

THE ALABAMA SOCIETY  
SONS OF THE AMERICAN  
REVOLUTION



## Report of the President

February 26, 2011 – May 6, 2011

Our Theme for 2011-12 is Leadership Development. Let us focus on developing existing chapters through officer training and incorporating chapter best practices. Let us advance each chapter by working together on the following four goals: Leadership, Recruitment, Youth, and Programs. Let's

- Strengthen chapters by developing our chapter leadership;
- Improve chapters' ability to recruit, retain, reconnect, and reinstate members with a membership goal of 930 members by 2012 and 1,000 within 3 years;
- Expand chapters' participation in Youth programs, and
- Enhance chapter's interesting programs at meetings.

Chapter Visits. In the last year I visited each of the 15 ALSSAR chapters to meet the members and to listen and learn about each chapter. Each chapter shared with me what the chapter considered to be its effective practices. I learned about each chapter's strengths, areas for improvement, and efforts at retention, reconnection, reinstatement and recruitment of members, as well as goals and plans for next year. I developed a survey; 80 percent of the chapters completed it, and I developed a Report from the visits and survey. I distributed copies of the report in February. If you would like to receive a copy of my "Chapter Best Practices and Future Plans Report," send me an email requesting a copy.

Since the Montgomery Annual Meeting, February 26, 2011 I have visited with the following chapters in my capacity as President of the ALSSAR.

March 24	Black Warrior River Chapter, Spoke on "Chapter Best Practices and Future Plans" and Installed Officers, Tuscaloosa
April 10	Shoals Provisional Chapter, Presiding Officer, Sheffield
April 11	Tennessee Valley Chapter, reported on Chapter's responsibilities as the Host Chapter for the 2012 Annual Meeting, Huntsville
April 22	Richard Henry Lee Chapter, Spoke on "Chapter Best Practices and Future Plans," Opelika

Visits are scheduled to other chapters. If your chapter would like for me to speak at one of its functions, please give me a call to schedule a visit.

### Representing ALSSAR as President at Events

I have represented the Alabama Society as its President at the following events:

- February 28 Presented ALSSAR Essay Award to Megan Roman, Bob Jones High School, Madison, AL
- March 7 – 10 Greetings from the ALSSAR to the Alabama Society DAR Convention, Auburn
- March 25 – 26 Mississippi State Society SAR Annual Meeting, Olive Branch, MS
- April 5 Presented Heroism Medal to Dr. Debra Moriarity, Undergraduate Honors Convocation, The University of Alabama in Huntsville
- April 7 Spoke to the Hunt Springs DAR Chapter, Huntsville, "Financial Crises of 1772."
- April 15 – 16 Tennessee Society SAR Annual Meeting and Southern District SAR Meeting, Smyrna, TN
- April 29 – 30 Missouri Society SAR Annual Meeting, Maryland Heights (St. Louis), MO

Center for Advancing America's Heritage's State Challenge Campaign. We rank 44<sup>th</sup> in participation rate. Alabama's performance was 12 percent of the members participating with an average donation of \$76. For all state societies 18 percent of the members participated with an average donation of \$174. The goals are 20 percent of the membership participating as donors with an average donation per member of \$250. As of the most recent report available, the February 28 report, 17 states have met or exceeded the 20 percent participation goal.

New Chapter Development. Registrar Ron Bearden and I have been involved with the development of the Shoals provisional chapter. It has had four organizational meetings (January 9, February 13, March 13 and April 10). Prospects for chartering the new chapter are promising.

Budget Committee. I worked with Treasurer Bobby Joe Seales and Budget Committee Chair Bruce Pickette to identify improvements in the format of the budget for 2012.

ALSSAR Website. With Webmaster Ron Diamond, I have updated the ALSSAR Website and provided new content on the Past Presidents of ALSSAR, the ALSSAR members serving on NSSAR Committees, the Medals and Awards Committee, and the DAR Finder Form.

2012 Annual Meeting and Convention and Southern District Meeting. I began to plan the 2012 Annual Meeting and Convention for February 24-25, 2012. I began working with Southern District Vice President General elect James Maples on the program, ALSSAR Registrar Ron Bearden on the facilities, and the officers of the Tennessee Valley Chapter, namely President Conrad Cook, Vice President George Royer, Secretary Darryl Adams, and Treasurer Robert Hammond. On March 29 President Cook held a planning meeting.

*C. David Billings*

President, Alabama Society, SAR  
Member, Tennessee Valley Chapter  
Dean Emeritus  
College of Business Administration  
University of Alabama in Huntsville