

The Musket Report

Newsletter of the Wiregrass Chapter, ALSSAR
Enterprise, AL

October, 2001

OCTOBER MEETING

The October Meeting of the Wiregrass Chapter will be held at **11:30, October 18, 2001** at **Po'Folks in Enterprise**. Compatriot Stu Waterman will be speaking on his historic family roots. Also announcements will be made from the Board of Managers meeting that is scheduled for 13 October in Montgomery.

DUES

The chapter is beginning to receive 2002 dues from members. Remember this year the treasurer needs to have money in hand **by 1 December** in order to forward the State and National portion to the State Society. These changes are a result of the National Society slowly moving its fiscal year to coincide with the calendar year. The current payment due date will become the normal time for the payment of dues in the future. Chapter, state and national dues are \$45.00. **Please** forward your check payable to "Wiregrass Chapter, SAR" to Richard Kemp, P.O. Box 311093, Enterprise, AL 36331. The late submission of dues can result in a member being dropped from the State Rolls, and involves reinstatement. While currently there is no charge for reinstatement, all SAR membership longevity will be lost.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 13 Oct—BOM meeting, Montgomery
- 15 Nov—Chapter Meeting, Enterprise
- 20 Dec—Chapter Meeting—Election of Officers
- 17 Jan 2002—Installation of Officers—Joint meeting with Tri-State Chapter in Enterprise. National Trustee Rod Hildreth will give the program and install officers for both chapters.

VETERAN'S DAY PROGRAM CANCELLED

It was noted last month that an ad hoc committee had been formed to investigate holding a Veterans Day Program at the site of the Revolutionary War Marker on the grounds of the Ozark-Dale County Library. Investigation by the committee found there would be too many conflicts with other events in the

city. The Mayor requested that we not sponsor a separate program which might dilute the Ozark Program scheduled for that weekend. Each member is therefore encouraged to attend the program in Ozark, or any similar event scheduled within the local area to honor the men and women who have served in the defense of this great nation. **Regular meeting on the 15th of November.**

CONSTITUTION WEEK LUNCHEON

The SAR-DAR Constitution Week Awards Luncheon was a complete success. Some 52 people attended the event including ALSSAR President Mike Wells and his wife Elizabeth, State Senator Jimmy Holley and members of numerous lineage societies within the Wiregrass. A special "**thank you**" goes out to Nell Gilmer and Elsie Hilton of the John Coffee DAR for the beautiful decorations! Those of you who were unable to attend, missed a fine performance by the South Alabama Color Guard - their presence greatly enhanced the event and the chapter owes them a special "**thanks for a job well done**". In addition to the SAR Bronze Good Citizenship Medal presented to Mrs. Barbara Moore and Law Enforcement Commendation Medal given to William J. Moore, the John Coffee, DAR presented a new American Flag to the Historic Rawl's Hotel. To top this off, the food was very good - ask John Fuller! Another "**thank you**" to John and Dick Kemp for helping organize the luncheon.

PATRIOT DOORS

The ALSSAR continues to collect funds for the Patriot Doors at the Colonial Chapel being constructed at the American Village near Montevallo. These doors will have the names of all known Revolutionary War Patriots who settled in Alabama, in addition to the patriot ancestors of all past and present members of the Alabama Society, SAR. While your patriot ancestor may have never lived in Alabama his name will be included in the listing. To date almost \$11,700 has been collected against a requirement of \$14,000. It is hoped to have all monies collected prior to the end of the year, so that arrangements can be made to present a check for the full amount to a representative of the American Village, at the State Convention in February. If you have not done so, but would like to make a contribution to this project, please send a check payable to the Wiregrass Chapter, SAR, marked for the Patriot Doors to Richard Kemp, P. O. Box 311093, Enterprise, AL 36331. Any donations collected prior to the BOM meeting, will be presented to the State Treasurer at the time of the meeting. To date the chapter has donated some \$400.00 against a goal of \$600.00.

The patriot names are being derived from State SAR records and from official listings in the State Archives. The one area that might be a problem, are those members who have transferred into the Alabama Society. The state records may not reflect your patriot ancestor. ***If you fit into this category, please contact one of the chapter officers with the name and state from which your patriot served.*** This information will be forwarded to the individuals responsible for establishing the list of patriots. It appears that some 2000 names will be included in the listing; every thing possible is being done to preclude the exclusion of a patriot, but we do need your help.

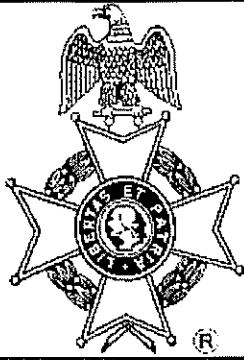
I want to extend my personal thanks to all of you who have supported this worthwhile project to ensure future generations will know the contribution our patriots made in the settlement of the state of Alabama

FLAG CERTIFICATE

Since the events of 11 September 2001 this country has seen a massive outpouring of patriotic spirit which is very often exhibited by the display of the "Old Glory". This has been especially true in Enterprise and on October 2nd a Flag Certificate was presented to the Mayor of Enterprise at the City Council Meeting. The certificate read, in part: " This Certificate of Commendation is presented to the Citizens of Enterprise, Alabama during this period of National tragedy in recognition of Exemplary Patriotism in the display of the Flag of the United States of America"

UPDATES

- ◆ Since the first of the year the chapter has delivered over 1500 paperback and hard back books to Veterans facilities within the State of Alabama and along the Gulf Coast. This has involved some 3200 miles of travel by various compatriots. Thanks for the hard work in providing a little "extra" to our nation's veteran heroes!
- ◆ The National Society is using the SAR website www.sar.org as a primary tool for getting information out to individual members of the Sons of the American Revolution. If your are on line, you are encouraged to check this site frequently to obtain information about new plans, ideas, etc that are being implemented by the national organization.
- ◆ National application processing fees for new member applications will be increased to \$55.00 from the current \$35.00 effective 1 Jan 2002. This will become a non-refundable fee. Incomplete or undocumented applications will be returned - subsequent resubmission will require an additional processing fee.



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