Teacher of the Year Awardee**

On the Cover: The TNSSAR History Teacher of the Year Award, Middle School, for 2023-2024 is Jason Hewer. Jason is a member of the Isaac Shelby Chapter, TNSSAR, and is passionate about teaching his students, especially about the founding principles of our Patriot Ancestors!

Over the past few years I have been personally concerned at the lack of entries in various contests that our society sponsors. Part of that concern is that one must wonder if we are properly engaging the younger generations, and if we are even fulfilling our mission as the Tennessee Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. It is my intention and my hope that we can make adjustments to our various events and projects to actively engage and even attract the younger generations around us.

Many of our members have children and grandchildren. We should be taking initiative to start engaging our own families – encourage our elementary aged children and grandchildren to create a patriotic poster for entry into the Elementary Poster Contests. Challenge our Middle School aged offspring to utilize what they are learning about word processing apps and computers and create a patriotic brochure for the Middle School Brochure Contest. Encourage our 3rd and 4th graders who live in areas where the Tennessee State Fair is active to write an essay for entry into that contest. And with all of the TikTok, YouTube and SnapChat application usage in our young people, get them to produce a patriotic video for the new Youth Video Contest. I cannot help but imagine that we will have ample entries in all of the contests and programs of our society to create some excitement. Perhaps in doing this we can even pull a few others who are on the perimeter of our own children and grandchild and engage them in these patriotic programs, too. And all of these have *cash prize* awards!

The 2023-2024 Contest Season brought the TNSSAR an excellent candidate for the Dr. Tom & Betty Lawrence History Teacher of the Year Award. The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) invites all American history teachers, whose approved curriculum teaches students about the American Revolution era from 1750 to 1800, to apply for the Dr. Tom & Betty Lawrence American History Teacher Award. The award is open to all teachers at the middle school or high school levels at a recognized public, private, or parochial institution. While the preliminary rounds of the award program begin at the local chapter level, teachers may eventually advance to the state and national levels. The American History Teacher Award recognizes educators who distinguish themselves in teaching the history of the American Revolution. Teacher candidates interested in entering the local SAR Chapter contest must complete the required application and submit a written essay of not less than 1000 words discussing the importance of teaching the American Revolution era. The essay may also describe any extraordinary teaching techniques or innovative projects utilized by the teacher to teach the American Revolution. The contest is aimed at identifying a teacher who is still actively teaching, has taught for at least three years, and who is in the early or middle stages of his or her career, therefore having at least 15 years of productive classroom teaching remaining. The program will feature a contest at each of the two educational levels so there will be a winner for the middle school level and the high school level. An SAR Chapter may submit a contestant to the state from each school level and the state may hold a contest and select a winner from each school level to submit for the national awards. A state may submit a state winner for each level, or from only one or two educational levels. The national winner from each school level will receive potential benefits worth up to \$5,000.00 per winner.

Jason Hewer, pictured on cover, is the fifth and sixth grade U.S. history teacher at Presbyterian Day School in Memphis, Tennessee. He has served in that position since 2019. He lives with his wife, Ali, and their dog, Zoe. Jason divides his spare time with organizations such as the SAR, the Urban Bicycle Food Ministry, and the Tri-State Wood Crafters. He enjoys playing the violin and riding his bicycle. Raised in Dayton, Ohio, Jason moved to Alabama while he was in high school and attended the University of North Alabama where he earned his bachelor's degree in education. Jason taught high school French for three years in Montgomery, Alabama, before attending Auburn University and earning his master's degree in history. Jason hopes to continue to work at Presbyterian Day School as their history teacher. He loves the passion that fifth and sixth graders bring to the classroom and appreciates the opportunities that Presbyterian Day School has provided for field trips for the students and professional development for their staff. Those of us that had the honor of getting to know him over the TNSSAR State Conference weekend this past March, could see something very special about him.

As I was seeking to develop some new leadership across the state, I asked Jason to consider taking over as Chairman of the Middle School Brochure Contest for the state. One of the areas that I believe we have got to press in throughout Tennessee in doing is reaching out to teachers and educators and learning what *we can do for them*. I am hopeful that Compatriot Hewer can help us learn how to do that more effectively.

Please be sure to welcome him and let him know your own interest in learning how to develop this contest within your own chapter's service area.

Earnestly,
Joel Davenport, 2024-2025 TNSSAR President



Jason Hewer, above left, Presented the 2023-2024 History Teacher of the Year Award by Past President and Contest Chairman, Johnny Head, at the 2024 TNSSAR Youth Luncheon on March 16, 2024.

TNSSAR OFFICERS

President	Joel Davenport	National Officers	
President-elect	PZ Horton	Trustee	Dr. David Chaffin
Vice-President	Doug Evans	Alt. Trustee	Joel Davenport
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Registrars	Brett Thomas & Rob Richmond	Regional Directors	
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Parliamentarian	John Breyfogle	Region 2	Rick Prescott
Historian	Dr. Warren Dockter	Region 3	Jason Wright
Chaplain	Rev. Greg Banther	Region 4	Doug Dickerson
Surgeon	Dr. Ryan Bartz	Region 5	Rick Longton
WebMaster	Darrin Dickey	Region 6	Bill Dwyer



2024-2025 Excom for TNSSAR

VP, Doug Evans, President, Joel Davenport, President-Elect PZ Horton & Past President Dr. David Chaffin

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Thank you for allowing me to serve you as your 2024-2025 President! There is no doubt that I have much to learn and I appreciate your patience and guidance as we embark to make this another great year in our society! This is our 135th year, too! That is why I have ask Judge Mark Norris to serve as Chairman of a Committee to plan and execute events celebrating the contributions that the Tennessee Society of the Sons of the American Revolution has made to our state's communities!

In 2020 Judge Norris began presenting the “Flags for Freedom” initiative, which we did not actually fund until July 2021. Since that time we have made regular advances toward the goal to have a flag in each classroom so our students can start each day with the Pledge of Allegiance. To date we have donated and installed over 4,000 flags in classrooms across the state. This program has been part of our state's America's 250th Committee in the past, but I am going to be presenting moving it to the Flag & Flag Retirement Committee, for which I have appointed Col. Mark Young to be the Chairman (see p. 15 for more info on Mark).

My vision is that as we strive toward the goal of a flag in every classroom, I would love to see our chapters send 2 or 3 man teams to those classrooms – and while a member serving as a Minuteman or Militiaman in uniform gives a 5 minute presentation regarding the history and importance of the United States Flag and the Pledge of Allegiance, the other members are mounting the wallmount for the flag. Once it is ready, those members will post the colors into the newly installed wallmount with a salute turning then to the Rev. War Solder who leads the class in their first Pledge of Allegiance to that flag. This has made quite an impression over the last couple of years wherever we have had the honor of doing this. Some chapters are also finding success in partnering with jROTC units in the schools.

If your chapter need flags to install, please contact Col. Mark Young at (804)536-2926 or markyoungsr@aol.com.

Let's get to work and work together to preserve, promote and uphold the founding principles in Tennessee!

Joel Davenport

President@tnssar.org

(865) 398-4638



TNSSAR COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

America's 250 th	Cliff Kent	Newsletter	Collin Maddox
Partners in Patriotism	Glen Baggett	Nominations	Dr. David Chaffin
Americanism	Robert Bolyard	Operation Ancestor Search	PZ Horton
Audit	Dr. Joe Chambers	OVTA Liaison	Timothy Massey
Middle School Brochure Contest	Jason Hewer	Elementary School Poster Contest	Wayne Patton
Color Guard	Cliff Kent	Past Presidents	Dr. David Chaffin
Constitution & Bylaws	Jerry Hjellum	Public Service & Heroism	Bucky Harris
DAR/CAR Liaison	Dr. David Chaffin	Resolutions	Blake Brock
Eagle Scout	Austin M. Seay	ROTC/jROTC	
Finance/Budget	Ben Stonecipher	Rumbaugh Oration	Charles Dammann
Flag & Flag Retirement	Col. Mark Young, Sr.	SAR Youth Video Contest	Scott Selliers
Friends of the Library	Tim Adams	TNSSAR Education Chair	Doug Evans
GWEF	David Carr	TNSSAR CG Training & Insurance	<i>* In Process *</i>
Graves & Landmarks	W. Scott Pryor	The Gathering at Sycamore Shoals	Tim Massey
Handbook	Charles Dammann	Veterans Services	Larry Newsome
Historic Sites & Celebrations	Don Hills	Veterans Recognition	PZ Horton
History Teacher Award	Johnny Head	2027 NSSAR Congress	Steve Gaines
Investments	Colin Wakefield	Sycamore Shoals NP Liaison	Chad Bogart
Knight Essay Contest	Dr. George Peseley	TN State Fair Essay Contest	Rob Clifton
Medals & Awards	James Stone	TNSSAR 135 th Birthday Event	Hon. Mark Norris
Membership & Extension	PZ Horton		



THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Compatriots,

I hope this short entry finds you doing well, and enjoying the warmer weather that has finally made its way to our great state. The flowers are blooming, the green leaves have returned to the trees, and the TNSSAR calendar is starting to ramp up with a full slate of events across the state for 2024. It is a wonderful time of the year!

When President Davenport reached out to me regarding the newsletter, he suggested that I use this edition to introduce myself. My name is Greg Banther. I live in Cleveland, Tennessee and am a member of the Col. Benjamin Cleveland Chapter. I pastor Mercy Baptist Church in Ooltewah, which is midway between Cleveland and Chattanooga. My wife's name is Karen. She is a life member of the recently established Ladie's Auxiliary, and she is working on her membership to the DAR. We have two children, four grandchildren, and a 1-year-old Shih Tzu named Leo.

I have been in the SAR nearly six years, becoming a life member last year, and in that time, I have served on various chapter committees, as chapter secretary, 1st vice-president, and 2023 chapter president. While I enjoy all things SAR, my favorite thing is grave markings. The esteem I have for our patriot ancestors seems to increase with each passing year, and to be able to have a small part in honoring these brave heroes is almost indescribable for me.

What a privilege and responsibility we have been given as members of the Sons of the American Revolution. May we never forget that the work we do is important work – for if we do not do this work, my friends, who will?

I say to you from my heart, I am honored to serve as your state chaplain. It is a responsibility I take seriously, and I will work hard to fulfill the duties of chaplain to the best of my abilities. If I can ever be of help or service to you as individuals, your chapters, or to our state society in general, please know that I am only a phone call or email away.

I look forward to a great year, and I hope I have the privilege to meet more of you in the future.

In His service and in yours,
Rev. Greg Banther
Chaplain@TNSSAR.ORG

"May the children of the stock of Abraham who dwell in this land continue to merit and enjoy the good will of the other inhabitants - while every one shall sit in safety under his own vine and fig tree and there shall be none to make him afraid." Micah 4:4

- George Washington



New Faces / Getting to Know Our New Committee Chairmen

Greetings fellow compatriots,

I am honored to be the chair for the state portion of **The Sgt. Moses Adams Middle School Brochure Contest** this year. Although we have had good participation in the elementary school poster contest and the essay contests in years past, I understand that it has been a number of years since we have had participation in the middle school brochure contest. I hope that this year we can change that!

Thanks to some much appreciated help from Bill Dwyer I've been in contact with the national contest committee chair. And there is an email drafted and ready to go out to the state regional directors in July in anticipation of the new school year in August. We plan to have a deadline on submissions of December 31, 2024 for brochures from the fall semester and a March 31, 2025 deadline for the spring semester. State winners will be passed on to the national level by June 1, 2025.

As a history teacher myself, I am very excited about the opportunity this contest provides our organization to make connections with students and teachers. Educational outreach is an important organizational goal for the SAR and I hope that this contest will provide a basis for us to develop positive relationships with educators and students across the state. Every time one of our members has the opportunity to present at a school or when our organization puts on a contest such as this, it is the chance to help foster a passion for patriotism and civic virtue that is essential for a thriving democracy. I'm looking forward to a successful competition this year!

Jason Hewer, Chairman

TNNSAR Sgt. Moses Adams Middle School Brochure Contest



TNNSAR Newsletter, a New Collective

Hello, compatriots and friends! My name is Collin Gregory Maddox and I will be a part of an amazing team responsible for bringing you the TNNSAR newsletter every month going forward this year.

If you don't know me already, I have been writing the history articles for the Col. Anthony Bledsoe Chapter newsletter, titled "The Bledsoe Bulletin", for the past year and a half, having been an SAR member for 2 years in May. I

thoroughly enjoy doing it and I hope to spread the history of this great nation by doing it. Briefly, let me explain some more about me.

...continues top of next column...

I was born on November 2, 1998, in a town called Danville, about 20 miles west of Indianapolis, Indiana. Being raised by my grandparents, I did most of my growing up in Danville and Indianapolis until we made a move to Hendersonville, Tennessee, in 2013, to be with the rest of our family. In 2018, I graduated from high school after years of homeschooling with my grandmother as my teacher. A year later, in 2019, we made another move to Portland, Tennessee, where we reside today. I am a Christian and member of the Church of Christ, having been raised in the Church. I currently attend the Portland Church of Christ in which I am blessed to be a member. In 2022, I was officially inducted into the SAR as a member of the Col. Anthony Bledsoe Chapter, in Sumner County. Since then, my life has drastically changed for the better. I have been blessed with the opportunity to serve in various ways to help teach the history of our country to different people of all ages, far and wide. In addition to all of that, I am currently a packing inspector at ProAmpac, in White House, Tennessee, having been an employee for 2 years now.

I have a deep interest in history. My interest started when I was a child, when my interest in the Civil War began. As a child, I loved to watch movies about the Civil War, such as *Glory* and *Gettysburg*. As I got older, my interest in other time periods grew. I developed an interest in other conflicts as well, such as the Revolutionary War, World War 1, and World War 2. In addition to this, I love visiting historical sites and museums, having been to several Civil War and Revolutionary War battlefields. I also have an interest in historical firearms and other weapons and equipment dating all the way back to the Revolutionary War and as recently as World War 2 and beyond.

I am thrilled to be a part of this newsletter and I have high hopes for the future. As we work to bring the newsletter to life every month, I hope to see it succeed in informing people all around the state of Tennessee about excellent opportunities to promote patriotism and participate in events near and far. It is also my wish to make history a central topic and to have the incredible stories of our patriot ancestors told. I believe wholeheartedly that teaching audiences of all ages about the history of our great country is of the utmost importance and is an integral part of keeping the memories of our patriot ancestors alive and well. I believe that this newsletter has so much potential as we can help keep everyone informed as well as teach history to those far and wide. As we move forward through this year, let us continue our efforts to educate and inspire the public about the Revolutionary War and the founding of the United States. I look forward to this opportunity I have been blessed with and I am excited to see what the future holds not only for the newsletter, but for the Sons of the American Revolution as well.

God bless you all and God bless America!

Sincerely,

Collin G. Maddox, Chairman maddoxcollin19@gmail.com





TNSSAR EDUCATION CHAIR

Hello, I'm Doug Evans, the new TNSSAR Education Chair. I'm also the President of the Thomas Kilgore Chapter in Springfield, TN and the newly elected State Vice President. The Andrew Jackson Chapter, in Nashville, TN is my home chapter, where my good friend and cousin, Fred Rand, is the President and my mentor, the great Sanford Payton attends.

Education Programs is an area in which many of you spend so much of your time and energy and I thank you for your contributions. It's one of the most important areas in our mission statement!

One of the wonderful acts that our recently past President included in our rituals was the reading of the Mission Statement at our BOG meetings:

The Sons of the American Revolution honors our Revolutionary War patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities, educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our Country.

Each element of our mission statement is addressed by Education Programs!

Here's a few updates:

1. Our key website (accessible to all TNSSAR and much of it to the public) is-

<https://tnssarorg.ipower.com/education-programs.html>

But we also have a dynamic content page for collaboration- (currently we have 50 members).

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/307463922049804>

Please take a look at the TNSSAR Website Education Program Tab and join the Facebook group. If you have something that you think is missing- please send me the text/ pictures to add. Some we can probably do right away and others we may need to discuss with the committee prior to posting. Facebook is much more flexible but better for dynamic content.

Additional information on education outreach activities can be found on the state color guard schedule page. <https://tnssarorg.ipower.com/color-guard.html>

We don't yet have a combined schedule- so you really need to check the events from the Facebook page and the color guard schedule for education outreach.

2. Presenter - data form

If you make presentations to youth, please ensure you also have completed a Presenter-data form. The form is useful both to present to others what your qualification might be to make the presentations and is also a requirement for any submission for a youth education award.

We'll make a spot on our TNSSAR website to hang all of the Presenter - data forms – it might be a useful tool for you to use to find a presenter to make a presentation or maybe to get some ideas on how/ what to present. You can send me your form now or wait until I get to the point where I can collect them in a few months (douglasjamesevans@gmail.com). Here's a link to the blank form:

<https://www.sar.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Blank-Presenter-Data-Form.docx>

3. History awards

·Minnesota Society Stephen Taylor Award

The Minnesota Society Stephen Taylor Award is presented to the compatriot who has contributed significantly to preserving the history of the American Revolutionary era and its patriots through his research and writing.

Rules and submission form at this link -<https://www.njssar.org/stephen-taylor-award>

·The Colonel Stewart Boone McCarty Award

The Colonel Stewart Boone McCarty Award is presented to the compatriot who furthered the preservation of U.S. history and its traditional teaching in our schools.

Rules and submission form at this link <https://www.njssar.org/stewart-boone-mccarty-award>

We did have at least one application for the Stephen Taylor Award but apparently none for the Colonel Stewart Boone McCarty Award. Award submissions were due on 1 May 2024. For those who are interested - you can start forming your plan for 2025! (they are annual awards).

4. There is a new youth education medal and a lifetime achievement bar/ medal. See the website for more details - <https://tnssarorg.ipower.com/education-programs.html>

· We have several awardees for these new medals who should be recognized at the June BOG

· If you would like to apply for an award, please contact Doug and he'll help you through the process (douglasjamesevans@gmail.com).

5. YPT training- please be patient on this as we are trying to set the best/ right path. And the top level of the national SAR is helping- For right now- here the probable expectation. We'll be discussing this and making some decisions with regards to it at the next BOG.

Who?

·All State and Chapter leaders (i.e. elected positions)

·All state and Chapter committee chairs related to youth.

·If you have junior members in your Chapter- you should make the training available to all of your chapter members – that is, encourage completing it, and it's not mandatory.

·Where we are probably going is- you cannot hold an elected position (State or Chapter) or be appointed to a youth education outreach position (State or Chapter) without completing the YPT. And you'll be given two months to complete if you fill one of these positions.

What?

·Take the online youth protection training (YPT).

·The online policy for the youth protection program has not yet been approved by NSSAR, the only requirements are contained in the national handbook and potentially to be included in the TNSSAR bylaws.

·Print out your 3-year certificate and give/ email a copy to the appropriate record keeper,

·Chapter records- maintained by your Chapter (e.g. Chapter Committee chairs, elected officers)

·State Records (e.g. State Committee Chairs, elected officers- maintained by the Recording Secretary

·Note to be considered for a youth education award, you must provide a copy of your three-year certificate as a part of your application (National requirement for medal).

·Program leader for youth protection- is Doug Evans. State Records should be sent to him (douglasjamesevans@gmail.com) and he'll provide them to the Recording Secretary for retention. That is, Doug is the guy who is going to ask you for your form. But he won't be keeping the copy.

·We're looking at adding YPT completion reporting to your quarterly BOG reports

We had our first Education Programs zoom meeting and about the time of the publishing of the magazine we will have completed our second one (scheduled for May 1 and none in June). Please join the Facebook group page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/307463922049804>) for meeting updates.

For our first meeting:

·Met each other- reaching out to include others.

- Identification that private and homeschool kids are probably the easiest to reach.
- Talked about patriot chests (see the link <https://www.sar.org/patriot-chest-resources-for-members/>).
- I posted some references on how to identify the homeschools/ private schools in your area.
- “Get to know your teachers”- a challenge for each chapter to find and get to know one teacher – in their area of responsibility.
- Sharing lessons from those who have been doing the mission for a while.

6. Lafayette in Tennessee- 200th anniversary

·Doug Evans is also serving on the committee for the commemoration of Lafayette’s visit to TN. The committee is led by Gail Longton, DAR and is planning TN events for May 2025.

7. Milestones for the youth programs- school year 2024-2025

·State Youth Education committee chairs are providing the milestone dates for their programs to the President (Joel) so we can put out an overall schedule to communicate the dates/ support needed to and from the TNSSAR.

8. Here’s a picture of Rick in his education outreach role - way out in Western TN!



You can reach Doug at
[**douglasjamesevans@gmail.com**](mailto:douglasjamesevans@gmail.com) or
(815)202-5799



Let's teach our children to marvel at who the *real* hero's are!



Fellow Compatriots,

I recently spoke with Keith Weissinger of the Washington State Society (WASSAR) about how youth video contest programs are taking shape. As the WASSAR youth video contest committee chairperson for this new contest, Keith is working to finalize the program materials and contest details with the President General and the Excom, with the goal of creating a national program similar to the *Knight Essay Contest* and the *Rumbaugh Oration Contest*. In the meantime, for us here in Tennessee, we will be moving forward with a youth video contest program that is being designed in accord with the now-developing national program; we will accomplish this task by working closely with other state societies as their programs come online. I strongly encourage you to view WASSAR's video contest webpage by clicking [here](#).

Our contest is being designed to be rolled out over the next two school years. Over the coming summer months, I will be working with the Education Committee to establish a network of Chapter Liaisons from each of our State Society's chapters. My immediate task is to launch a *TNSSAR Youth Video Contest* on September 1st, with our students' 3-5 minute video submissions due by the first week of January, 2025. This first-year pilot program will be held at the statewide level only, with our *TNSSAR Youth Video Contest* committee judging the top three entries - with a suggested prize of \$100/50/25 respectively. I'd like to work with the BoG to establish a larger monetary award if possible. (*For context, the WASSAR is currently offering a \$1000/500/250 award spread for their contest finalists.*) Our overall statewide winner can then be sent to the NSSAR for judging in the national contest in February. **In order to launch our pilot program in a timely manner, we will need to coordinate our work diligently throughout the coming summer months.**

By the following school year of 2025/26, my goal is to have active Chapter Liaisons in all of our TNSSAR chapters, and for each Chapter to host their own regional contest, each with their own \$100/50/25 prizes to be awarded. The Chapters' first place winners would then be judged at the TNSSAR statewide level, with the top overall winning submission being awarded a further prize and being entered in the now-developing national contest as our representative.

This is an all-around brand new program - we are all going to need to work together to bring this exciting new program to life for students across the entire state! I have set up a temporary [website](#) where you can learn more and stay on top of developments as they occur, view preliminary program documents, and even watch a brief trailer [video](#) my son and I put together to help kick off this program. Over the coming summer months, you'll hear more from me about how this video contest will help us reach kids where they are - **online**. Kids are fluent in video, as they have lived their entire lives within reach of social media and with powerful digital tools in their hands. I'm looking forward to seeing what stories they can share about the founding of our country!

Thank you,

Scott Selliers, Chairman
TNSSAR Youth Video Contest
stonybrooktn@gmail.com

281-221-2197



Show your support

for the 2027 SAR Annual Congress, hosted by the Southern District with your purchase of either the Oliver Pollock pin (\$25) or the official 2027 Congress medal (\$45)



You may also purchase a Benefactor bar (\$955) to be added to your Southern District Congress Medal.
\$1,000 for Medal with Bar.



Please add \$5 for postage & handling

Checks made to Southern District SAR and mailed to

Tony L. Vets
504 Oak St.
Colfax, LA 71417

One Way to Get Your TNSSAR Chapter to Speak at a Public School

President George Washington gave our nation the following objective:

“A primary object should be the education of our youth in the science of government...And what duty is more pressing than communicating it to those who are to be the future guardians of the liberties of the country?”

*President George Washington December 7, 1796
Eight Annual Message to Congress*

To comply with President Washington’s directive, three Revolutionary War societies added the following text to their mission statements:

- **Sons of the American Revolution:** “...teaching American history to future generations”.
- **Daughters of the American Revolution:** “...securing America's future through better education for children”.
- **Society of the Cincinnati:** “...supporting educators with enrichment opportunities”

While there are many ways to teach and educate, everyone would probably agree that the most direct and effective means of educational outreach for the SAR would be by speaking in front of students. A few TNSSAR Chapters have been able to do that, but how does anyone do it, especially in a public school? The following is an example of how the Isaac Shelby SAR Chapter in Memphis was able to pull it off.



It all started with the TNSSAR Flags for Freedom program. One public school gratefully accepted some flags for their elementary school. The Chapter made the flag presentation to an elementary school teacher and her principal and sent a photo and description of the program to a local newspaper. Setting up the presentation allowed the Chapter to obtain their email addresses which allowed not only for a follow-up promotion of the TNSSAR poster contest, but also provided a means to ask several times if they would like a presentation to a class, grade, or school?

What many of the readers of this TNSSAR Newsletter may not know is that the US Congress passed a 2004 Federal law signed by President George W. Bush that says any public school receiving federal funds is to “*hold an educational program on the United States Constitution on September 17*”. Offering any school an easy way to comply with this federal law is one way to get their attention. Sure enough, with less than a 1 day notice, the Isaac Shelby Chapter received a request to make a 30 minute presentation to 165 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders at a public school. As seen in the photos, all the students seemed attentive and each had a chance to meet George Washington afterwards. At the end of the presentation the Chapter left some American Revolutionary War children’s books for the school library. Once in, the hope is for another invitation next year. Plus if any of the multiple elementary school teachers move to other schools they will know who to call on next September 17th.

While finding a way to get your SAR Chapter to make a presentation in a public school may seem challenging at times, don’t give up. It is possible and can be a great experience for the children and a rewarding one for the Chapter, as well as allow a means to fulfill an annual federal law requirement.

Submitted by Rick Treharne, Chapter President, Isaac Shelby Chapter, TNSSAR

PATRIOTS DAY 2024



The Col. Benjamin Cleveland Chapter hosted a Patriots Day Wreath Ceremony. Members of TNSSAR Region 3, community and family guests participated.



Valentine Sevier Chapter members, Dewey Browder, Rick Longton & Robert Nichols (from left) at the Patriots Day Grave Marking Veterans Cemetery West, in KY on April 20, 2024

"heroes have made poets, and poets heroes."

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO LAFAYETTE | WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 1788



TNSSAR Color Guard Members at the State Capitol for Patriots Day Presentation

Pictured, from left: Cliff Kent, TNSSAR Color Guard Commander, Paul Bobenhausen, Scott Pryor, Douglas Dickerson, W. Fred Rand, Joel Davenport, Stew Roberson & David Treadway



Members of the TNSSAR Color Guard presented the Colors at the opening of the April 18, 2024, State Senate Session as part of the Patriots Day Commemoration. They are not in session on Fridays, thus we commemorated the day on that Thursday morning. Lt. Governor Randy McNally presided,



After presenting the colors, TNSSAR 2024-2025 President Joel Davenport was recognized and welcomed to the Podium ("The Well") to give a Patriots Day Address, which included the historical significance of the day being the day the "shot was heard around the world," beginning eight long years of war before the new nation was born.



Flag & Flag Retirement Committee

The Flag & Flag Retirement Committee's goals remain very fluid. The State Color Guard Commander and the Regional Commanders have agreed to serve on the committee. Based on feedback from the Commanders, We tentatively have the following goals for the year and welcome further input and improvement on these statewide goals:



100+ Flag Certificates

400+ Flags Distributed

25+ Attend and Contribute to Flag Retirement Ceremonies

15+ Flags Presented to Gold Star Families

25+ Classroom, Scouting, etc. Flag Education Sessions

While these goals may be aggressive, we strive to achieve them and even more.

Proud to report that we continue to support our National Color Guard, My wife, Colonel Jackie Deeann Young, is an active member of our National, State, and Chapter Color Guard, as well as the DAR Liaison for our Chapter.

*Col. Marl Young, Sr., Chairman
(804)536-2026
markeyoungsr@aol.com*



SAR Marker Dedication at the Hermitage

March 3, 2024



SAR Stones River Chapter Color Guard & National SAR President

Left to Right: Col. Jackie DeeAnn Young (DAR Col. Hardy Murfree Chapter), President General John Dodd, Scott Selliers, 1st VP Robert Bolyard, 2nd VP & Geneologist Col. Mark E. Young, Sr.

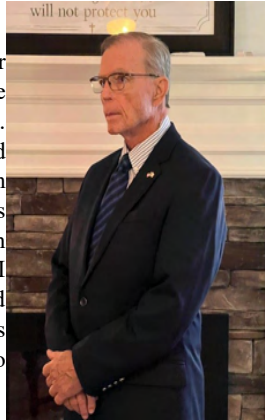
At our 2024 Annual Meeting/BoG, the NSSAR made request for us to help with the cost of the plaque honoring Andrew Jackson that was installed in this ceremony. We passed the hat and collected almost \$1,500 in a few hours, then the George Washington Endowment Fund approved our request for matching funds, enabling the TNSSAR to pay over \$3,000 towards the today cost of this monument

ELEMENTARY POSTER CONTEST

Greetings fellow Compatriots,

My name is Wayne Patton, and I have the honor of being your **Elementary Poster Contest Chairman** for this coming school year. I am a member of the Stones River SAR chapter in Murfreesboro. I am excited to have this opportunity to be involved with the Poster Contest and to be working with each Chapter throughout the state.

I was a public-school educator for thirty-nine years in the Anderson County School District. During my career I served fourteen years as a Speech Therapist and twenty-five years as an Elementary Principal. I am married and my wife Sandra and I have three daughters. We moved back home to Lebanon nine years ago and enjoy being close to family.



This year the Elementary Poster Contest theme will be about a "Revolutionary War Person". This contest is open to all students in the third, fourth, and fifth grades. This includes all Public and Private Schools and encourage students who are enrolled in parochial, home schools, scouting or Children of the American Revolution. Any student that is in the same age range is eligible to participate and encouraged to do so. All posters are to be submitted to their local SAR chapter for competition at the local level.

Each Chapter is to select the winner on the date determined at that level. The contest will start on August 1, 2024. The winning poster from each chapter shall be selected no later than December 9, 2024. More information will be sent out to each chapter closer to the start of the competition.

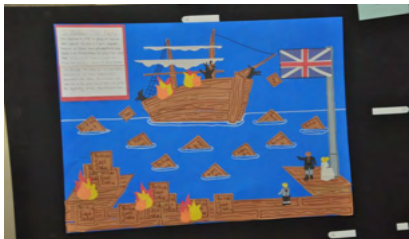
This is a great opportunity to help generate some excitement and interest in the students about our American Revolution. Thank you in advance for your involvement in this worthy project.

I look forward to working with you!

Wayne Patton, Chairman, Chairman

(615) 543-0061

waynepatton@charter.net



Veteran's Committee

I want to express my sincere gratitude to the following chapters for submitting the 2024 USS Starks Award forms: Andrew Jackson, Anthony Bledsoe, Benjamin Cleveland, Christopher Strong, Isaac Shelby, James Madison, John Seiver, Joseph Greer, LT Andrew Crockett, Stones River, Thomas Kilgore, and Watauga. Your collective effort has helped us achieve an outstanding total of 130,295 points in support of our veterans.

With your approval, let us set a goal of 90%-chapter USS Stark award submissions for 2025. We can work together to make this happen and continue to support our veterans.

Here are suggested activities to earn USS Starks Award points:

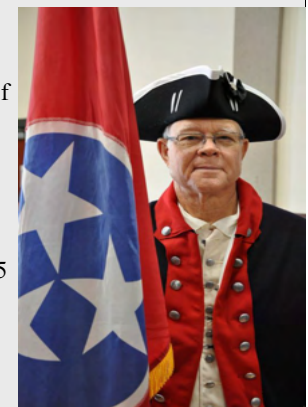
- Volunteer at the VA by doing tasks such as serving on the beverage cart, driving carts in the parking lot, and pushing book carts.
- Visit a Veteran in the VA, Nursing Home, or Veteran's home.
- Take a Veteran on an outing, such as to a meal, ballgame, concert, or other activity.
- Donate personal care items, non-perishable food, games, or other items to the VA, Veterans Nursing Home, or other organizations that support only Veterans.
- Donate money to the VA, Veterans Nursing Home, or other organizations that support only Veterans.
- Donate publications, clothing, furniture, appliances, or electronics to the VA, Veterans Nursing Home, or other organizations that support only Veterans.
- Attend a historical or patriotic event with a Veteran or in support of a Veteran Services Organization.
- Decorate a Veteran's grave with a flag or wreath.
- Buy a wreath from Wreaths Across America.
- Attend or participate in a Veteran's funeral.

Please inform your chapter's Veterans Committee Chairman or Chapter President before participating in any of these activities so that the Chapter Stark report can be updated accordingly. Better yet, maintain your tracking sheet and consolidate your chapter's effort in December. The deadline for submission is February 15 to national and January 15 for TNSSAR.

Remember, our veterans need and deserve your support.

Larry Newsome, Chairman

(731) 420-9632



newsomelw@gmail.com

TNSSAR Region 4 News

Greeting Compatriots! I am thrilled to be able, as the recently appointed Region 4 Director, to tell you what is happening in our region (which is truly in the heart of Tennessee, located a little left center of the State).

I was approved for membership in the SAR in February 2019. From the first, I embraced the clear mission direction of our Society, which was so inspirational.

In 2019, the homepage of the TNSSAR defined our State's mission with the following: "The objects of this Society are declared to be patriotic, historical, and educational; to unite and **promote fellowship among the descendants** of those who sacrificed to achieve the independence of the American people, **to inspire them** and the community-at-large with a more profound reverence for the principles of the government founded by our forefathers; **to foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom.**" These tenets have always been what has driven me, as a new member, then as a chapter secretary, eventually as chapter president, and now as regional director.

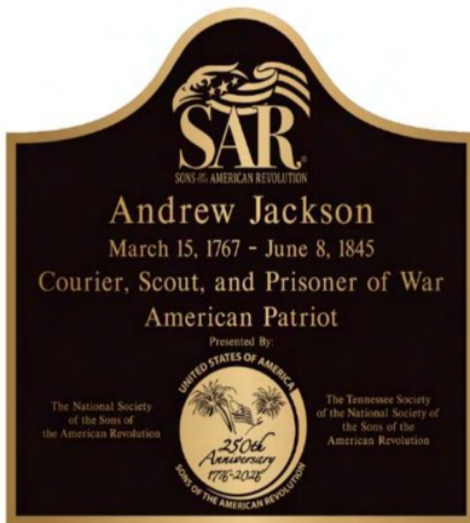


I am so blessed to be able to work with four strong chapter presidents in Region 4. Each one, John Walker, Rick Laws, Klaus Lochman, and Rob Clifton are leading their chapters with vision and purpose. Also, I'm thrilled to witness and supporting the emergence of a new chapter in Wilson County. How exciting!

It is a joy and honor to support these wonderful leaders in achieving their goals and advancing the impact of their chapter in the communities they serve.

Doug Dickerson, Region 4 Director

(615)486-8491 or dedickerson5@outlook.com



(Nashville, TN) – On Sunday, March 3, 2024, at approx. 12:00 PM CST, the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (NSSAR) plans to unveil a plaque at Andrew Jackson's Hermitage in Nashville, TN. The plaque will honor President Jackson's Revolutionary War service in celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the founding of the United States of America. A group of SAR members and Color Guardsmen will travel to the Hermitage for the unveiling. There will be short remarks and a musket salute by members of the SAR Color Guard. All SAR members, the general public and local media are invited to attend. SAR President General, John Dodd commented, "We are pleased to partner with the Hermitage for this event." Dodd added, "Although President Jackson's service in the War of 1812 is well-known, many Americans do not know of his heroism as a young man in the Revolution. The SAR continues to work to raise awareness of the sacrifices of all our Patriot Ancestors whose efforts led to the founding of our great Nation." For more information about the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, including becoming a member and other 250th Anniversary celebrations, visit www.SAR.org. To learn more about Andrew Jackson's Hermitage, visit www.thehermitage.com.

At our 2024 Annual Meeting/BoG, the NSSAR made request for us to help with the cost of the plaque honoring Andrew Jackson that was installed in this ceremony. We passed the hat and collected almost \$1,500 in a few hours, then the George Washington Endowment Fund approved our request for matching funds, enabling the TNSSAR to pay over \$3,000 towards the today cost of this monument!

Thank you, Compatriots for showing up once again! You make me proud! - J. D.



The Lt. William P. Quarles Chapter installs new officers at 2024 George Washington Banquet



Newly installed Chapter Officers are, from left, Registrar William Arrant (seated), Chaplain Tommy Phillips, Genealogist Paul Methany, Treasurer Larry Poole, Secretary Steve Quarles, Vice President Scott Selliers and Chapter President Mark Compton

Several members presented service awards at historic occasion.



John Sevier Chapter Continues Legacy of Honor to George Washington



Members of the TNSSAR Color Guard from several chapters posted Colors for the event and earned National points



State Representative Greg Martin gave a presentation on Alexander Hamilton



Over sixty members and guests enjoyed the banquet



John Sevier President Cliff Kent presents Representative Greg Martin a Certificate of Appreciation for his presentation. In April 2024 Greg Martin became a member of the SAR.



TNSSAR President presented several awards, including a Patriot Grave Marking Medal to Paul Bobenhausen

Stephen Holston Chapter Celebrates George Washington's Birthday



The annual George Washington Birthday Luncheon was held on February 17, 2024, at the Alcoa/Knoxville McGee Tyson Airport Hilton. Over 50 members and guests of the Stephen Holston Chapter enjoyed excellent food, fellowship and a riveting presentation on "The Death of George Washington: Medicine in Colonial Times," by TNSSAR 2023-2024 President Dr. David Chaffin.



Pictured, from left, Dr. David Chaffin, Rebecca Chaffin, Tyler Bobenhausen, TNSSAR Membership Secretary Paul Bobenhausen, TNSSAR Graves & Landmarks Chairman Scott Pryor, Eldon Mitchell and wife



Pictured from left, Travis & Sherri Baffa, Michael Mann, Rob Dillon and Julius Hite

Celebrating George Washington

On Friday night February 23, 2024, the **Isaac Shelby Chapter** in Memphis held its annual George Washington Celebration Dinner. A record crowd of 68 people were in attendance. This year's event was about George Washington from beginning to end. It opened with the prayer George Washington wrote in 1783, as read by the Chapter Chaplain, Russ White.

The dinner ended with a George Washington birthday cake, which because of Fire Marshall regulations, was without 293 candles. Each piece of the cake served had red, white, and blue ice cream on top.

After dinner the participants heard a George Washington impersonation by Geoff Baggett of Cadiz, Kentucky, (<https://cockedhat.wordpress.com/>) who told the story about and performed a reading of Washington's famous Newburgh Address. The title of his talk was "The Speech that Saved a Nation".

Since the Chapter By-Laws specify that the 2024 officers of the Chapter be inducted at the annual George Washington February Celebration, the past TNSSAR President Mark Norris (2020-2021) then inducted the new Chapter officers.

The meeting ended with Chaplain White quoting from George Washington's 1796 farewell address where President Washington stated that morality "*cannot be maintained without religion.*"

The Isaac Shelby Chapter SAR believes General Washington himself would consider the evening to have been an excellent tribute to him.

TNSSAR Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest

The Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest is open to all students attending 9th through 12th grades in public, parochial or private schools; or home-school students studying at the same grade levels. The preliminary rounds of the contest begin at the local chapter level; students have the opportunity to advance to the state or national levels where scholarships and cash prizes are awarded.

The student researches and writes an original speech on an event, person or action of the American Revolution. Then the student memorizes the speech, delivers as an oration without notes. Length of the oration is a minimum of 5 and/or a maximum of 6 minutes. A standard score sheet is used for judging the oration.

Local chapters conduct an oration contest and submit their winner to the TNSSAR Rumbaugh Oration chairman by January 31st of the contest year. The TNSSAR chairman determines which chapter entries meet all requirements of the contest and schedules a contest during the TNSSAR state conference. A TNSSAR contest determines the state winner. Winner of the TNSSAR contest receives \$2,000.00 and the honor of being entered in the national contest.

Currently each state enters their winner using a video submission. The NSSAR committee selects the top 6 state entries by judging the videos. These 6 state winners are then invited to the NSSAR National Congress. The oration entries are then judged in a national contest and a winner is selected. The declared winner then delivers his/her oration at the Student Awards Luncheon at Congress. The National First Place Winner receives \$8,000; the 2nd Place Runner-up receives \$5,000; and the 3rd Place Runner-up receives \$3,000 cash prize. Each also receives an Olympic-sized medal. The three non-placing finalists are each awarded \$500 cash. All other non-finalist national contestants are awarded \$200 cash.

The TNSSAR reimburses each oration student and a family member the cost of travel to the state conference. If selected as a finalist in the NSSAR contest, the student and a family member will be reimbursed travel expenses to the national congress.

Charles N. Dammann, Chairman





Welcome to the TNSSAR Color Guard's Update for 1st Quarter (JAN, FEB and MAR) CY 2024.

Compatriots,

Everyone is encouraged to join the Society's color guard or participate with us in known events and ceremonies. The America 250th series of celebrations is a terrific time to research, study and learn more of how your

Patriot Ancestor(s) served and supported the revolution. Developing a personal period uniform/clothing kit to represent how your ancestor(s) may have turned out for a period is an excellent way to honor them. Consider honoring your ancestor(s) and provide your chapter with a unique asset to raise awareness of the 250th celebrations in your community by being a color guard member.

[You can find Color Guard events & ceremony information at our website's calendar.](#)

TNSSAR's Color Guard page: <https://www.tnssar.org/color-guard.html>

Scroll down the page till you find the calendar. You have three ways to view the calendar which can be accessed in the right part of the tool bar. The calendar is searchable in the search window of the left side of the tool bar. You can also sort the calendar by a tag on an event. Example...if you wanted to see all Region 1 events on the calendar click on a Region 1 tag in an event. Anyone can submit an event, but you may need to coordinate with your Regional Color Guard commander for a code. Everyone can RSVP for a planned event. if you RSVP you will get automatic updates to the event as well as be able to download the documents linked to the event. You can also subscribe to the calendar. Here is some basic info for a subscription: How to subscribe to the TNSSAR Color Guard and Events Calendar, to have it automatically populate your desktop calendar or other calendar service. Subscribe to the calendar or with one of the web calendars Google, Outlook, Yahoo, Other. You can subscribe to this calendar with Google calendar as follows:

Open Google calendar in a browser

Click the + symbol next to Other calendars

Select From URL from the menu that appears and enter this URL: <webcal://tockify.com/api/feeds/ics/colors>

Warning! Do not press import by mistake - that will irreversibly copy the events into one of your existing calendars instead

Google Calendar will guide you through the rest

The members of the Tennessee state color guard supported events across the state during the first quarter of 2024 ranging from a new state level educational essay competition, the State Society's JAN meeting, George Washington celebrations including support to a large DAR Washington celebration, NSSAR & TNSSAR Jackson Family marker dedication ceremony, the Southern District's Annual meeting hosted during our state society's annual meeting and most recently a combined event with local DARs honoring our Vietnam Veterans.



Members of the TNSSAR Color Guard Stones River Chapter supported the Tennessee Association of Fair's annual opening ceremony on 20 JAN 24 in Murfreesboro. The chapter also represented the state society in presentation of the History Essay winner's check for \$500 to Miss Sophie Skaggs (center with parents). TNSSAR partnered with the State Fairs Commission to sponsor a 5th Grade History Essay during the state wide fair season for Tennessee. Color Guard & TNSSAR members left to right include: Doug Dickerson, Robert Bolyard, James Sandman and Rob Clifton.



TNSSAR Color Guard members supported the NSDAR George Washington Celebration on 17 FEB 24 at the Hillwood Country Club, in Nashville. The color guard presented the colors in support of the luncheon which had over two hundred DAR members and guest in attendance.

Color Guard Compatriots from left to right included: Steve Millhollin (Lt. Andrew Crockett), Joey Coker (Andrew Jackson), Sanford Payton (Andrew Jackson), Robert Bolyard (Stones River), Tom Powell (Issac

Shelby), Doug Evans (Thomas Killgore), John Clark (Anthony Bledsoe) and Fred Rand (Andrew Jackson).

TNSSAR's Color Guard page: <https://www.tnssar.org/color-guard.html>

The following information was suggested to be added to the newsletter as a guide for how to use the Tockify calendar (available online). The importance of much of this was evident last weekend when, due to thunderstorms and heavy rain, the Saturday event was postponed 4 hours before the event. Had everyone RSVP'd through the calendar, they would have been notified of the change to the calendar.

TNSSAR's Color Guard page: <https://www.tnssar.org/color-guard.html>

How to subscribe to the TNSSAR Color Guard and Events Calendar, to have it automatically populate your desktop calendar or other calendar service.

Subscribe to this calendar or with one of the web calendars below

Google
Outlook
Yahoo
Other

You can subscribe to this calendar with Google calendar as follows:


Open Google calendar in a browser
Click the + symbol next to Other calendars
Select From URL from the menu that appears and enter this URL: webcal://tockify.com/api/feeds/ics/colors
Warning! Don't press import by mistake - that will irreversibly copy the events into one of your existing calendars instead
Google Calendar will guide you through the rest


TNSSAR's Color Guard page: <https://www.tnssar.org/color-guard.html>


From <http://tockify.com/over>


subscribe to this calendar

Subscribe with your default calendar or with one of the web calendars below


Google


Outlook


Yahoo


Other

You can subscribe to this calendar with Google calendar as follows:

1. Open Google calendar in a browser
2. Click the + symbol next to **Other calendars**
3. Select **From URL** from the menu that appears and enter this URL: webcal://tockify.com/api/feeds/ics/colors
Warning! Don't press *import* by mistake - that will irreversibly copy the events into one of your existing calendars instead
4. Google Calendar will guide you through the rest

Thank you to Rick Laws for suggesting this insert to the newsletter!

TNSSAR Color Guard Upcoming Events

The Color Guard Commander has posted this schedule for the Color Guard Members, at the following link: <https://www.tnssar.org/color-guard.html>

Please consult the TNSSAR website page for more details and to RSVP for events you plan to attend. *More events will be added as plans are finalized.*

TNSSAR Board of Governors 2024-2025 Meeting Schedule

06/22/24	Board of Governors	Baker's Creek Presbyterian Church 5501 Nine Mile Rd, Maryville, TN 37801	08:30 EST
10/19/24	Board of Governors	Masonic Center of Chattanooga Address: 551 W 21st St, Chattanooga, TN 37408	09:00 EST
01/28/24	Board of Governors	VFW Post 6496, 285 Airways Boulevard, Jackson, TN	09:00 CST
03/21/25	Annual Meeting/Conference	TBD Lebanon, TN (?)	09:00 CST

Bicentennial of the Marquis de' LaFayette's Tour of America



August 16, 2024 will see the kick off this monumental Bicentennial celebration. The hundreds of events planned will trace Lafayette's footsteps on the exact dates and in the exact order he followed on his tour of America as the "Guest of the Nation" between 1824 and 1825. There are events being planned on the bicentennial of the following dates of events in Tennessee:

May 3, 1825 — Nashville, TN

May 4, 1825 — Nashville, TN

May 5, 1825 — Nashville, TN

May 6, 1825 — Clarksville, TN

For further information please contact Doug Evans, our TNSSAR Ambassador to the Friends of LaFayette, at

douglasjamesevans@gmail.com or (815)202-5799



Welcome to celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution and its People!

And the

America 250th TNSSAR Committee!

Our mission statement: The Tennessee Society Sons of the American Revolution (TNSSAR) in coordination with the TN 250 commission and NSSAR 250th committee conducts planning to celebrate America’s 250th anniversary (now till 2033), encourages community Patriotic and Historical involvement, develops educational outreach programs to raise awareness, of the events and people of the United States during the 250th anniversary of the country’s founding. Additionally, to recognize and emphasize Tennessee's integral role in these events and the impact of its people on the nation's past, present, and future.

You can find America 250th information and updates at our and the National website.

TNSSAR page is at: <https://www.tnssar.org/america-250th-events.html>

National page: <https://america250sar.org/>

2024 is 1774 on the celebration calendar. 250th Anniversary Events from the National Master events list for 1774 include (there are still “Tea Parties” happening across the colonies):

Mar-Jun 1774	The Intolerable Acts	North America Wide
March 18 1774	British Occupy Boston	Boston, MA
September 1, 1774	The Powder Alarm	Somerville, MA
September 5, 1774	First Continental Congress Convened	Philadelphia, PA
September 9, 1774	The Suffolk Resolves	Dedham, MA
October 4-6, 1774	Battle of Point Pleasant (Lord Dunmore’s War)	Point Pleasant, WV

Lord Dunmore's War—or Dunmore's War—was a 1774 conflict between the Colony of Virginia and the Shawnee and Mingo American Indian nations. Veterans of the conflict that became Patriots are recognized as such by the SAR.

Tea Parties of 1774 not on the SAR Master list include:

04.18.24 New York Tea Party <https://www.frauncestavernmuseum.org/the-new-york-tea-party>

Tea Parties of 1774 not on the SAR Master list include (continued):

Check out the annual celebration in Chestertown, Maryland

05.23.24 Chestertown, MD Tea Party <https://www.chestertownteaparty.org/>

09.28.24 York Maine Tea Party

<https://www.seacoastonline.com/story/news/local/york-star/2010/11/11/york-maine-tea-party-1774/51382851007/>

10.19.24 Annapolis Tea Party

<https://boundarystones.weta.org/2012/12/16/annapolis-tea-party-1774>

10.25.24 Edenton NC Ladies Tea Party

<https://northcarolinahistory.org/encyclopedia/edenton-tea-party/>

12.22.24 Greenwich NJ Tea Party

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greenwich_Tea_Party

Other key events of the period:

5.20.24 Administration of Justice Act passed by Parliament 1774

6.1.24 Boston Port Blockade effective 1774

6.2.24 Quartering Act of 1774

6.22.24 The Quebec Act of 1774

7.18.24 Fairfax Resolves Adopted 1774

12.8.24 Fort George Cannons ordered removed 1774

12.14-15.24 Capture of Fort William and Mary NH 1774



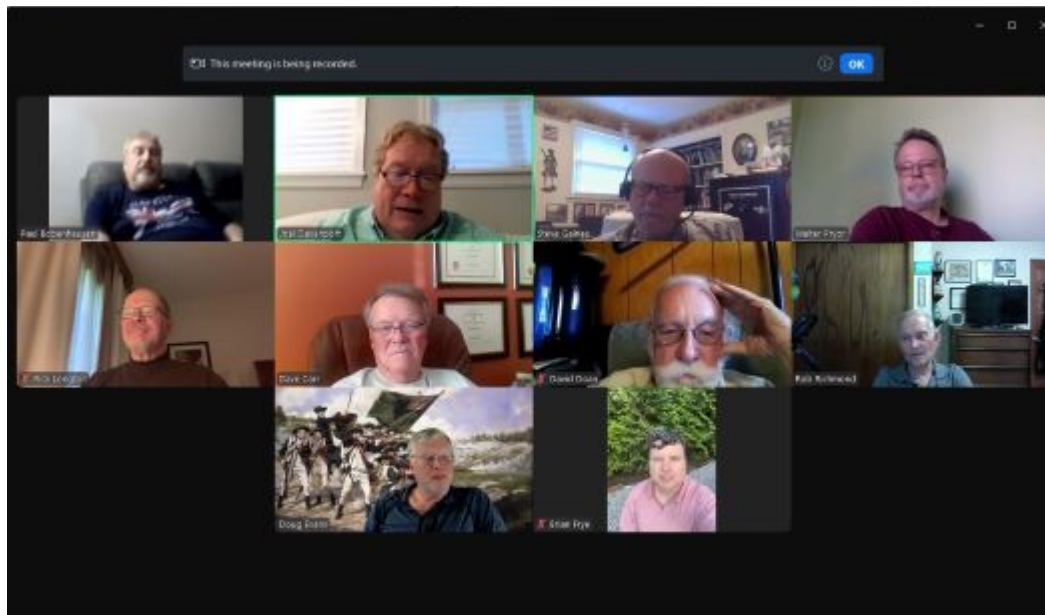
Any of the above noted events of 1774 or the Patriots involved can be used as a chapter hosted event for almost any SAR program.

Quick guide to hosting an event: Select your event of person for the “Tie Back” to 1774 (or other years/people). Publish a pre-event press release if possible. Develop your program’s agenda or flyer using the SAR America 250th logo. Have the celebration flag present for the event either as part of the color guard or pre-posted, but on display. Have the event. Publish a post event press release. Record who attended and have a “goal keeper” update the attendee participation forms for SAR awards. See our webpage for the form. Remember points layer so if I attended in uniform/period cloths and had some kind of role I would earn 3+5+10 or 18 for the event as an example.





TNSSAR Color Guard Commander Cliff Kent (left) pictures with John Sevier Color Guard Members Scott Pryor, Tennessee State Representative Greg Vital, Joel Davenport and Paul Bobenhausen, white at the Capitol for Patriots Day on April 18, 2024. Our hope is to be invited to serve in a similar fashion later this year by the State Representatives.



On May 10, 2024, at 7 p.m. (EST), the **TNSSAR Color Guard Training, Safety & Insurance Oversight Committee** held its first meeting. Committee Members are: Paul Bobenhausen, Steve Gaines, Scott Pryor, Rick Longton, David Carr, David Doan, Rob Richmond, Doug Evans and Bryan Frye. The meeting was begun with President Joel Davenport, who formed the Standing Committee, presiding over the selection by the members of David Doan as the Chairman and Doug Evans as the Secretary. President Davenport then turned the meeting over to the committee and they began working on establishing policy and procedure for our state Color Guard.

Lt. Andrew Crockett Chapter

Our chapter was named after Lt. Andrew Crockett, who served in the Virginia Militia during the American Revolution and was a renowned master gunsmith. He made "Long Rifles" which his cousins and neighbors used with deadly accuracy at King's Mountain, New Orleans, and the Alamo. He was awarded several significant land grants in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Louisiana. Andrew and his brother, James were among the first settlers who chose their land in what is now Brentwood, Tennessee.

The Lt. Andrew Crockett Chapter was established in 2001 and remains as the second largest chapter in the Tennessee Society with more than 160 members. Our compatriot membership is composed primarily from the Williamson & Davidson counties in Middle Tennessee.

We meet nine (9) times each year, not meeting officially in the summer months of June, July & August. The normal meeting place is the Williamson County Public Library near downtown Franklin and our normal meeting day is usually on the 3rd Sunday at 2:00 pm. Our average attendance at our monthly meetings is about 45 attendees and we welcome attendance by visitors and members of both DAR & CAR. In addition to our regular business meeting, we also have a 25th meeting at the beginning part of the chapter meetings, which includes a 250th presentation by our Chapter Historian or his designee.

Our chapter prides itself on many relationships in the community, which include:

- A close working relationship with the Old Glory DAR chapter, also based in Franklin and two local CAR chapters.
- Our chapter has been fortunate to have David Eagan, Past Chapter and Past TNSSAR President, which is of great benefit to our operation.
- Blake Brock, also a Past Chapter President, is our Chapter Registrar and performs in an outstanding manner to assist new applicants and also current compatriots in pursuit of Supplemental Applications.
- We are fortunate to have excellent historical resources available at the Special Collections Department of the Williamson County Public Library, Williamson County Archives, and the Tennessee State Library & Archives in Nashville.
- Our chapter is based in Franklin, which assists in the recruitment of new members of all ages. We are seeing an increase in the number of younger applicants, which is encouraging to the on-going status of the chapter.
- Excellent relationships with Law Enforcement entities (Police & Sheriff) and EMS.
- Working relationship with the Williamson Herald newspaper, based in Franklin, which provides our chapter with publicity for our events and public service.

Many of the activities in which we are involved include, but are not limited to are:

1. **Annual George S. and Stella K. Knight Essay contest**, awarded to an outstanding high school student writing an essay.
2. **Certificates of Appreciation:** Our chapter presents Certificates of Appreciation on a regular basis to speakers at our chapter meetings to honor them for taking their time to attend and present topics of interest to our membership.

Also, we have made it a practice to also honor others who assist our chapter, such as local genealogists, who have assisted in the application process for our compatriots.

3. **Color Guard:** Our Color Guard is represented at our chapter meetings to present the colors. Additionally, the chapter Color Guard regularly participates in TNSSAR events such as grave markings, dedications, holiday celebrations, and parades.
4. **Eagle Scouts:** Our chapter works closely with a local Scout Troop to honor outstanding Eagle Scouts with a certificate and medal for their Good Citizenship to the community.
5. **Flag Day:** Our chapter provides compatriots to assist in the marking of veterans graves on Flag Day in Nashville each year.
6. **Flag Committee:** We honor local residents and business who proudly display the American flag with a Certificate, which has been well received, for their patriotism.
7. **JROTC:** We are actively involved with four local high schools of which we annually honor an outstanding JROTC Cadet Award.
8. **Grave Markings:** Our chapter is active in participation of grave markings for other TN chapters, and we strive to honor at least two (2) patriots in our chapter service area by a grave marking ceremony each year.
9. **Grave Marking Certificate:** Our chapter assists compatriots who desire to pursue the Grave Marking Certificate, representative of their activity at Grave Marking Ceremonies both locally and across the State of Tennessee.
10. **Naturalization Ceremony's** (Swearing in of New Citizens): Compatriots attend these ceremonies which are held in Nashville on three days each month. Our goal is to show the new citizens that we welcome them on their new citizenship and extend a hand of friendship.

11. **Parades:** Our chapter members, including our Color Guard, regularly participate in local parades such as on Veteran's Day in November each year.
12. **Public Service Awards:** This is one of our signature events each year, held in the Spring. We honor about twelve (12) public servants from six (6) different departments (EMS, Fire, Police, and Sheriff) who have gone beyond the call of duty by providing them with awards for Life Saving events, Law Enforcement, and EMS. This event is very well received and appreciated by the awardees, as well as their department, family, and friends.
13. **Reading of the Declaration of Independence** is another one of our signature events, held at "Franklin on the Fourth" in downtown Franklin on July 4th. We conduct a reading of the Declaration, in which we divide up the Declaration of Independence into thirteen (13) sections, representative of the 13 original colonies at the time of independence. The readers include chapter compatriots, DAR representatives, and CAR representatives.
14. **Support of Veterans:** We participate in providing a committee representative to the local VA facilities to assist the VA in meeting the needs of veterans. Our members also regularly contribute items needed to the VA by bringing these contributions directly to our chapter meetings.
15. **Veterans Recognition:** We recognize compatriots by assisting them in submitting their Veterans Service Certificate. Also we regularly honor our chapter veteran members by awarding them the "Wounded Warrior Coin Certificate."
16. **Wreaths across America:** Our chapter continues to be a strong supporter of this national event, with increasing donations year over year. Also, our chapter members participate in the laying of the wreaths in December of each year.
17. **250th:** Our chapter promotes the SAR 250th Anniversary" initiative through regular presentations at our chapter meetings of important events in the American War of Independence. We also provide support to our chapter members wishing to pursue the 250th Bronze, Silver, or Gold Medal to recognize members for their level of support to the 250th Anniversary Celebration initiative of the TNSSAR and SAR.

Therefore, the Lt. Andrew Crockett chapter is a vital part of our community and is fundamentally involved in honoring the overall goal of the SAR in:

Remembering Our Past

Promoting Core Values, and

Shaping Young Minds.

John Walker, President, Andrew Crockett Chapter, TNSSAR



WANTED: VERY ALIVE AND ACTIVE!

TNSSAR ROTC/jROTC Committee Chairman

Individual will serve remainder of 2024-2025 cycle. The individual who volunteers for this position will be responsible for keeping all of the TNSSAR Chapters focused on the ROTC programs in their service area, Enhanced ROTC, etc., and informed of deadlines to order medals and certificates, rally their membership for volunteers to present those medals and awards during the ROTC season (typically Spring of each year). Quarterly reporting to the Board of Governors (form is online) regarding how things are going in the state. Each year by the end of May, the receipts/invoices for the medals and awards presented will need to be prepared and submitted for reimbursement to each chapter, so coordinating how to do that will be one of the goals.

If interested, please contact Joel Davenport, 2024-2025 President, TNSSAR at president@tnssar.org



Welcome to the **John Sevier Chapter** Update/Orientation

The John Sevier Chapter is the second oldest continuous serving chapter in the Tennessee State Society. Our chapter officers serve a two-year cycle.

On 16 OCT 24 of this year, we will celebrate our 99th Anniversary. We encourage all compatriots that can travel to the OCT BOG to join us post meeting to honor five early TNSSAR and Chapter members at a Compatriot Grave Marking Ceremony not far from our BOG meeting venue.

The chapter provides area support to Hamilton, Bledsoe, Marion, and Sequatchie Counties.

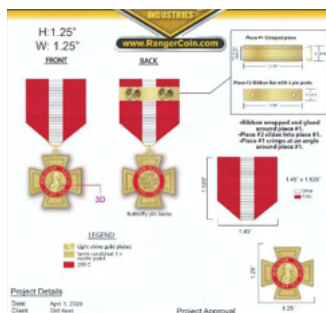
We meet quarterly in a dinner meeting setting where we induct new members, recognize our Compatriots for their service to the SAR and plan upcoming events. The quarterly meeting schedule usually does not change. Our first meeting annually is the first Thursday in February honoring George Washington, the third Thursday in May (to avoid conflict with Armed Forces Day celebrations in Chattanooga) honoring all Patriots, the first Thursday of August honoring John Sevier and the first Thursday of November honoring the Patriots of Kings Mountain.

The chapter host three special meetings during the year. You can join us for our Spring Social on 19 April (Lexington Alarm), SAR Orientation meeting on 17 June (Bunker Hill Day), and Fall Social on 07 October (Kings Mountain Day).

The board of directors usually meets once a month to review chapter events and address any unforeseen issues. These meetings are open to all members.

Our chapter calendar can be found at: <https://www.tnssar.org/john-sevier-chapter.html>

The John Sevier Chapter is a member of the Chattanooga Area Veterans Council, interacts with seven DAR chapters & one CAR chapter in our area of support, the local Veterans Clinic, Ten JROTC units, Sea Cadets, and Young Marines. We participate in all the educational outreach programs of the SAR when we are engaged by area students & scouts.



We are looking forward to our Chapter's centennial in 2025. The chapter plans to purchase 200 medal sets to celebrate our centennial (see to left). TNSSAR Compatriots who wish to be dual members of the John Sevier Chapter during 2025 and eligible for the medal set should join the chapter between 01 JAN 25 and 19 APR 25. Dual membership is \$10 to the John Sevier Chapter. The medal set is \$20. The extra medal sets above our membership roll will be held in reserve till 19 APR 25.

For more information on the chapter and our events contact the chapter at the website page noted above or Cliff Kent at dogwoodlodge@epbfi.com.

Welcome New TNSAER Compatriots!

Chapter	Date	NSSAR #	Compatriot Name
Col Anthony Bledsoe	01/12/2024	228921	Charles Herbert Patterson
Col Anthony Bledsoe	01/12/2024	228922	William Harold Patterson
Andrew Crockett	01/19/2024	228961	Richard Neely Britnell
Col Anthony Bledsoe	01/19/2024	228964	Bruce Alan Camp
Col Anthony Bledsoe	01/19/2024	228962	John Montgomery
Col Anthony Bledsoe	01/19/2024	228963	John Porter Hurt
Isaac Shelby	01/19/2024	228965	Ashton Lee Fitch
Stephen Holston	01/19/2024	228960	James Michael Milner
Valentine Sevier	01/26/2024	229027	Jon Todd Hannah
Andrew Jackson	02/09/2024	229170	Ronald Jeffrey Taylor
Col Anthony Bledsoe	02/09/2024	229169	James Jack Denton
Col Anthony Bledsoe	02/09/2024	229171	John Coy Isbell
Joseph Greer	02/09/2024	229172	Titus A. Lucius
Kings Mountain	02/16/2024	229254	James Wesley Langley
Andrew Crockett	02/23/2024	229313	Clark Allen Rose II
John Sevier	03/01/2024	229354	Jeffrey Glen Jones
State of Franklin	03/01/2024	229356	William Howard Lyons
Stephen Holston	03/01/2024	229355	Harold Alkire Mitchell Jr.
Lt W P Quarles	03/08/2024	229433	Christopher William Dodd
Lt W P Quarles	03/08/2024	229432	George William Dodd
Valentine Sevier	03/15/2024	229487	Wesley Kent Wood
Col. Benjamin Cleveland	03/22/2024	229542	Frank Victor Viola
Col. Benjamin Cleveland	03/22/2024	229543	Isaak Vitale Viola
Stephen Holston	03/22/2024	229545	Brogan Cruz Slaybaugh
Stephen Holston	03/22/2024	229544	Michael Dudley Slaybaugh
Col Anthony Bledsoe	04/05/2024	229679	George Frederick Schwarz
John Sevier	04/12/2024	229742	Billy Joe Burnette
Col. Benjamin Cleveland	04/26/2024	229865	Richard Gray Bassette
Isaac Shelby	04/26/2024	229864	Walker Edward Morris
Andrew Crockett	04/26/2024	229863	Edward Alan Crawford
Andrew Jackson	04/26/2024	229862	Andrew John Bussard
Andrew Jackson	04/26/2024	229861	Michael John Bussard
Lt. William P Quarles	04/26/2024	229860	Ryan Kevin Conley
John Sevier	04/26/2024	229859	John Gregory Martin
Stephen Holston	04/26/2024	229858	Lloyd J. Donnelly
John Sevier	04/26/2024	229857	Jayson Kyle Jones
Col. Hugh Brown	05/10/2024	230008	William Thedford Gunn
Christopher Strong	5/26/2023	226753	Justin Andrew Kleppe
Hiwassee	5/10/2024	230003	Walker Titus Combs
State of Franklin	5/10/2024	230002	John Gary Heatherly
Thomas Kilgore	5/10/2024	230006	David Hamilton Hostettler
John Sevier	5/10/2024	230007	Joseph Stephen Russell Cook
Stephen Holston	5/10/2024	230004	James R. Cabage
Stephen Holston	5/10/2024	230005	David L. Salter





Dear Compatriots,

Here's the announcement that went to the 65 fairs across the State of Tennessee for this year's essay contest. If there is a fair being held in your county, please reach out to them and encourage them to participate!

The Tennessee Association of Fairs and the Tennessee Society of the Sons of the American Revolution are sponsoring an America's 250th Anniversary Essay Contest for all 4th & 5th graders enrolled in public schools, private schools or those being home-schooled.

Each contestant must enter the contest through their local county fair. Judging will be conducted at each fair and a winner will be selected by the fair's appointed judges. At the fair's conclusion, each fair will submit the winning essay and contact information of the winner to the representative of the Tennessee Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, listed below. All entries must be received no later than November 15, 2024. A panel of judges from the SAR will determine the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place state-wide winners. The 1st place winner will be invited to attend the Tennessee Association of Fair's Annual Convention on Saturday, January 18, 2025, at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Murfreesboro, TN. At the convention, the winner will read his/her winning essay and be presented with a check for \$500.

The topic of this year's contest will be, The First Continental Congress: The impact on our nation's fight for freedom and the lasting effect it had on the British. Each essay is limited to no more than 500 words.

Awards: The winner of each county fair will receive an Award of Achievement from the SAR, and a Commemorative America 250th pin. The three (3) state finalists will receive the following: 1st Place: \$500, 2nd Place: \$300, and 3rd Place: \$200.

For more information, or questions, please contact:

Rob Clifton
President, Stones River Chapter
TN Society Sons of the American Revolution
(615) 867-1395
Rob_clifton@att.net



Compatriots We Have Lost



“The Missing Man Table”

All TNSSAR Chapters are encouraged to set up a “Missing Man” table for any compatriots who have departed this life since the last meeting was held.

We welcome submissions for articles related to our mission and members, as long as articles are less than 500 words. Articles submitted should be sent to president@tnssar.org and with the following: (1) A DOC or ODT format copy of the complete article (with photos attached individually to the same email), (2) A PDF of the article (PDF makes it possible for the article to be displayed how you want the article to be laid out, and, (3) with the understanding that the TNSSAR Newsletter Committee reserves the right to make edits and adjustments for output control and layout in the final release of that particular issue of the newsletter. Selection of articles is at our discretion and decisions are final. Individuals submitting articles should retain a copy of all attachments for their own records and use. Openoffice™ is a free software for creating DOC and ODT files and is available online as a free shareware download.

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