

Sevier's Sentiments

May, 2016

Chattanooga-Hamilton County 50th Anniversary Commemoration of the Vietnam War

Members of the John Sevier Chapter-TNSSAR participated in four recent community events which commemorated the 50th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War.

The purpose of the celebration was to honor Vietnam veterans who were deprived of welcome home celebrations and honors when they returned home from the war.

Commemorative flags were raised at Chattanooga City Hall and the Hamilton County Court House. Vietnam Veterans Appreciation Day was marked by a well-attended commemoration service at the Chattanooga National Cemetery.

A replica of the Vietnam Wall made a weeklong visit to Hamilton Place Mall during the celebration. Members of the SAR and DAR chapters assisted veterans' organizations who manned the exhibit and interacted with the public.



Ahnna Marie Skelly Wins TNSSAR Oration Contest



The John Sevier Chapter Oration Contestant won the State contest for the second year in a row. Ahnna Marie Skelly a junior at Red Bank High School and a member of the JROTC attended the TNSSAR state conference in Kingsport April 1-2, 2016 and presented her oration during the Youth Awards Luncheon. TNSSAR has asked Ahnna to represent Tennessee in the NSSAR oration contest during the 2016 Congress in Boston. The Congress will be held from July 9-13 in Boston. Ahnna's oration deals with the issue of taxation without representation during the Revolutionary War Period. She was presented with a neck medallion and a check for \$1,000. Congratulations to Ahnna and good luck in Boston.

Tennessee State Society Sons of the American Revolution State Conference

The TNSSAR state conference was held on April 1-2, 2016 at Kingsport, TN. Your chapter was represented at the conference by Terry Siler, Tim Adams, George Ison and Charles Dammann. Highlights of the conference were a Memorial Service at the start of the business session of the Tennessee society, an outstanding youth awards luncheon, grave marking of TNSSAR President Darryl Addington's Revolutionary War Patriot Macijah Adams and the President's Banquet. Patriot Adams' grave is located on the ground of Acuff Methodist Church. The original log structure is no longer an active church but is maintained by the Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church. It is used on occasion for weddings. The TNSSAR color guard did an excellent job of massing the colors. The event closed with firing of muskets followed by taps. The president's banquet was well attended. Tennessee's Lt. Governor Ron Ramsey was the speaker and entertained the attendees with stories of his family history in upper East Tennessee. President Darryl Addington had the honor of inducting Compatriot Ramsey into the National Society Sons of the American Revolution, and as a member of the King's Mountain Chapter.

May Chapter Meeting

The John Sevier Chapter-TNSSAR will honor LCDR Timothy White, USN, the Commanding Officer of the Navy and Marine Corps Support Center in Chattanooga with the Sons of the American Revolution Medal for Heroism at our May meeting. Commander White's display of personal courage during the July 16, 2015 terrorist attack in Chattanooga deserves this special recognition by the SAR. His performance of duty in this harrowing-situation mirrors the courage and fast-thinking of our Patriot ancestors. His actions and leadership during that tragic event will long be remembered in this community.



Ahnna Marie Skelly, state society winner of this year's Oration Competition, accepts her certificate from newly installed TNSSAR President, David Egan.

Wreath Laying at Acuff Chapel

ACUFF CHAPEL 51
Established in 1786, this was the first Methodist Episcopal Church erected on Tennessee soil. Bishop Francis Asbury preached here often. A ten-day revival held here by Rev. John A. Granade began the Great Revival of 1780-81. The chapel was named for Timothy Acuff, who gave the land on which it was erected, a son, Rev. Francis Acuff, who was a convert at the Granade meeting.

TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION



ACUFF CHAPEL
FIRST METHODIST CHURCH
IN TENNESSEE
THESE ARE ORIGINAL LOGS
RESTORED BY HOLSTON CONFERENCE
A.D. 1963