



THE 1812 WAR CRY

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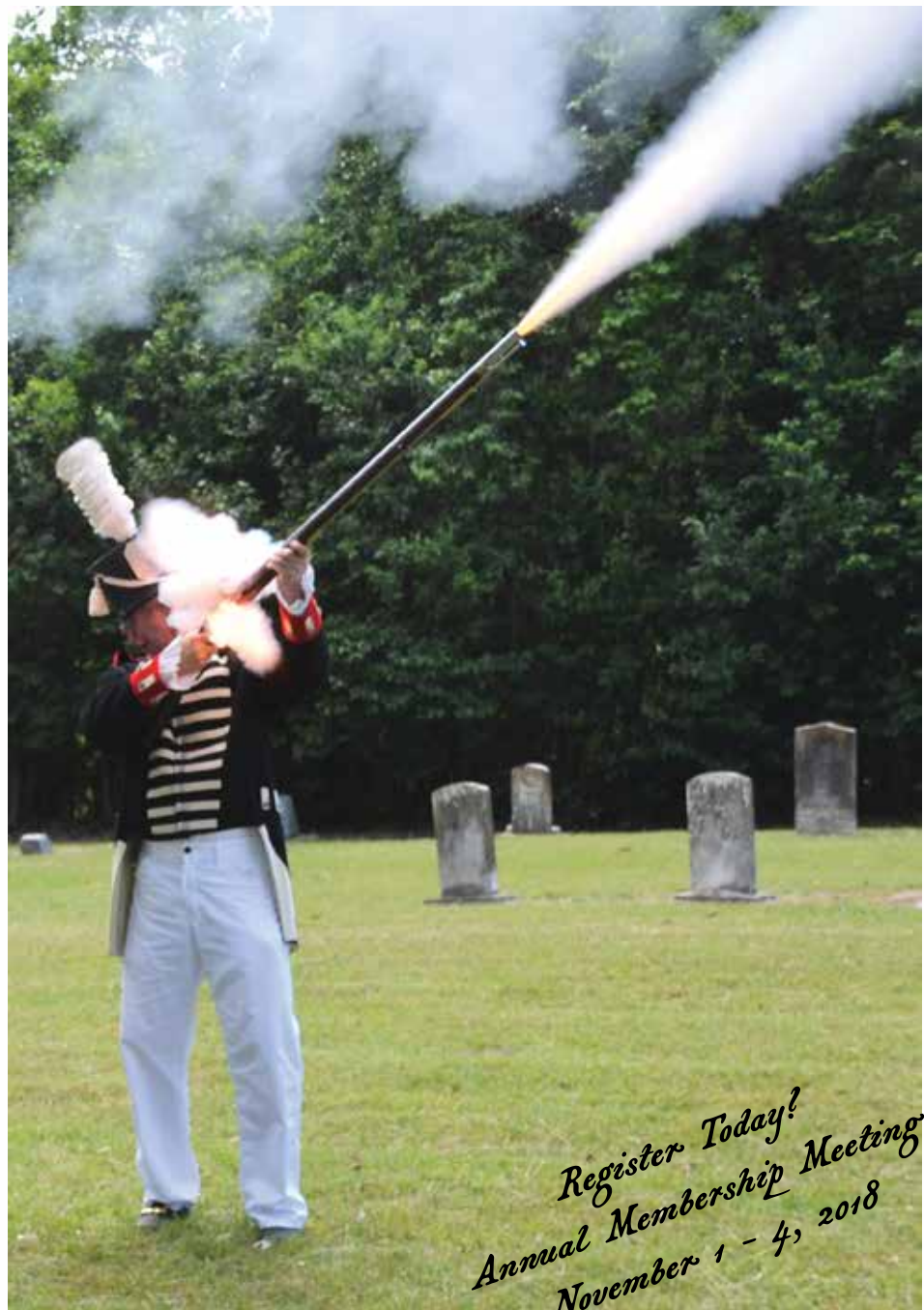
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*Register Today!
Annual Membership Meeting
November 1 - 4, 2018*

The Cover

An honorary salute by volley was fired by the Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard, North Texas, under the leadership of Drake Peddie, past president of the Craig Austin Rowley Chapter. Photo by Paul Ridenour.

Editors Note: Many of you called or emailed me about your name being incorrect on the last issue. Your full name is correct in our roster but the printer inadvertently left off the last name column when he printed the names and addresses on the newsletter. He has assured me that it will not happen again. Also, if you do have a change of address or a change in your email address, please let Treasurer General Gary Neal know or let me know and I'll send it on to Gary. Enjoy this issue and keep those articles coming! Hope to see you at the Annual Meeting in Jacksonville, FL in November. --Jim

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PUBLICATION REQUIREMENTS

The 1812 War Cry is published three times a year (March, July, and November). Submission deadlines are February 1, June 1, and October 1. Society news is welcome in MS Word format. Scholarly works specifically tailored to our readership must be properly annotate; use of copyright protected materials or images without written permission is prohibited. Photos are encouraged as attachments in .jpg or .tiff formats, not .pdf. Smartphone images that lose focus when enlarged or converted to black and white will not be used. Contact VPG - Publications Jim Maples, Editor, with any questions.

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The 1812 War Cry

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GSWarOf1812

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President General Richard D. Hollis

Come to Jacksonville to honor your ancestors, explore War of 1812 history, conduct our Society's business, and enjoy fellowship with friends.

The 2018 Annual Meeting will be held November 1 – 4, 2018 in Jacksonville, Florida, centered on the Lexington Hotel situated on the south bank of the St. Johns River in downtown, on the Riverwalk. This eclectic area is brimming with quaint boutiques, day spas, sidewalk cafés, wine bars and upscale restaurants. And the river taxis make crossing the river a breeze.

General Officers, Vice Presidents General, and State Presidents are encouraged to come because your participation and insights are essential to a well-planned and managed Society. All members are welcome and we hope you will come without any hesitation. We'll learn about the America invasion of Spanish East Florida during the War of 1812 from historian James G. Cusick, author of *The Other War of 1812*.

I am intrigued by all of the 1812 activities around the country. In addition to sharing history through grave markings and public events, we have several members who are working to activate charters in Arizona, Wyoming, Kansas, and West Virginia. If you have family or friends in these areas, encourage them to contact our VPG Members-at-Large David Eagan at jede49@bellsouth.net for information about how to join.

The General Society of the War of 1812 is indebted to and appreciative for the many volunteers who represent our Mission to the public. Thank you for all you do to honor our ancestors, to educate the public about America's Second War of Independence, and to grow our Society. Ours is an inclusive Lineage Society so come to Florida. I hope to see you in Florida.



◀1812 President General Rick Hollis spoke with members of the Pennsylvania Boy Scouts in June. The Boy Scouts and their leaders held a bicycle tour of historic 1812 sites in Washington, DC and were hosted with a reception by the US Daughters of 1812 at their 1812 Museum on Rhode Island Avenue. PG Hollis was invited to speak to the Scouts about the many facets of the War of 1812 during their visit to the Museum.

➤1812 President General Rick Hollis and J. Howard Fisk of Missouri 1812 laid a wreath at the Jefferson Memorial on his 275th birthday and the 75th Anniversary of the dedication of the Memorial.



◀1812 President General Rick Hollis (TN) and US Daughters of 1812 President National Mary Raye Casper (NY) were guests of DAR President General Ann Turner Dillon (CO) for the Opening Night Ceremonies of the 127th DAR Congress at Constitution Hall in Washington, DC.

➤At the Jefferson Memorial Ceremony held on the peak day for Cherry Blossom blooms, a Marine Band Ensemble entertained.

President General Rick Hollis of Tennessee joined national leaders of other lineage societies to honor President Thomas Jefferson. They included SAR President General Larry T. Guzy of Georgia, DAR President General Ann Turner Dillon of Colorado, and US Daughters of 1812 President National Mary Raye Casper of New York.



Graves of our Founders: Major General Samuel Hopkins

I'd like to call to General Society of the War of 1812 member's attention the recent vandalism during May of 2018 of Major General Samuel Hopkins Jr.'s grave in the Spring Garden Cemetery in Henderson, Kentucky. What a shame that a patriot of the American Revolution and the War of 1812 would be treated in this manner.



Samuel Hopkins's remarkable military and civil career spanned two wars and encompassed the birth and securing of the United States as a nation. Although far from ranking with the demi-gods among the founding fathers, Hopkins was nevertheless a significant figure of the Revolutionary Era and the founding of our nation and helped to shape the events that brought the colonies into nationhood. The heritage of the American Revolution calls upon Americans to cherish liberty; Samuel Hopkins among many of his generation represents both the making of this legacy and its succession in succeeding generations.

Said to be one of George Washington's favorite officers, Samuel Hopkins rose rapidly through the ranks from Capt. of the 6th Virginia to Lt. Col. in command of the 1st Virginia. At Valley Forge, while recovering from a severe wound incurred at the Battle of Germantown, George Washington introduced Hopkins to a party of young ladies as "my brave aide" out of respect for his bravery and gallantry on the field of battle.

Samuel Hopkins had a long, distinguished career in the service of his country as a soldier, political leader and patriot. He fought with distinction in numerous battles including Trenton, Princeton, Brandywine, Germantown, Monmouth, Savannah and the siege of Charleston. Hopkins also served as a Major General of Virginia Militia during the Whiskey Rebellion and Little Turtle's War, as a Major General of Kentucky Militia in 1803 when a force of arms was thought to be required to secure the Louisiana Purchase and as Major General, Commander-in-Chief of the Western Frontier of Indiana and Illinois during the War of 1812. His long successful business career included that of merchant, contractor (he built many of the early buildings constructed at the University North Carolina at Hillsboro [Chapel Hill]), surveyor, attorney and as the civil planner who designed and founded the town of St. Tammany, Virginia and the city of Henderson, Kentucky. As a civil servant Hopkins served on the Mecklenburg County Virginia Committee of Safety during the early days of the American Revolution. He was a member of the Virginia State Legislature, a member of the Virginia Constitutional Convention of 1788 (as a member of the Anti-Federalist Party) and served as Chief Justice of the First Court of Criminal Common Law and Chancery for Henderson County Kentucky, Kentucky State Legislator, Kentucky State Senator and Federal Congressman from Kentucky.

Samuel Hopkins died September 16, 1819 and was buried in the family's Spring Garden cemetery in Henderson, Kentucky. At some point Spring Garden cemetery fell into neglect and became overgrown with a copse of trees in the middle of a corn field. Adding insult to the neglect, at some point someone shot his gravestone with bird shot and perhaps at that time broke his stone in half. Samuel Hopkins was the founder of Henderson, Kentucky. In 2007, the city bought the property and in July of 2009, voted to fund the clearing of the cemetery. On September 16, 2011, the City of Henderson and the General Samuel Hopkins Chapter, Kentucky Society Daughters of the American Revolution (KSDAR) conducted a Dedication Program for the Restored Spring Garden Cemetery.

Fortunately, the city of Henderson plans to restore the graves of Samuel and his family members once again.

Robert Gang, 4th Great Grandson of Samuel Hopkins Jr.



*General Society of the War of 1812
Merchandise Price List and Order Form*

Name: _____ National Number: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Mail Order form and check to:

Tony L. Vets, Quartermaster General
General Society of the War of 1812
504 Oak Street
Colfax, LA 71417-1427

Contact: tonyvets@bellsouth.net

Phone: 318-627-2235

ITEM DESCRIPTION	PRICE	QTY	COST
Large Insignia (gold plate over bronze)	\$140.00		
Large Insignia (gold plate over silver)	\$255.00		
(10k, 14k, and 18k gold. Prices available on request.)			
Miniature Insignia (gold plate over bronze)	\$75.00		
Miniature Insignia (gold plate over silver)	\$100.00		
(10k, 14k, and 18k gold. Prices available on request.)			
State President's Star (gold plate over nickel) (plus \$.35/letter engraving)	\$240.00		
State President's Star (sterling silver star) (plus \$.35/letter engraving)	\$500.00		
Membership Insignia only sold to members in good standing. Include membership number if ordering membership insignia items.			
General Society Officer/State President/Chapter President Neck Ribbon	\$30.00		
General Society President Sash (70")	\$125.00		
General Society Officer Sash (extra long - 77")	\$155.00		
Insignia Cufflinks	\$190.00		
1812 Seal Cufflinks (gold colored)	\$140.00		
Rosette (clutch back)	\$15.00		
Blazer Patch (clutch back)	\$25.00		
Necktie <input type="checkbox"/> Bowtie, banded <input type="checkbox"/> Bowtie, self-tie <input type="checkbox"/> Cummerbund <input type="checkbox"/>	\$25.00		
General Society Flag (3'x5' double-sided nylon with pole hem and gold fringe)	\$225.00		
ROTC Medal	\$25.00		
Veteran Grave Marker (flush or stake mount)	\$65.00		
Brace rod for grave marker (stake mount)	\$15.00		
Bicentennial Roster of Members/Ancestors of the General Society War of 1812	\$35.00		

Make checks payable to: **General society of the War of 1812**
Please do not send cash. Credit cards are not accepted.

Grand Total

Prices include shipping. Revised 7/2018.

The Major Problem with Our Society's New Applications

The first six months of my tenure as the registrar general of the General Society of the War of 1812 has proven to be extremely interesting and at the same time very disappointing. I have found that the majority of state approved applications are filled with errors and omissions concerning our wartime ancestors. These applications were submitted to me for processing new members into our General Society.

We, as a lineage society, fall far short on the properly researching and approving of our applications compared to the General Society of Mayflower Descendants, the National Society Sons of the American Revolution, the Daughters of the American Revolution, and many other lineage societies. If ranked, we would be on the bottom of the list.

The biggest, single problem is that we are approving our ancestor's wartime service based solely upon index cards and not on the actual documents which can be found in military service records, land bounty applications and pension applications. Index cards were created to locate actual documentation and they should NEVER be used in the approval process. Many of these cards leave out the first names of company commanders, many leave out the names of the regiments and their commanders, and many leave out the dates of service of our ancestors.



Worksheet found in the pension application of
William Coquillette

I try to research the military service of each soldier or sailor which are listed on the application forms that I receive. I do not correct the errors on the applications but I will place the correct information on the registrar forms which are sent back to the state societies, and the registrar forms that end up in our archives.

Recently, I researched William Coquillette who served as a volunteer in Captain Cooper's company of the 88th Regiment, New York Militia. Service dates were included in the application. Within fifteen minutes I found the missing information on-line using Ancestry.com and Fold3.

William Coquillette served as a corporal in Captain Tunis Cooper's Company in Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin Gurnee's 83rd Regiment, New York Militia. The service dates in this application were correct. The secret of success is to read the documents in the land bounty and/or pension application files. Index cards contain the minimal amount of information on the military service of our ancestors.

When a land bounty or a pension application file was processed during the late 1800's, a researcher combed the application file and placed all of the correct information on the military service of an individual on a worksheet. The researcher may have also obtained additional documentation from the War Department, the Department of the Navy, or the Department of the Treasury (payroll information) in order to prove the military service of a veteran.

These worksheets can be found in each application file. The color of these worksheets are either red or orange, sometimes brown, and they can be found within the first ten pages of a land bounty or pension application file. The only item missing on the worksheet for Coquillette's military service was the regiment's number. This was found on other documents located within the pension application file.

I also researched Cooper's and Gurnee's military records because of the discrepancy of the regimental number. All three men's military records prove that they served in the 83rd Regiment and not the 88th Regiment.

The red flags that I see on applications are missing first names, missing company information, missing regimental numbers, missing regiments, missing service dates, documentation referencing to index cards and not files, and regimental commanders listed as 'colonels.'

Federal militia laws during this time period required states to number their regiments and that regimental commanders held the rank of lieutenant colonel and not colonel. Some states did promote regimental commanders to the rank of colonel but this was the exception and not the norm. In the application files, lieutenant colonels are many times listed as colonels, but this is a title not a rank.

There are applications that I have received which are correct! Either the applicant or the state genealogist had done their job properly. State genealogists need to have access to Ancestry.com and to Fold3, either through subscriptions or by using a public or genealogical library. They should also have access to any books listing the muster rolls of their state militias (some books are better than others).

The applications that are received by the General Society, now and in the future, needs to be correct and properly documented, so that future generations can use our files and know that the information is accurate and complete.

-Eric E. Johnson, Registrar General

+++ State Reports +++

Alabama

*T*he Annual Meeting of the Society of the War of 1812 in the State of Alabama was held at the Battle House Hotel in Mobile on March 24, 2018. This meeting was held in conjunction with the Alabama Society U.S. Daughters of 1812 Annual Meeting. Elected as President of the Alabama Society was Dr. John L. "Jack" Dwyer shown on the right in the photograph. On the left is Immediate Past President of the Alabama Society James G. "Jim" Alexander.

First, I would like to thank Jim Alexander for his stewardship of the society for the past three years. Secondly, I appreciate the vote of confidence you have placed in me as your next society President. With the support and assistance of the officers and membership, we will continue to support the purpose, goals, and objectives of the society-- patriotism, good citizenship, preservation, caring for graves of our veterans, and education. In this regard, we will continue to identify and mark graves of the veterans, identify historic sites associated with the war in Alabama and place historical markers there, perpetuate the legacy of the War of 1812, and promote the society's ROTC Award in the state's colleges and universities. These programs, along with others, will require everyone's participation and contributions. Thus, I will need your support and inputs. Our ancestors fought hard to preserve our young Nation against a foreign aggressor—Great Britain and her allies. Thus, it is our duty and privilege to honor their memory and to educate our fellow Americans about their sacrifices and contributions. I hope you will join me in carrying out this mission. --Dr. John L. "Jack" Dwyer



State Reports

Florida

The Society of the War of 1812 in the State of Florida held a meeting on 16th June 2018 in Fort Lauderdale. The meeting, held in conjunction with the Sons of the Revolution in the State of Florida, was attended by approximately 20 members and guests who enjoyed a festive afternoon together.

Following an invocation, Robert McGuire kindly provided a 15-Stars & Stripes Star spangled Banner and led the assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

After some introductory comments, it was noted on behalf of Registrar Sizemore that five men had joined the since our annual meeting. (Richard Alan Gregory, Robert Williams McGuire, Albert E. Myers, James Durward Stone and Lowry Rush Watkins, Jr.) Two of the new members, Robert McGuire and Richard Gregory, were officially welcomed and presented with rosettes by Judge Advocate Lewis Sherwood Elliott.

President Jensen presented a gift to Judge Advocate Lewis Sherwood Elliott, thanking him for reinvigorating and managing the ROTC award program for the Florida Society.

Traditional toasts, led by President Emeritus Duay, preceded the meal. Richard A. Gregory gave an engaging talk on the Veterans Corps of Artillery in the State of New York and the Military Society of the War of 1812.

The next meeting of the Society will be on 27th October 2018 in Naples. Members of the Florida Society will receive invitations; “snowbirds” and other visiting members are also welcome and are encouraged to contact us at Society1812inFlorida@outlook.com for more information on the meeting.



Robert McGuire being welcomed to the Society and presented with a rosette by his proposer, Judge Advocate Lewis Sherwood Elliott



Robert McGuire being welcomed to the Society and presented with a rosette by his proposer, Judge Advocate Lewis Sherwood Elliott, photo by Mrs. Robert McGuire



Richard A. Gregory being welcomed to the Society and presented with a rosette by Judge Advocate Lewis Sherwood Elliott

State Reports

Iowa



(L-R) Mike Rowley, Judy McNamara, Ron Rittel, Don Corrigan, Rick Hickman, Sue Wenger, Alan Wenger, and George DeMoss
Photo credit: Tim Rowley

Members of the General Society of the War 1812 in the State of Iowa Hulett Hickman Chapter joined with members of the Iowa S.A.R., D.A.R. and Dodge Camp # 75 of the S.U.V.C.W. in a volunteer evening of bingo and socializing with residents of the Iowa Veterans Hospital in Des Moines, Iowa.

The men and women veterans of all ages, experiences and locations were thanked for their service and sharing their evening with our Iowa Compatriots.

Also, The General Society of the War of 1812 in the State of Iowa started its "100% Campaign" The goal of the campaign is to raise awareness of the GSW 1812 by increasing the Iowa membership by 100% before the end of 2018.

On March 28, 2018 at the monthly meeting, newest member Joshua Dyer was welcomed and present the GSW 1812 rosette.



(L-R) Danny Krock, Ronald Rittel, Joshua Dyer, President Mike Rowley and Alan Wenger.
Photo credit: Dan Green



Indiana

A large crowd gathered in Vanderburgh County, Indiana for a ceremony honoring the memory of Lt. David B. Brumfield of the 4th (Decker's) Regiment, Indiana Territory Militia. 1812 members included (l to r): Mark Kreps, Indiana 1812 President Jim Shoptaw, 1812 President General Rick Hollis, Massachusetts 1812 President Jack Manning, and new 1812 member T. Rex Legler. Legler is a direct descendant of Lt. Brumfield.



State Reports

Mississippi

John R. Taylor, Jr (District Deputy President General Southern - Carolinas) shown presenting to Genealogist Susan Blakeney of the Laurel-Jones County Library a copy of the Bicentennial Edition of the Roster of Members and Their Ancestors of the General Society of the War of 1812. The Laurel-Jones County Library Genealogy room is a wonderful asset to the citizens of Laurel, MS and surrounding communities and Mrs. Blakeney stated the book would be a welcome addition. Copies were also presented to the Mississippi State Archives and to the Genealogy Library in Raleigh, MS.



New Jersey

Mike Ewald Dunham, State President for NJ, presenting 1812 ROTC medal to Cadet Erdenebold Oyungerel of the Rutgers Air Force ROTC on April 21.

Other following ROTC recipients included: Rutgers Navy Mdsphmn Esha Rao, Rutgers Army Cadet Katherine Colaguori, Seton Hall Army Cadet Jacob Garrett, and NJIT AF Cadet Jason Kaynak.



Ohio

Compatriot Craig V. Fisher, past president of the Society of the War of 1812 in the State of Ohio, drummed in a solemn procession of soldiers representing the Revolutionary War through the Iraq Conflict during the sesquicentennial activities of Monroeville, Ohio which was held on 19 May 2018.

The Ohio Society had a color party of two for this ceremony. The village is location in Huron County, in north central Ohio.

The Ohio Society was honored to take part in a wreath laying ceremony at the Riverside Cemetery near U.S. Route 20 in Monroeville. Established in 1868, Monroeville boasts a range of veterans who found their way to the area.

The ceremony began at 2:00 p.m. and lasted until 5 p.m. The program featured bag pipes and a salute by the American Legion of Monroeville.

Also presented were historical interpreters portraying George Washington & Abraham Lincoln, each giving a short speech relevant to the occasion.



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Texas

On May 12, 2018, The Craig Austin Rowley Chapter, General Society of the War of 1812 and the John Cavet Chapter #39, United States Daughters of 1812 held a grave marker dedication ceremony for Private Isaac Nation who served in Maj. Henry Price's 2nd Regiment of the Ohio Militia.

Isaac Nation and his family joined a party of settlers from Overton County Tennessee and left for Texas in the spring of 1848, arriving in Texas in June. They would have traveled along the Central National Road of Texas after crossing into Texas at the Red River. They would have crossed the East Fork of the Trinity River at McKenzie's Ferry, later to become a toll bridge known as Barnes' Bridge. Unfortunately, many

members of the party, including Isaac, were stricken by a smallpox epidemic before reaching their goal to establish homesteads in what was then called Peter's Colony. They, including Isaac Nation, were buried near the banks of Duck Creek, a branch of the East Fork of the Trinity River. The area later became Lyons Cemetery.



Photo: Leslie Anderson

Master of Ceremonies for the event was Walt Thomas, Vice President of the Craig Austin Rowley Chapter. Mr. Thomas and his wife Barbara Thomas were instrumental in researching and documenting the grave location, military service, and life of Private Nation. Because of their efforts, Private Nation no longer lies in an unmarked grave but rests at peace under new a memorial marker from the U.S. Veterans Affairs Department. Also credited with finding the grave of this forgotten patriot is long time Sunnyvale resident, Henry Myers, who cares for the cemetery and had remembered the location of the graves of Nation and four other early settlers which had been marked many years ago with pieces of bois d' arc wood.

The invocation was given by Stephen Johnson, Chaplain of the Craig Austin Rowley Chapter. The Star Spangled Banner was sung by Mallory Wade. Mayor Jim Phaup brought greetings from the Town of Sunnyvale. Jim Bookhout, President, Dallas County Pioneer Association talked about forgotten cemeteries in the Dallas area.

Bill Sekel, President of the Texas Society GSW1812, talked about the importance of honoring those who served our country in all wars. Some quotes from his remarks follow: "We are here today...to fulfill a promise...a promise to never forget those who served...and to reaffirm our commitment to the principals...of what our Patriot Ancestors sacrificed so much for. They were ordinary people...until they heard the call of duty and answered it. They left their families...their homes...and their lives...not for recognition or fame ...or even the honors we bestow upon them today. They served to preserve the language of the time...and the language of the time was Liberty."

Ora Jane Johnson, Librarian National of the U.S. Daughters of 1812 talked about the highlights of America's Second War of Independence, the War of 1812. Ms Johnson stated "Congress declared war on the United Kingdom

State Reports

of Great Britain and Ireland on June 18, 1812. The American navy engaged the British on the open seas, the coastline, on America's inner waterways, and our Great Lakes. Army and militiamen faced the British and Native populations on the northern border, the western frontier, the eastern shores, in the streets of our Nation's Capital, and on the banks of the Mississippi near New Orleans. For the second time in 30 years, the United States fought the world's greatest military power, and we held our own."

David Temple, immediate past president of Texas GSW1812 talked about the purposes of the General Society of the War of 1812. He listed these purposes as, "The first is the collection and preservation of muster rolls, pay rolls, records and other documents of the War of 1812. Second is the encouragement of research and the preservation of historical data and memorials to patriots of that era. Third is the caring for the graves of veterans of the War of 1812 as we are doing today for Isaac Nation. Fourth is the cherishing, maintenance and extension of the institution of American freedom. Fifth is the fostering of true patriotism and love of country."



Mayor Jim Phaup

Dorcas Helms, president of the John Cavet Chapter, talked about the U.S. Daughters of 1812 society. Mrs. Helms stated, "The U.S.D.1812 is a volunteer women's service organization committed to teaching and emphasizing the heroic deeds of the civil, military, and naval life of those who molded this country during our historic time period."



Memorial wreaths were presented by the ladies of the John Cavet Chapter and by descendants of Private Isaac Nation.

An honorary salute by volley was fired by the Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard, North Texas, under the leadership of Drake Peddie, past president of the Craig Austin Rowley Chapter.

The ceremony concluded with closing remarks by Craig Austin Rowley Chapter President, Paul Ridenour.



General Society of the War of 1812 Annual Membership Meeting

Jacksonville, Florida
November 1 - 4, 2018

Board Meeting and Commemorative Events
Celebrating America's Victories on land and water

HEADQUARTERS: Lexington Hotel
1515 Presidential Drive, Jacksonville, FL
904-396-5100

Rate: \$109.00 per night [®]

Ask for General Society of the War of 1812 Block

Details online: <http://www.gswar1812.org>

Questions? Email Tim Mabee at tmabee@aol.com

Cancellations after October 15 will be treated as donations.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday, Nov 1	3:00 - 5:00	Check In Registration, Lexington Hotel All day to visit museums, historic sites, events
Friday, Nov 2	3:00 - 5:00	Check In Registration, Lexington Hotel All day to visit museums, historic sites, events
	6:00 - 7:00	President General Reception, Anchor Room, Cash Bar
	7:00 - 9:00	Dinner on own at possible same location. TBD
	9:30 -	Ice Cream Social, Anchor Room, Lexington Hotel
Saturday, Nov 3	7:00 - 11:00	Hot Buffet Breakfast - included
	8:00 - 4:30	All day to visit museums, historic sites, events
	2:00 - 5:00	Business Meeting, Tug Room, Lexington Hotel
	6:00 - 7:00	Social Hour / Cash Bar – Lexington Hotel
	7:00 - 9:00	Formal dinner, Anchor Room, Lexington Hotel, white tie

NAME _____ GUEST _____
EMAIL _____ CELL PHONE _____
ADDRESS _____
TOTAL GUESTS _____ X \$139 PER PERSON (Dinner & Events) TOTAL _____
SPECIAL DIET NEEDS _____ TRANSPORTATION NEEDS _____

MAIL CHECK TO: Gary Neal, PO Box 1, Cockeysville, MD 21030-0001 Make check out to: GSWar1812

Tomb of General Andrew and Rachel Jackson, unveiled June 10, 2018

In spring 2018, vandals desecrated the Tomb of Major General Andrew and Rachel Jackson, 7th President of the United States. The Tomb is located in Rachel's Garden at The Hermitage in Nashville, Tennessee. In response, at the suggestion of former PG Thomas E. Jacks, the 1812 Executive Committee agreed unanimously to donate \$5,000.00 to assist with costs to restore the Tomb, not covered by insurance. Contact was made with The Hermitage staff and a presentation ceremony was held to present the donation to President and Executive Director Howard J. Kittell. Nearby General Society Officers and their spouses were invited to participate in the ceremony on May 24, 2018.

On June 10, 2018, the 173rd anniversary of the burial of General Jackson, his restored Tomb was unveiled in a ceremony which featured President General Rick Hollis as the principal speaker. The Sevier Company of Tennessee Militia under the command of Robert G. Nichols accompanied Hollis and served as Color Guard for the ceremony with additional members from the Andrew Jackson SAR Chapter Color Guard. Also participating in the ceremony were Master of Ceremonies Ashely McAnulty, a member of the Andrew Jackson Foundation Board of Trustees, Dr. Reavis Mitchell, Chairman of the TN Historical Commission and professor of history, Kenneth Fieth, President, Andrew Jackson Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, and Andrew Jackson Foundation President and Executive Director Howard J. Kittell.



Hollis, unveiling Jackson Tomb, speaking



Hermitage donation at tomb



Hermitage Donation

Unveiling, Following Restoration, of the Tomb of General Andrew and Rachel Jackson
Remarks by President General Richard D. Hollis, General Society of the War of 1812
The Hermitage, Nashville, Tennessee, June 10, 2018

In our National story, there are moments and places, which in retrospect can be seen as fixed points about which the course of history turns, moments which distinguish our Nation forever. These moments and places, these fixed points, form our Nation's collective memory. The Grand Military Victory at the Battle of New Orleans and the Presidency of Andrew Jackson are two of these fixed points. So, if one seeks the foundation of America's distinction in the world, one would do well to begin here at The Hermitage, a Monument to dignity, courage, honor, exceptional achievement, and fulfillment of the American Dream.

While Washington, Jefferson, Madison, and Lincoln have become marble statuary, in our mind's eye, like Benjamin Franklin, Andrew Jackson remains flesh.

Who cannot imagine:

- Jackson riding his steed across that field,
- debating issues of the day with friends and associates in his library, and
- entertaining guests at an elegant party?

Who among us cannot visualize:

- Old Hickory in the floor playing with his nieces and nephews,
- reacting spontaneously and decisively to news of insults directed toward his beloved,
- snapping at a British Officer to "shine his own boots," and
- urgently organizing men for War, leading them into battle, and to Victory?

Jackson's spirit remains a part of our Nation's consciousness.

General Jackson spent much time here in this quiet corner of Rachel's Garden. When she was separated from him, ascending to the heavenly realm, he chose THIS spot for her resting place and erected this simple and elegant Tomb. Upon his return from The White House and until his death 173 years ago, Jackson was known to walk out into the Garden and sit beside Rachel's grave, sometimes for hours at a time. No doubt he was,

- rejoicing in his love for her
- reflecting on his consequential life, and
- considering the future

Isn't this what we also do? Isn't this why we are here today? Isn't this why Monuments exist?

- To rejoice in our love and admiration of the honored?
- Reflect on the consequence of their achievements?
- And, consider their impact on our future?

In a world without enough HEROES, General Jackson exemplifies the great American leader. Admired for his courage, outstanding achievements, and noble qualities, only Jackson could have assembled such an unlikely fighting force to achieve the Grand Military Victory at the Battle of New Orleans. Farmers and tradesmen mostly, these sons of toil embraced destiny with determination forged on their faces, and conviction wrought in their hearts. Guided by what Theodore Roosevelt called Old Hickory's "cool head and clear eye, his stout heart and strong hand," War Hawks swooped down and snatched Victory from their rivals on the Plains of Chalmette.

After the Battle of New Orleans, General Andrew Jackson said, his "*chief motive will be to render justice to those brave men I have the honor to command and who have so remarkably distinguished themselves.*"

And so it is today, we find ourselves gathered in this quiet corner of Rachel's Garden,

- rejoicing in our love and admiration of the honored,
- reflecting on the consequence of their achievements, and
- considering their impact on our future.

As a proud grandson of at least 17 courageous soldiers who fought with the Towering Titan of Tennessee, and on behalf of all the grandsons who are members of the General Society of the War of 1812...to the inimitable Howard Kittell, Andrew Jackson Foundation Board Members, staff and to the workers who restored this hallowed ground, please accept our most sincere gratitude for your tireless efforts to remembering and honoring the colossal achievements of these mighty warriors. You have succeeded; you *render justice* to Jackson's brave men.

And, we thank you!

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