

2017 SAR POSTER CONTEST TOPIC:



JOHN SEVIER and HIS OVERMOUNTAIN MEN

While George Washington is known as the “Father of our Country,” John Sevier is the “Father of Tennessee.” Born in Virginia in 1745, Sevier was 26 years old when he migrated to the mountains west of the Carolinas in what is now Tennessee, with his wife and nine children.

Sevier developed a reputation as a combat leader in battles with Indians, where he learned and adopted many of the tactics used by the native Americans. He also developed a following of fiercely independent backwoodsmen and became one of the most prominent men in the area.

John Sevier became a hero of the American Revolution after he led his army of settlers – known as the Overmountain Men - at the Battle of Kings Mountain, which the Patriots won, turning the tide of the war.

After the war in 1784 the people living in what is now northeastern Tennessee voted to form a state called Franklin and elected John Sevier as Governor. Congress never approved the state of Franklin but in 1796 the state of Tennessee was formed. John Sevier was elected Tennessee's first governor and would eventually serve in that position for twelve years (1796-1801 and 1803-1809). Sevier also served four terms as a Congressman.

Further research: <http://www.tennesseehistory.com/class/JSevier.htm> and http://www.tnhistoryforkids.org/people/john_sevier

POSTER RULES: Use only 22 x 28 poster board. Must lie flat – no 3D. Posters are judged on the following criteria: Does the poster express the annual theme, show originality and evidence of research. Does the poster show artistic merit and creativity and is it neat and visually pleasing? And, does the poster accurately reflect the yearly topic? TIP: Check for spelling and historical accuracy! No 50 star U.S. flags!