



# The Musket Report

Newsletter of the Wiregrass Chapter, ALSSAR  
Enterprise, Alabama  
"Home of the Boll Weevil Monument"  
[www.wiregrasssar.org](http://www.wiregrasssar.org)



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April, 2007

## APRIL MEETING

The April Meeting of the Wiregrass Chapter will be a special event for all our members. It will be held at **2:00 PM** on Saturday, April 21, 2007 at the **Forge of Compatriot Bob Portman**. Please note this is a *change from our normal Thursday meeting*. Bob is going to introduce us to how our Revolutionary War ancestors had to fashion many of the items they used in day to day life! No Lowe's in those days!! No coat and tie for this meeting, come comfortable and ready to make a nail.

Bob has provided the following directions from Enterprise: Take AL92/167 South (toward Clayhatchee). Turn right at caution light (Keyton) onto Coffee Co. 709. Turn left on Coffee Co 712. Turn left on Coffee Co 708. Take first right on Coffee Co 723. Go 1.0 miles and turn left on Coffee Co. 724. Bob's forge is behind the 6th house on the right (Box 364). Follow Anvil Signs along the road. TAKE YOUR CELL PHONE: Bob's number 334 347-6578. Better think about buying some sunshine to take along as this looks to be way back in the woods! Might be a great time to carpool - someone to read the map while someone else drives. Should be a great day!

**FRIDAY, 27 April 2007, 3:00 PM.** Alabama State Capitol, Montgomery. Governor Bob Riley will sign the 2007 Blue Star Salute Proclamation at a Press Conference in the State Capitol, which will designate **Memorial Day (Monday) 28 May** as **BLUE STAR SALUTE DAY** throughout the State of Alabama.

Maximum numbers of uniformed Colonial/Militia Sons of the American Revolution compatriots are requested to "stand behind the Governor" during the signing. Participants are asked to assemble at the Alabama American Legion HQ, 120 North Jackson Street, Montgomery 36104, about 2:00 pm to allow walking the two blocks to the Capitol Building before the 3:00 PM ceremony.

"**L**et the American youth never forget, that they possess a noble inheritance, bought by the toils, and sufferings, and blood of their ancestors; and capacity, if wisely improved, and faithfully guarded, of transmitting to their latest posterity all the substantial blessings of life, the peaceful enjoyment of liberty, property, religion, and independence."

-- Joseph Story (*Commentaries on the Constitution, 1833*)

## This 'n That

**Judge Brunson** is at home and recovering! Miss ya at the meetings!

**Board of Managers Meeting:** 5 May at 10:00 at the American Village. Registration Fee: \$15.00

**John Wallace** has been confirmed as the Vice President General for the Southern District 2007-2008.

**19 April - Patriots Day:** "The Shot heard around the World." Fly your flag proudly!

## Thank You, Mr. President !



The Wiregrass Chapter extends its sympathy to the families of the eight high school students who were killed the 1st of March by the massive tornado that hit the Enterprise High School. Let us always remember the tragic events of that day, and commit ourselves to helping our community recover from the massive damage which was inflicted on so many.



Near intersection of Dixie Drive and HWY 27 on 5 Mar 2007.

## Call To Arms

The Joel Early Chapter, GASSAR is commemorating Patriot Joel Darsey with a grave marking ceremony on **Saturday April 14th, 2007 at 2 pm (EDT)** and the ALSSAR has been asked to assist with color guard support. The location is south of Bainbridge, GA on the Tallahassee Highway (County Road 27). The gravesite is approximately one mile north of the Georgia/Florida state line. It will be well marked and a changing facility near the site will be available for Color Guard members traveling to the area. Plans are to have the Wiregrass Chapter wreath presented at the program. Contact **Bruce Taylor** ([bhtaylor@entercomp.net](mailto:bhtaylor@entercomp.net)) for details as it is anticipated several will car pool to the event.

## Center for Advancing America's Heritage

The NASSAR is collecting funds for our new Center to be built in Louisville, KY to house the SAR Library and facilities for Patriotic Outreach Education. Hats off to chapter member **Bill Tate** for his recent generous donation to the Center. *The SAR Magazine* has details on how you too can become involved with this project, or contact John Wallace for additional information. Your pledge to help support this project is needed!

**Alabama's Patriotic Counties:**

In reviewing a list of Alabama's 67 counties it is very apparent that many of our counties were named in honor of heroes of the War of 1812, Indian Wars, or the Civil War. Early state leaders are also recognized along with the state's American Indian heritage. However, if one takes a closer look at the names, it can be seen that 17 counties are named in honor of men who helped establish this country by their patriotic efforts during the American Revolution.

**Elmore County** was created by the Alabama legislature on 15 Feb 1866. It was named for General John Archer Elmore, a veteran of the American Revolution and early settler of Alabama. General Elmore entered the Continental Army while still a youth, and served under General Greene.

**St. Clair County** was created by the Alabama Territorial legislature on 20 Nov 1818. Named for Gen. Arthur St. Clair (Pennsylvania), a hero of the American Revolution who crossed the Delaware with Washington to capture Trenton and Princeton.

**Shelby County** was created by an act of the Alabama Territorial General Assembly on February 7, 1818, and named for Isaac Shelby, first governor of Kentucky and hero of the Battle of King's Mountain.

**Franklin County** was created by the Alabama Territorial legislature on 6 Feb 1818. It was named in honor of Benjamin Franklin.

**Morgan County** was created by the Alabama Territorial legislature on 8 Feb 1818. The county was originally named Cotaco for a creek that flows through it. On June 14, 1821, the name was changed to Morgan in honor of Gen. Daniel Morgan (Virginia), a hero of the American Revolution.

**Sumter County**, was created on 18 Dec. 1832. It was named for Gen. Thomas Sumter of South Carolina. General Thomas Sumter served his country under four presidents and when he died June 1, 1832 at his home in Statesburg, SC, he was the last surviving General of the American Revolution.

**Baldwin County** was created by the Mississippi Territorial legislature on 21 Dec 1809. It was named for Abraham Baldwin, a distinguished citizen of Georgia who was a Revolutionary War Chaplain and signer of the Constitution.

**Washington County** was created on 4 Jun 1800 as a county of the Mississippi Territory. Its original area contained 26,400 square miles while today it encompasses 1081 square miles. The county was named for George Washington.

**Madison County** was created by Mississippi Territory Governor Robert Williams on 13 Dec 1808. The county was named for Pres. James Madison who participated in the framing of the Virginia Constitution in 1776, served in the Continental Congress, a leader in the Virginia Assembly and the "Father of the Constitution".

**Jackson County** was created by the Alabama legislature on 13 Dec 1819. The county was named in honor of Gen. Andrew Jackson. While best known for his military service during the War of 1812, as boy, Jackson participated in the battle of Hanging Rock during the Revolution, was captured and imprisoned by the British making him the only president to have been a prisoner of war.

**Henry County** was created on 13 Dec 1819. The county was named for Revolutionary War patriot Patrick Henry (Virginia).

**Greene County** was created by the first state legislature on 13 Dec 1819, and bears the name of Gen. Nathaniel Greene (Georgia), a hero of the American Revolution.

**Marion County** was created by an act of the Alabama Territorial General Assembly on 13 Feb 1818. The county was named for General Francis Marion of South Carolina.

**Macon County** was created by the Alabama legislature on 18 Dec 1832. It was named for Nathaniel Macon, a distinguished soldier and statesman from North Carolina. From 1780 to 1782, Nathaniel Macon was a private in the Continental Army, and then was elected to the North Carolina State Senate for three terms.

**Monroe County** was created by the Mississippi Territorial Governor David Holmes on 29 Jun 1815. It was named for U.S. President James Monroe who fought with distinction in the Continental Army. He served in the army during the first years of the Revolution and was wounded at Trenton.

**Pickens County** was created by an act of the Alabama legislature on 20 Dec. 1820. The county was named for Revolutionary War General Andrew Pickens who was in charge of the South Carolina militia at the Battle of Cowpens. At the Battle of Eutaw Springs Pickens was shot off of his horse by a bullet which hit the buckle of his sword belt., but lived to fight another day.

**Jefferson County** was created by the Alabama legislature on 13 Dec 1819 . It was named in honor of Thomas Jefferson.

~Alabama Archives

**When the United States Military started issuing dog tags in 1918 who was issued the ID number 01?**

General John J. Pershing