

The Tennessee Rifleman

The Tennessee Rifleman (ISSN 1004-8675) is an official publication of the Tennessee Society, Sons of the Revolution. It is published quarterly at the society's headquarters in Knoxville, Tennessee. Material which is original with The Rifleman may be published and/or quoted in whole or in part with attribution. Inquiries and requests for information should be addressed to the Society at P.O. Box 3685, Knoxville, TN 37927.



SONS OF THE REVOLUTION
IN THE STATE OF TENNESSEE
PO BOX 3685
Knoxville, TN 37927-3685

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 118
Knoxville, TN

Washington's Prayer

In George Washington's personal prayer book, in his own handwriting he wrote:

"And since Thou art a God of pure eyes, and will be sanctified in all who draw nearer to Thee, who dost not regard the sacrifice of fools, nor hear sinners who tread in Thy courts, pardon I beseech Thee, my sins, remove them from Thy presence, as far as the east is from the west, and accept of me for the merits of Thy son Jesus Christ, that when I come into Thy temple and compass Thine altar, my prayer may come before Thee as incense, and as I desire Thou wouldst hear me calling upon Thee in my prayers, so give me peace to hear the calling on me in Thy word, that it may be wisdom, righteousness, reconciliation and peace to the saving of my soul in the day of the Lord Jesus."

THE TENNESSEE RIFLEMAN

A Publication of the Tennessee
Society Sons of the Revolution

Vol. 65 # 4 Winter 2025-2026



Society Sons of the Revolution

The Sons of the Revolution was founded in 1876 by members of the Society of the Cincinnati wishing to broaden participation in preserving American Heritage on the eve of this country's centennial. Its mission is to promote knowledge and appreciation of the achievement of American Independence and to foster fellowship among its members. The Sons opened its membership to all sons of enlisted men, as well as officers and all descendants of other qualifying patriots, who risked their lives during the Revolution.

The General Society Sons of the Revolution was formed by the New York, Pennsylvania and District of Columbia Societies at a meeting on April 19, 1890, in Washington, DC, following conferences held in 1888 to devise an organizational structure that would provide a satisfactory continuation of local autonomy and national unity to the several State Societies.

DUES NOTICE

Society membership dues are paid annually. Dues notices are sent annually. Dues must be received on or before January 1st. All dues are 100% tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. Please call the Society office for details on life membership at (865) 386-7272

To renew membership please see our website at **tnsr1776.org** Administrative fees apply to online transactions.

Alternatively, you may write a check to Sons of the Revolution in the State of Tennessee. and mail it to our P.O. Box 3685 Knoxville TN 37927

Dues are \$ 35.00 - (\$35 goes to the general society)

PLEASE ENCLOSE THIS SLIP IF YOU PAY BY CHECK

WE ARE TRYING TO UPDATE OUR MEMBERSHIP LIST PLEASE HELP US BY FILLING IN THE FOLLOWING (THIS CAN ALSO BE DONE ONLINE):

YOUR NAME _____

YOUR ADDRESS _____

YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS _____

YOUR PHONE NUMBER _____

I would like to be an active member of a chapter _____

I would like to help start a chapter (or support) in my County _____

I WOULD LIKE TO DONATE TO A PROJECT

Col. Robert McFarland Cemetery Restoration Project _____

David Hall Cabin Restoration Project _____

Blount Mansion / TNSR Office and Library _____

I WOULD LIKE TO TALK TO A SOCIETY OFFICER ABOUT A PROJECT

I THINK NEEDS DONE IN OUR COMMUNITY _____

IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID YOUR DUES, THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST RIFLEMAN

Gary Malcolm Peterman (SR #2748)



Gary Malcolm Peterman, a Sweetwater, Tennessee native and the son of the late Walter D. (Pete) and Martha Plemons Peterman, passed away on November 14, 2025 at the age of 72. He was a graduate of Tennessee Military Institute and the University of Tennessee, where he began his professional career in the Office of the Registrar and ended it as an academic advisor in the College of Communication and Information. In retirement, he proudly volunteered as a NICU Baby Cuddler at East Tennessee Children's Hospital. A college football aficionado, Saturdays in the Fall were his favorite and he held UT season tickets for over fifty years. When not cheering for the Vols, he was rooting on the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame. He was also passionate about history and travel, and he and Karen visited many historical sites both here and abroad. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother Scott Peterman and nephew Jonathan Hise. He is survived by his wife of nearly 41 year, Karen Thompson Peterman; sister Soozie Hise; brother Scobey Peterman (Shari); sister-in-law Lana Peterman; niece Jessica Peterman, nephews Austin Peterman (Megan), Christopher Hise (Angie) and Joseph Peterman; 3 great-nephews, 1 great-niece and bonus nephew Josh Walker. Over the years, he and Karen have shared their home with many cats and dogs. Dappurr and Scout will miss his warm lap and his sweet kisses. At Gary's request, there will be no formal service to commemorate his life. Family and friends are asked to remember him with a donation to East Tennessee Children's Hospital.

Knox County Chapter Restart

On November 20th, a meeting was held to restart the Knox County Chapter of the TNSR after years of inactivity. General Society President Mark Jakobowski was in attendance and spoke about the importance of the state societies in leading the organization's mission. The growth of the TNSR was a central theme of the discussion. More information to come.



Capt. William McCormick

(1765-1818)

Submitted by Brent H. Smith.

Greetings Fellow Compatriots. I am attaching a biography of my 5th Great Grandfather .

Willaim McCormick was a soldier at Kings Mountain. He was born to Robert and Mary McCormick. William Married Nancy Hendricks Feb. 14th 1782. They were married by Rev. John McKnight, an old time circuit rider.

William’s official military record puts him in the 1st Virginia Regiment in 1777, under Capt. Richard Taylor. He was reassigned to Daniel Morgan’s Riflemen. He fought at the battle of Saratoga NY, Brandywine, Germantown, and Monmouth. He also fought the Battle Of Kings Mountain under Col. Isaac Shelby and was at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown.

William also participated in the St. Claire Campaign Nov. 4 1791. This battle occurred in the present day Ohio. Arthur St. Claire was the Governor of the Northwest Territory. Here they faced a Native American Contingent of the Miamis, Shawnees, & Delawares. This was the worst military defeat of the US Govt’s first true US Army. They set up at Fort Jefferson and setup Camp above here and were ambushed. William was Captain of the Frontier Battalion. He was sent with a detachment to round up soldiers who had run off. He was met by the army in retreat at Fort Jefferson. William had multiple land holdings, Davidson Co. TN on the Harpeth River, Sullivan Co. TN, Carter Co. TN Hawkins Co, Blount Co, and Greene Co. TN. He also received 80 Acres in Iowa for fighting Indians.

He was one of the first settlers in a group of explorers to start a settlement on the Cumberland as well as Robertson in 1779. He lived in a public house in Kingston TN 1795. This house still exists. It was built by David Ross. He is listed in the Blount Journal. He was also a surveyor (Chain Carrier) in Smith Co.& Jackson County TN. Henry Rowan and he were good friends and surveyed together. One of his traveling and exploring companions was George Christian another renowned Indian fighter. His final move was to Overton County TN in 1811-1812. He went to Fort Massic Illinois with a team of mules to visit his daughter. He died in 1818 along the Mississippi River coming back from his daughter’s. Andrew Steel told his family where he died. He was an American and a Patriot. I come down thru his daughter Jane McCormick Carmack. William’s wife is most likely buried in the Antioch Cemetery. In Tick Community of Jackson Co. TN. Much of this research has been done by another grandson, Mike McCormick whom we owe much thanks to for this information.

George Washington Day Dinner

Saturday, February 21st @ 6pm

Bistro By the Tracks, 5448 Homberg Drive, Knoxville, TN, 37919

Celebrate George Washington Day with Daniel Shippey at Bistro By the Tracks.

Per Daniel’s website:

“Daniel Shippey [is] a nationally renowned George Washington, scholar, interpreter, and impersonator. Seen at museums, battlefields, parades, schools, films, embassies, in commercials, corporate events, as keynote speaker, and formerly the official George Washington at George Washington’s home of Mount Vernon. Daniel and his wife Kelly (Martha Washington) have been portraying the Washingtons since 2008”.

\$100 per couple. Business meeting at 6:00 PM, Dinner to follow. To RSVP for this event: Contact sr1776@yahoo.com or 865-386-7272



For more information on Daniel Shippey, go to meetwashington.com

William Polk

Written by Sam Maner - January 14th, 2026

On this day in 1834, William Polk died at age 75, at his home in Raleigh, North Carolina. He had been the last surviving field officer of the North Carolina Continental Line.

When the Revolutionary War began, 17-year-old William was commissioned a second lieutenant in a company of South Carolina militia commanded by his uncle, Ezekiel Polk. He was severely wounded in the Battle of Great Cane Break on December 22, 1775. Shot in the shoulder, his wound became dangerously infected and he was incapacitated for nearly a year. Once he recovered, he was commissioned a major in the North Carolina Continental Line (at age 18) and he joined General Washington's army in New Jersey.

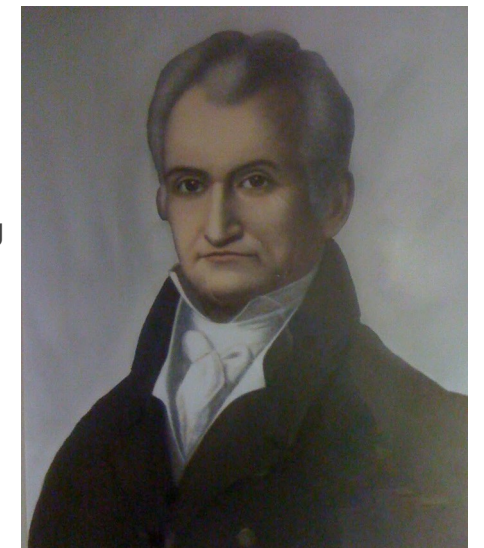
After seeing action at the Battle of Brandywine, Polk was seriously wounded at the Battle of Germantown, suffering a shot through his jaw that carried away several of his teeth. He was hospitalized with the army at Valley Forge throughout the winter of 1777/78 and in March 1778 he was sent back to North Carolina to do recruiting duty. He returned to field service in May 1780, afterwards fighting in the Battle of Camden and the Battle of Cowan's Ford, and participating in the Race to the Dan.

After the Battle of Guilford Courthouse in March 1781, at age 22 Polk was commissioned lieutenant colonel in the South Carolina militia, under the command of Thomas Sumter. He fought in several engagements in South Carolina in the summer of 1781, culminating with the Battle of Eutaw Springs. His younger brother Thomas was killed in that battle and William narrowly escaped being killed as well. In his official report of the battle, General Nathanael Greene commended Polk for his bravery and intrepidity.

After the war, Polk, an ardent Federalist, served in the North Carolina legislature and made two unsuccessful runs for governor. He served as a bank president and for 17 years was the federal supervisor of internal revenue for North Carolina (having been appointed by George Washington). He was a trustee for the University of North Carolina for 44 years. Polk County, North Carolina is named in his honor.

The Raleigh Register article announcing his death declared:

"Colonel Polk was at his death the sole surviving field officer of the North Carolina Line; and it will be no disparagement to the illustrious dead to say that no one of his compatriots manifested deeper or more ardent devotion to the cause of his country; that in her service no officer more gallantly exposed his life or more cheerfully endured privation and suffering, and that no one of his rank in the army contributed more by his personal services to bring that glorious contest to a successful end."



McFarland Cemetery Updates

Submitted by Dakota Carmichael - President of the McFarland chapter, & Gravemarking committee Chairman, Tennessee Society Sons of the Revolution.

I'd like to extend a huge thank you, to Mr. Channing Greene, and Mcfarland Chapter secretary Jason Henry for going out to McFarland cemetery and doing some much needed work. Still a lot to be done, but it's on its way. Plan is to get another big clean up effort sometime in the spring (no solid plans yet).

McFarland Cemetery, Hamblen Co, Tennessee

Burial place of Revolutionary Patriot, Lt. Col. Robert McFarland II he was a Lt. at the battle of Kings Mountain where it is said that his dad rode with him into battle, he was also in the battle of Cowpens as well as serving in several expeditions against the Cherokee and Creek natives. He, along with Col. Alexander Outlaw, and Capt. Thomas Jarnigan were the first settlers of Jefferson Co in what was called the bend of Chucky settlement. Robert was also one of the first sheriffs of Jefferson county. It is currently unknown if he was born in Scotland or the colonies. but family history dictates that his father was Sir Robert McFarland, who resigned his title and gave up his estate to pursue a life in the new world.





NEW MEMBERS

Number	Name	Ancestor
2991	James Waymon Lee Jr.,	David Rogers
2992	Chad Fred Bailey	David Hughes
2993	Mickey Stephen Bible	Johann Christian Bible
2994	Lloyd Virgil Bible	Johann Christian Bible
2995	Robert Eugene Payne	John Kirkpatrick
2996	James Mark Loftis	Archibald Dill
2997	Kenneth Wayne Estep	Shadrach Estep
2999	McPherson Dorsett Moore	Francis Hardgrove
3000	GW Bush	Jonathan Wear
3001	Jefferson Davis Lilly II	John Lind
3002	Jackson Wesley Price	Nathaniel Howell
3003	David Michael Laxton	Capt Dennis
3004	Corbin Gray Ashdown	Abram Bedell
3005	Jason Alan Winkler	Thomas Sinclair
3006	Joshua Thomas Fultz	Reuben Dalton
3007	Matthew Shane McGaha	Dr. Johann Martin Shults
3008	William Paul Perry, Jr	Nathaniel Howell
3009	John Richard Caddell, Jr	Joshua Moses

3010	Mark Witt Compton	John H. Kinnard
3011	Kamern Klay Kern	Sergeant John Rutherford
3012	Ashley C Smith M. Sc	Ludwig Wissinger
3013	James Robert Perry	George Wright
3014	Charles Arthur Ogle	James Owenby
3015	Gary Lee Loveday	William Russell
3016	Grayson Payne Cook	Richard Brindley
3017	James Bradford Cook	Richard Brindley
3018	Jackson Henley Cook	Richard Brindley
3019	Jonathan Creighton Cook	Richard Brindley
3020	LCpl Griffin Bradford Cook	Richard Brindley
3021	James Marshall Cook	Richard Brinkley
3022	Cody James Perry	Nathaniel Howell
3023	William Lonas Taylor III	David Rogers
3024	Andrew William Watkins	David Rogers
3025	Jeffrey Scott Watkins	David Rogers
3026	Daniel Howard Thaddeus Shippey	Samuel Shippey
3027	Douglas James Evans	William Simmons
3028	Craig Taylor Brown	Mashac Tipton
3029	Dr. Logan Andrew Williams	William Godsey
3030	Channing Greene	Colby Rucker
3031	Douglas James Evans	William Simmons

Supplementals

3008 S1	William Paul Perry, Jr	George Wright
---------	------------------------	---------------

Reinstatements

2167 28343	Rev John Stephen Sims	Daniel Fowler, Sr
------------	-----------------------	-------------------

CHAPTER MEETINGS

Chapter	Location	Day	Time
Anderson County	David Hall Cabin	4 th Tues	5:30 PM
Roane County	Flea World Rest.	1 st Fri	5:00PM
Robert McFarland	Long Street HQ	3 rd Thur	6:00 PM
Nashville Chapter	TO BE ANNOUNCED		
Knox County	TO BE ANNOUNCED		
Sevier County	TO BE ANNOUNCED		
Greene County	TO BE ANNOUNCED		
Loudon County	TO BE ANNOUNCED		
West TN Chapter	TO BE ANNOUNCED		
Chattanooga Chapter	TO BE ANNOUNCED		

For more information on chapter meetings, times, and locations contact our office 865-386-7272 or email sr1776@yahoo.com

