



The

October—December 2017

Hornet's Nest

The President's Dispatch



Donald Burdick

It is indeed an honor to serve as your President and represent our Society and its members not only in Georgia but at the recent NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting in Louisville. As you probably know Nancy was also elected to serve as President of the Georgia Ladies Auxiliary. Whatever our callings, we've always enjoyed supporting each other and continue to do so now. Since our annual meeting in January we've been busy visiting chapters, installing officers and meeting compatriots and their ladies.

Following my induction in January I was given custody of several Society items. One of these was the beautiful framed copy of our Georgia Charter given to us by the National Society Sons of the American Revolution, dated March 15, 1921. The last paragraph of this charter reads,

"It is your sacred duty to revive and keep alive, especially within your territory, the spirit of pure and unselfish patriotism which inspired the Fathers of the Republic, and diligently to promote the lofty aims and objects of the Sons of the American Revolution, to the end that our Country may be preserved free, independent and united; that enlightened constitutional government may be maintained, and that peace and happiness, truth and justice, liberty and fraternity may be established among us for all generations."

What a powerful statement! In my thinking, these words epitomize what we are to accomplish. In other words, our marching orders!

Like each of you, I take pride in my membership in this noble society and value my association with men who are striving to keep the "Spirit of America" alive by furthering patriotism among our citizens. I fully recognize that ours is a volunteer organization and that we all have other responsibilities. Many members still work and their time is limited; others now retired, may have greater time to devote to chapter activities. Although we have our own obligations and responsibilities, working together we can each contribute something and thus help to accomplish much.

Each past National Society President General and State President has stated goals for the SAR. Although said somewhat differently there is much consistency in their messages. I too believe in their goals and wish to reemphasize and urge each compatriot to assist to the extent they can in accomplishing what I now consider my goals or even better our goals!

The first is to retain those compatriots we now have. Our Society is an inclusive one and each member should feel he's important to the organization and that his membership is valued. Planning for chapter activities at the beginning of the year and encouraging and recognizing participation by individuals, perhaps less active but now contributing, may be helpful. Becoming active and feeling part of a worthwhile patriotic endeavor is contagious. I believe that is why so many of us enjoy what we do. We feel our participation in patriotic activities is important. Chapter growth is next with chapter officers and members reaching out to friends and associates and introducing prospective members to our noble brotherhood. Assigning a mentor to each new member (A compatriot who becomes a friend and teaches and advises on the programs, events, responsibilities, customs, etc.) of our Society, should help us grow by retaining new members. Chapter Presidents should not let a meeting pass where a new member is absent without some follow-up. If no one knows why he's absent, the mentor, president, or another member should make contact and let that person know he was missed. Also, each new member should be asked to serve on a committee. If he resists, don't show disappointment but give him additional time to become better acquainted.

The DAR Referral Program should be an ongoing cooperative SAR/DAR effort in each chapter. Also, the new SAR brochure, "To help Preserve a Precious Heritage" is a helpful handout in explaining what we're all about to those we meet as prospective members. On Saturday, March 1st, I represented our Society at the Savannah River Genealogy Society Symposium in the Hart County Library. I set up a trifold display on the "Georgia's Revolutionary War Trail" and handed out brochures on the Georgia battles. I also gave the SAR brochure mentioned above to prospective members.

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The center of the fight for Independence in Wilkes County, Georgia, became known as "the hornet's nest" because of the stinging attacks made from there by the Georgia Patriots against the British and Tories.

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I suggest each Chapter President consider conducting a well-publicized genealogy seminar in their local library as a means of contacting prospective members. Advertise

your free seminar in the local media ahead of time. This year we need a net increase of slightly less than 100 new members to reach a year end goal of 2,000. Hopefully with all of us seeking new members we will even exceed this number.

As we all know, youth are the lifeblood of any organization. Relatively few chapters participate in our Youth Outreach Programs such as the Essay and Oration Contests, Poster and Pamphlet Contests, Eagle Scout Awards and JROTC and ROTC Recognition Programs and Awards. Hopefully each chapter will have a chairman and education committee with leaders for each of these programs. I suggest that each Chapter President include participation in these programs in their quarterly reports to the BOM. Also, each SAR chapter should have an individual who provides liaison and help to a local C.A.R. Society

Every member has opportunity to present a Flag Certificate to those organizations, businesses, churches, etc. that display the American flag properly. Templates are available for printing the blank flag certificates which can be obtained from NSSAR.

Let's continue to seek out and promote recognition of deserving citizens for our law enforcement and other community service awards. This is an excellent way to honor such individuals while bringing community recognition to the SAR.

Participation in Historic Events and Celebrations and Marking and Reporting of Patriot Graves are programs that honor and bring recognition to those patriots who sacrificed much to bring us an independent country and the liberties we enjoy today. The Color Guard and Musket Firing Militia contribute much to these programs and represent us well to the public. Please consider joining these men and supporting these events.

Continued support and recognition of veterans in VA hospitals and at home is one of our core programs and deserves much support and cooperation with DAR chapter members who also contribute much in this area.

The many aspects of our educational outreach and community support programs are reported annually on the Americanism Score Sheet. While a number of our chapters use this Score Sheet to report on chapter activities some do not. I wish to suggest that those chapters that have not submitted an Americanism Score Sheet consider doing so and appoint a chairman to oversee and report on chapter activities even though they might not have activity in each area.

In my brief remarks at the close of our annual conference I mentioned that each chapter should have a Publicity Chairman that would submit articles of chapter events to the local media as well as submit articles to The Hornets' Nest and The SAR Magazine. Such announcements and articles would help to publicize what we do both locally and nationally and assist in recruiting.

Also, I asked that our Society Senior Vice President working with each Regional Vice President lead an effort to identify chapters that need help in recruiting, programming, outreach education, etc. and recommend needed assistance. I ask that Regional Vice Presidents submit their Regional Vice President's Report prior to each BOM Meeting and that the Senior Vice President also include steps that may be helpful in his report.

I feel if we all lengthen our stride and work together much can be accomplished. My thanks to each of you for your efforts in furthering patriotism and educational outreach in keeping alive the "Spirit of America."



Wayne L. Brown

'Farewell to the Troops'

At the January 2018 State Society Conference Georgia Society President Wayne L. Brown made a sincere statement of appreciation for the support and assistance he received from many Georgia Compatriots during his term of service.

Secretary's Report Georgia Society, Sons of the American Revolution Winter 2017

Active Membership as of 01 Jan 2017

1,672

Plus: New Members... 228
Plus: Memorial Member... 1
Plus: Transfers In... 7
Plus: Reinstatements ... 49
Plus: Reinstatement
Transfers... 6

2017 Total Additions... +291

Less: Deceased... 31
Less: Memorial Member 1
Less: Resignations... 0
Less: Transfers Out... 14

Active Membership as of 31 Dec 2017

1,917

Less: Drops... 163

2017 Total Losses... -209

Active Membership as of 01 Jan 2018

1,754

Reported to National

Plus: Dual Members
(Out of State) ... 25
(loss of 4 from 2017)

Active Membership as of 01 Jan 2018

1,779

Reported to BOM

Board of Managers Meetings

Saturday, April 28, 2018
Saturday, July 28, 2018
Saturday, Oct 27, 2018
Saturday, January (Date TBA), 2019

BOM location:

Garden Patch Restaurant
100 Southland Drive
(old highway 41)
Barnesville, GA. 30204

 IN MEMORY OF


Georgia Society Deceased Members Since Sunday, January 1, 2017

<u>Compatriot</u>	<u>Nat'l No.</u>	<u>Chapter</u>	<u>DECEASED</u>
Edward Blackshear BROWN, Jr.	185795	Joseph Habersham	12 Jan 2017
Donald Marvin BREED,	184574	Piedmont	16 Jan 2017
Douglas Harrison STANSBERRY	142912	Marquis de Lafayette	24 Jan 2017
David Otis CHESNUT, Jr.	166598	Marshes of Glynn	04 Feb 2017
James Bertram HAWK	173568	Lyman Hall	05 Feb 2017
Thomas Robert OLIVER	171545	Athens	20 Feb 2017
Howard Carl TANNER	145643	Piedmont	22 Feb 2017
Dan Allen DIXON,	181880	Joseph Habersham	25 Feb 2017
James Floyd GOODRUM	156455	Marquis de Lafayette	16 Mar 2017
Paul Daniel BOROWSKI,	196211	Atlanta	12 Apr 2017
Michael James BONNER,	178337	Athens	28 Apr 2017
John Maurice MATTINGLY,	182267	John Collins	13 May 2017
Donald Allan KENAGY,	182532	Atlanta	14 May 2017
William Flynn MILLER, Jr.	142764	Altamaha	16 May 2017
Robert Fulton GALER	129395	Coweta Falls	22 Jun 2017
Philip Sanford BUTLER,	185724	Samuel Elbert	12 Jul 2017
Peyton Samuel HAWES, Jr.	131311	Samuel Elbert	19 Jul 2017
Milton Irvin JOHNSON, Jr.	128315	Ocmulgee	28 Jul 2017
James Malcolm RUFF, Sr.	190094	Button Gwinnett	19 Aug 2017
John Darby DOUGLAS, Jr.	150246	Ocmulgee	05 Sep 2017
Reed Laurence ENGLE,	188658	Edward Telfair	13 Nov 2017
Edward Cameron WHITTLE,	188602	Marshes of Glynn	22 Nov 2017
Alexander Bratton MCFADDEN	149561	Valdosta	24 Nov 2017



State Officers & Committees

NEWS



Georgia Society Senior Vice President—Don Burdick

4th Quarter, October-December 2017

Oct 6, Attended South Atlantic District Meeting, Spartanburg, SC
 Oct 6, Over Mountain Men presentation, Cowpens
 Oct 7, Kings Mountain Commemoration- presented wreath
 Oct 11, GA Society SAR EXCOM Meeting, Atlanta, GA
 Oct 28, GA Society SAR BOM, Barnesville, GA
 Nov 1, Planning Session with city/county officials, Kettle Creek, Washington, GA
 Nov 11, Veterans Day Commemoration, CG & Militia, Veterans Park, Watkinsville, GA
 Nov 15, Participated (musket firing) Filming, Battle of Kettle Creek, Wilkes County, GA
 Nov 17-18 Fort Morris Commemoration, militia firing and presented wreath
 Dec 2, Vann's Creek Commemoration, militia firing and presented wreath
 Dec 5, Athens Chapter Meeting/Christmas Party



State Historian—Dr. David A. Ludley

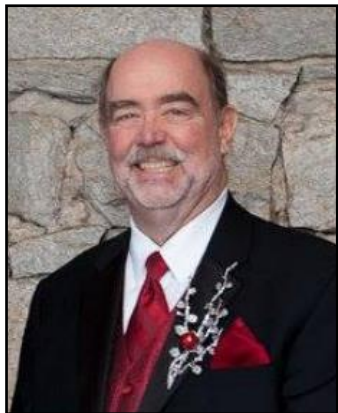
Objectives for 2017:

Create a catalog of the items contributed in 2017, belonging to the GASSAR, and carried to the Atlanta History Center

Update the Georgia Society Website section "History of Georgia" for the year 2017.

Activities of the past quarter:

The History of Georgia Society for the year 2017 is being completed and will be sent to the webmaster for publication. Additional items have been added to the Digital Catalog and placed in storage at the Atlanta History Center, Kenan Research Center. The flash drive catalog has been updated. A broad index of Items archived at the Kenan Center is included in this Digital Catalog.



Source Book Committee—Dr. Edward P Rigel, Sr

The Georgia Society SAR Source Book is accessible for viewing by all members of the Society:
<http://gasocietysar.org/source-book/>

4th Quarter Activity: Follows is a list of Source Book sections updated, revised, added or deleted in the 4th Quarter 2017:

10.07F New Officer Notification Form.doc
 11.1.1 Regional VP Quarterly Report form.doc
 11.1.2 Committee BOM Reports Format.doc
 12.08.1 DAR-SAR Sponsorship Award.doc
 12.08.1F DAR Referral Form 2017.pdf

State and Chapter Officers, State Committee Chairs and Members, are encouraged to review sections in the Source Book pertinent to their area and submit either suggestions for improvement and/or proposed revisions to Source Book to the Committee for consideration.



Graves Committee—Sonny Pittman

Fourth Quarter, October-December, 2017, Report:

We have eleven Chapters in the Georgia Society eligible to be awarded Patriot Grave Marking Certificates and Flag Streamer Stars at the January, 2018 Annual Meeting.

And, we have four Chapters eligible to be awarded Compatriot Grave Marking Certificates and Flag Streamer Stars. Dr. Ed Rigel and I are currently in the process of reconciling Chapter submissions and it appears at this hour that we will have all forms and photos needed for posting to the Graves Registry by the time of our annual meeting.

I am indebted to our Chapter Presidents and Chapter Graves Committee Chairmen, Dr. Rigel and fellow committee members for the hard work and time that has been devoted to this effort. I am also pleased to report that five Compatriots have been awarded Patriot Grave Marking Medals in 2017.

They are:

Compatriot Jackson W. Guest, Athens Chapter
 Compatriot Roger W. Coursey, Edward Telfair Chapter
 Compatriot Ed Rigel, Sr. Lyman Hall Chapter
 Compatriot Shep Hammock, Mount Vernon Chapter
 Compatriot Don Ray Thomas, Sr. Col William Few Chapter

Chapter Goals 2018

Appoint a Chapter Patriot Graves Committee Chairman. Forward name, email address and phone number to (sonnypittman@comcast.net).

Seek out and mark at least one Patriot Grave in your area in 2018.

For your Patriot Grave marked, your Chapter Graves Chairman or designee needs to submit a completed Graves Registry Form (GASSAR Source Book, Section 26.07F) with headstone photo to Dr. Ed Rigel, Sr., Graves Registrar, (compatriotrigel@charter.net); me (sonnypittman@comcast.net); and, NSSAR Graves Chairman (patriotgraves@sar.org).

Note: "Georgia Revolutionary Soldiers and Sailors, Patriots & Pioneers, Vols. 1&2 by Ross Arnold and Hank Burnham were distributed to each GASSAR Chapter. These volumes contain a Georgia County-by-County compilation of Revolutionary War Patriots who made Georgia their permanent home and died here. Information on service history, birth and death dates and places of burial are provided.



Georgia Society Registrar—Bob Sapp

The State Registrar received 270 membership and supplemental applications for review and approval during the calendar year 2017. This is significantly less than previous years. The review status as of 31 December is as follows:

Applications received for review	270
Applications reviewed and sent to NSSAR	246
Applications approved by NSSAR	171
Applications pending at NSSAR	2
Applications pending by Georgia Registrar	51
Applications returned by Georgia Registrar	2

It is noted that of none of pending by State Registrar were pending by NSSAR.

The statistics are as follows:

All of applications were reviewed
 69.57% of applications reviewed and sent to NSSAR were approved
 0.8% of applications were pending by NSSAR
 18.9% of applications were pending or returned by State Registrar

The changing requirements for application approval and improving documentation standards indicate a continuing need for a Chapter Registrar workshop. A workshop was conducted at the annual meeting on Friday afternoon.

Your registrar appreciates dialogue between the chapter registrars and the state registrars that ensure required documentation are submitted. More importantly the dialogue leads to preparing proof summaries. Therefore your Registrar suggests that a telephone call or email will help the process.



Public Service & Heroism Committee—Bill Tankersley Ed.D.

2017-GASSAR-Public-Service-&Heroism-Medal-Presentations					
Chapter	Law- Enforcement Commendation	Fire Safety Commendation	Emergency- Medical-Services Commendation	Heroism	Life-Saving
					
Athens	1		1	1	
Blue-Ridge-Mountains	1	1	1	1	
Button-Gwinnett	1		1		
Captain-John-Collins		1			
Cherokee					1
Joel-Early				1	
Ocmulgee	1				
Robert-Forsyth	2				
William-Few			1		



Knight Essay Contest Committee— Terry A. Gibbs

The GASSAR Knight Essay competition for the academic school year 2017-2018 ended on December 31, 2017 and judging is completed by January 1, 2018. There were four Georgia Society chapters that participated in the contest this academic year. Chapters submitting winning essays were: Rome Chapter, William Few Chapter, Marshes of Glynn Chapter and the Samuel Elbert Chapter.

There were twelve individual essays submitted at the Georgia Society Chapter Level.

Each Chapter's winning essay was submitted for judging at the state level to the Georgia Society on December 15, 2017. Only the Essay Body and the Bibliography of each essay was provided to the judges for their evaluation. The Title Page and Biography Page were withheld. This was done so that each essay was judged solely on the merit of the composition. This procedure was adopted so that any perception of judging bias would be minimized.

The Georgia Society winner and runner-up were announced in early January 2018. The Georgia Society winner's essay will be entered into the National Society Contest. The winners at the National Society will be awarded:

- \$5,000 for First Place
- \$2,500 for Second Place
- \$1,000 for Third Place.

The Georgia Society winner _____ received the Georgia Society Knight Essay Medal and \$600 cash scholarship award at the Youth Awards luncheon at the Georgia Society Annual Meeting on January 27, 2018. The Georgia Society also awarded a \$400 cash scholarship to _____ as runner-up in the GASSAR competition.

Very special thanks to the Knight Essay judges Claire and Charlie Newcomer, Dr. James Lemley, and William Palmer.

IT Committee—Richard Marsh

The Society's website provides several important functions: distribute information to membership; attract new members; and inform the public of the SAR mission. Currently, the Georgia Society is not taking advantage of this important tool.

Attempts to complete the rebuild of the Society's website continued during the 4th quarter. Little or no progress was seen due to a continued lack of input from responsible officers, committee chairs and chapter presidents. Areas that continue to be lacking include:

Only one member has submitted any articles for inclusion.
 Events Calendar (only future events: Jan—BOM and Conference, Feb—Elijah Clarke)
 Registrar's Status Report (current is dated August 2, 2017)
 Junior Membership Page (still in status 'being drafted')
 SAR Brochure Contest (current references to 2016 Congress)
 Knight Essay Contest (contact does not match current chairman)
 Chapters (The following have not provided input for Chapter pages)

Blue Ridge Mountains
 Captain John Collins
 Casimir Pulaski
 Cherokee
 Dalton
 Edward Telfair
 Four Rivers Patriots
 George Walton
 Joel Early

John Milledge
 Joseph Habersham
 Marquis de Lafayette
 Marshes of Glynn
 Mill Creek
 Mount Vernon
 Patrick Carr Rangers
 Valdosta

Awards (missing information for 2009, 2015, 2016, 2017)

Speakers Bureau (info recovered from old website, photos missing and info likely out of date)

Photo Gallery (attempting to rebuild, submit photos to Rick Reese RickReese68@att.net)

Database

Review of database is underway with targeted completion by the end of February. When complete, the database will reside online and mirror the functionality of the current PC based Access database.

Bylaws Committee—Dr. Edward P Rigel, Sr

Committee Objectives: The committee will review the Georgia Society SAR Bylaws on a regular basis to recognize needed revisions and prepare any recommended changes to the Bylaws by the membership for review by the Executive Committee and submission to the Board of Managers for approval. The committee will provide assistance to members seeking guidance on making revisions to the Bylaws by offering suggested rewording or alternative means to accomplish the desired action.

Website Information: The Georgia Society SAR Bylaws are accessible for viewing by all members from the Society *SourceBook Section 07 Georgia Society By-Laws*. The *By-Laws Proposed Amendment Form* is also available in Section 07.

4th Quarter Activity: Other than the occasional request of the Chairman for an interpretation of a Bylaw by a GA SAR member there was no activity by the Committee.



Public Relations Committee - John Trussell

The GASSAR Publicity Committee was very active in 2017 and our major accomplishment was the release of our Power Point program “The Revolutionary War in the South”. You can now find the program on our GASSAR website, and I appreciate the help of Richard Marsh in adding this on the website. We were also successful in getting some great GASSAR news into the national SAR Magazine. If you send me your significant news items with good quality photos, I will send them on to the SAR Magazine. You can also send the items directly to the SAR Magazine at sarmag@sar.org.

In 2018, I'm trying to get an article on “The Revolutionary War in Georgia” in “Georgia Magazine” the Rural Electrical Cooperative Magazine that goes out free to 550,000 readers in Georgia. I have not yet gotten approval, but I'm working on it! If you have a special event planned and need some help in Publicity, email me and I'll be glad to help. Presently, I'm working with the organizers of Kettle Creek and Elijah Clark Park events to get some “letters to the Editor” in major newspapers in the area to publicize the events. In December, I spoke to a large gathering at Andersonville National Cemetery in support of “Wreathes Across America”.

In case you missed it, President General Larry Guzy just sent out an email with another tool that will soon be available to aid education and membership. Larry says that “Compatriot Wayne Snodgrass has produced and funded a DVD for a "How To" on presenting to schools and others. It will be available shortly. This is based on what others have done with the Traveling Trunk and the Colorado Patriot's Chest. For those who want to make presentations and don't know how (I wish I had this before I first presented in 1998) this is great. For those experienced, it is another tactic to improve.”

The Publicity Committee is charged with spreading the good word and works about the SAR across our great state. GASSAR President Wayne Brown stated previously that two of his goals were to increase the public's awareness of GASSAR and to increase membership. To obtain those goals it will take the effort and commitment of all of our 32 chapters and it will be a work in progress. We must use low cost (Free) methods which are readily available and develop strategies which keep the Sons of the American Revolution in the public mind on a frequent basis. The presidents of each chapter should reach out to local newspapers in the methods described below so that local citizens will come to know SAR in the same positive manner and esteem that DAR is held. To increase public awareness of SAR we must get the attention of potential members who will be the live blood of our future organization. With only 1,800 members we are barely scratching the surface of potential memberships. Below are some actions that will increase participation in our chapter meeting and add members to our rolls. As we roll into 2018, please keep these goals in mind.

1) Each chapter should advertise their meetings in all local papers in advance of the meeting day. Most papers, especially small weekly papers, are glad to get news that is relevant to readers and does not require any work of them. For example, most papers have an events calendar which shows upcoming club meetings, speakers and community events- make sure the local SAR meeting is listed not only in every local paper, but also in any outlying newspaper where members can be drawn. In the Macon area for example, meeting info can be sent to Perry, Jeffersonville, Cordele, and Fort Valley. Make sure the time, place and address of your meeting is listed, plus the contact info of the President or VP in charge of programs. The papers are usually also glad to run photos of your speakers and short captions on the speaker's topic, after the event, so be sure to get those in to the papers too!

2) Don't overlook the chance to write letters to the editor on a frequent basis. When representing the SAR, your letters should of patriotic nature, advance American ideals and goals and be non-political, never criticizing candidates or political parties. Below is a sample letter that can be used by every Georgia Chapter President to bring positive attention to the SAR and attract potential members. It is attached here for your reading and use for SAR purposes.

Dear Editor- Please consider this letter for our local newspaper. Did your Great Grandfather fight in Revolutionary War?

The fact is that most people have no idea if any of their past relatives fought in the rev war. But that's not usual since that war occurred over 200 years ago. But the truth is that most U S citizens have one or more rev war ancestors in their backgrounds, just waiting to be discovered!

We owe them a debt that can never really be repaid, and in most cases we don't even know their names! I'm talking about those early ancestors who came to America seeking freedom and economic opportunity. Would you like to discover who your American patriot is and know more about him and yourself?

Popular TV shows like, “Who do you think you are” and “Finding your Roots” entertain us with celebrities who, with the help of professional genealogists, discover the remarkable truth about their individual family histories. However your own personal family history is probably no less remarkable and interesting!

Most people don't have the knowledge or training to conduct family background research .But that's where Sons of the American Revolution or Daughters of the American Revolution can be of great help! The volunteer registrars of these two groups will work with you to help you discover your own family history so you can join SAR or DAR. Once you uncover your fascinating family history, it will be something that you'll be able to share with all your relatives.

They will be both amazed and appreciative for your efforts to build a living family legacy to be passed down to future generations. To start you own journey of discovery, go www.gassar.org or dar.org to locate your nearest Sar or Dar chapter and contact information. Let us help you discover your rev war patriot ancestor! Local SAR president signature, address, phone number

3) Don't miss the chance to do special interviews with your local paper in conjunction with upcoming patriotic holidays, such as Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Veterans Day and special events like “Wreathes Across America”. If you do a letter to the editor or suggest an interview on one of these special events, there is a good chance the paper will run it.

Let me know if I can assist you in 2018! John Trussell, Publicity Chairman



Georgia Color Guard Commander—Bill Palmer

On Monday December 11 the Georgia Society's Color Guard received a proclamation from the city of Snellville at a City Council meeting.

Compatriots Bill Palmer, Bruce Maney, Eldon Evans, and John Zeigler represented our Color Guard at the proclamation.

The proclamation to the Award Winning Georgia SAR for all our work in writing the program, script, and participation in Patriotic events in Snellville the past three years. It also included our work in education and living history programs. The original copy of the proclamation was forwarded to the State Historian at the State Conference.



Year to Date

Membership: The Color Guard has added eight members to the Color Guard/Militia, as first time participants to its roll in 2017. We now have a source for Continental uniforms. It is GG Godwin.

Participation: The number of members participating was awesome! Militia turnout has been outstanding. A highlight of the 4th quarter was the participation of the Elijah Clarke Militia in a movie for the National Guard about Elijah Clarke and the Battle of Kettle Creek. We also had good participation at Kings Mountain, and various Veterans Day Events. The Award Winning Color Guard/Elijah Clarke Militia was presented a proclamation from the City of Snellville.

Acquisitions: An outdoor SAR flag staff was delivered to the Southern Division.



Eagle Scout Committee - Bill Coffeen

The Eagle Recognition committee has had another successful year. There were at least 263 Eagle Scout recognition certificates (based upon chapter annual reports to date) issued throughout Georgia. Piedmont chapter issued the most certificates at 140. For the first time (to my knowledge) we had ten chapters submit entries for our annual Eagle Scout Scholarship competition. The following chapters submitted their best candidates: Atlanta, Coweta Falls, George Walton, Marshes of Glynn, Mount Vernon, Piedmont, and Wiregrass. After careful scrutiny by our four judges from non-participating chapters (Charlie Newcomer –Athens, Ed Rigel, Jr.-Robert Forsyth, Michael Black-Valdosta and Paul Lester – Edward Telfair) they chose Cameron Macdonald sponsored by the Piedmont chapter as our 2017 GASSAR winner and Samuel Parker, sponsored by the Marshes of Glynn chapter, as runner-up. Cameron Macdonald will be recognized with a \$600 scholarship check and trophy at our Georgia Society's annual chapter and youth awards luncheon on January 27. His application will be forwarded to National to be judged in the NSSAR competition. Our Georgia Society runner-up will receive a scholarship check for \$400 from our committee. I personally applaud all those who participated. The State level

competition continues to be fierce. National scholarship awards for 2017 will be \$10,000 for 1st, \$6,000 for 2nd and \$4,000 for 3rd. We'll keep the Georgia Society apprised of those results.

As State Society chairman I received 62 requests for letters of commendation during 2017 compared to 82 during 2016, a 24% decrease (although closer to the year over year average). I personally delivered eight certificates at individual Eagle Courts of Honor and sent an additional four certificates directly to Eagle recipients throughout Georgia. Where a chapter has an Eagle Scout chairman I forward those requests on to encourage direct communication with the new Eagle Scout. If there is no local chapter program then I will personally (as noted above) insure that a letter of commendation, an Eagle certificate of recognition and scholarship information is sent to the young man. Many chapters that have formal recognition programs have found that personally participating in Eagle Courts of Honor have increased the number of scholarship applications, raised the local awareness of our Society and actually garnered interest in applying for membership.

We maintain an Eagle Scout information page on our GA SAR website which highlights a state-wide database of Scout Council/District information cross-referenced to our chapters serving specific counties. It provides parents and volunteer leaders of Eagle Scouts (and you as SAR members) with valuable contact information based upon the county one lives in or the BSA Council/District their unit belongs to. It will again be updated with current contact information by the end of this month.

Yes, we had a successful year, but we can do better. There are 10 Boy Scout Councils serving the needs of young men throughout Georgia. The Georgia Society SAR has 32 chapters covering most of the state. We have 26 chapters (81% that have formal Eagle Scout recognition programs with chairmen serving. I want to especially thank all those at the chapter level who support these recognition programs. I've personally seen the positive impact that our recognition programs play in the lives of these young men. It takes time to develop a working relationship with BSA Council/District volunteer and professional Scouters, but the results can be very gratifying.

Our committee encourages all chapters to participate in this recognition program and we'll provide support and direction to help you start and grow.



Historic Sites & Celebrations Committee — Scott Collins

Mission Statement - The Historic Sites and Celebration Committee will preserve and provide Revolutionary era history in Georgia by supporting annual GASSAR battlefield observances. We exist to provide a quality patriotic experience for everyone to enjoy. Events are to be challenged for period knowledge, image and quality delivery of our American Revolutionary History. The committee will strive to reach out for new membership, youth participation, enhanced public imagery and civic involvement. The Historic Sites and Celebration Team will have no boundaries in support of Georgia Society SAR objectives.

Fourth Quarter Events

Oct 9th -- Battle of Savannah. HS&CC, Color Guard & Georgia SAR members joined the Coastal Heritage Society in the annual Parade and Memorial at Tri-centennial Park in downtown Savannah. Muster was at 6:45 AM in the Savannah Visitor Center parking lot. A ceremony followed the Memorial March to Battlefield Memorial Park to commemorate the battle and the newly commissioned Battlefield stones and to remember those who fought. After the program and wreath laying there was a breakfast at the Railroad Shop.

Nov. 18th -- Fort Morris – Sunbury Memorial Ceremony in Liberty County. The Marshes of Glynn Chapter Georgia SAR presented a fantastic program on the Commemoration of the British Demand to Surrender Fort Morris of November 25, 1778 to which the Patriots defiantly replied, “Come and Take it!”, the Georgia SAR Color Guard performed exceptionally well as lead by Commander Bill Palmer. The National SAR was represented by President General Larry T. Guzy who talked on the Rise & Fall of Sunbury & Fort Morris.. The Georgia State Society Children of the American Revolution presented a program on the Fighting in Liberty County and Prisoners at Sunbury. A large number of guest were also present and some local JROTC participated in the program. The Saturday program which also included Colonial Musical Selections, the Thirteen Revolutionary Flags program, and a “Come and Take It” program with patriot militia and English soldiers was followed by a seafood luncheon at the Sunbury Crab Company which made a perfect finish to a great event.

Dec. 2nd -- Battle of Vann's Creek – held at Richard Russell State park. This 11th annual event was sponsored by the Samuel Elbert Chapter Georgia SAR and closed the 2017 program for the Georgia SAR Historic Site & Celebrations Committee. Professor Clay Ouzts was the keynote speaker. The event was well attended by SAR and DAR participants and was slightly larger than last year. Another great performance by the Color Guard. Member of the local JROTC unit assisted in setup and breakdown after the event. Young backs and minds are always welcome and we hope they will continue to attend in the future. After the ceremony all attendees were treated to a Barbecue luncheon and none went away hungry. We could ask for nothing more to end the Georgia SAR HS&CC annual events.

2018 Program Dates

February 9 & 10, 2018 Battle of Kettle Creek & Revolutionary Days

February 11, 2018 Colonial Worship Service following Kettle Creek

March 3, 2018 Brier Creek

April 14, 2018 Frederica Patriots Days on St Simons Island

April 15, 2018 Colonial Worship Service following Patriots Days

September 18, 2018 Constitution Day – Augusta, Georgia St. Paul's Church

October 9, 2018 Battle of Savannah

November 17, 2018 Fort Morris / Sunbury

December 1, 2018 Battle of Vann's Creek

Americanism Committee—Roger W Coursey



To encourage participation in the Americanism/President General's Report, I have sent out several emails to Chapter Presidents and Chapter Americanism Committee Chairman. I encouraged all chapters to submit reports, even if they knew they would not win anything, as their input will help the GASSAR Society at the national level. Several chapters have reached out to me for help in understanding the scoresheet and making sure they submitted correct entries.

This year the Georgia Society had twenty chapters submitting Americanism Reports. That is one more chapter than submitted reports last year. Three chapters submitted reports that did not submit reports last year. Two of those chapters had been very faithful in submitting reports up until last year. We had two chapters that did not submit reports, but submitted them last year. Both have been very strong chapters in the past. One of those chapters tried to submit a report, but I was not able to open his files since he had completed it on an Apple computer using a different format than what I have available to me. I remind all those preparing reports to leave the report in the EXCEL format that it is in. I have to send these reports to National when I am done with the state

competition and they have to be in the EXCEL format. When I combine the Chapter reports for the State report for National, all reports have to be in the same EXCEL format.

I would like to address a couple of areas that I found the most mistakes in this year. One involves the awarding of medals and certificates in Section 12. A chapter can only take credit for medals and certificates that it awards. Awards given by national or state cannot be listed as awarded by the chapter.

Also, make sure you list awards for the youth programs in Section 6. These are repeat comments from last year. Chapters are still trying to claim awards that are awarded by National or State.

Another area to be addressed is Section 3, Speakers Bureau. This is only for those members who have presented a presentation, speech or lecture. It is NOT for listing attendance at BOMs, State Meetings, Leadership meetings, Rotary Club meetings, etc. It is also NOT for listing presenting colors at meetings of any type.

Another area, to take credit under 10A, your chapter MUST sponsor the event, not just participate.

The last area I would like to address, is Section 16. Money donated under 16A is specific in the instructions as to what can be claimed. Also in 16B, that is for Non Cash donations made to NSSAR, not what your chapter spends on items for itself.

I review each scoresheet as I receive it. I make changes to correlate with the rules as published, before I use the score for the state competition and before I submit them to National. I try to notify the chapter if I made changes, but with only a short period of time to go over these reports and get the results in to state before our annual meeting, some changes have been made without notifying the submitter.

The Americanism Awards will be awarded at the Annual Banquet as has been done in previous years. We have nine chapters that will be receiving the Americanism Chapter of Distinction Streamer, while six chapters will be receiving the Americanism Chapter of Excellence Streamer. We have four chapters that will be receiving the President General Chapter of Distinction Streamer, while two chapters will be receiving the President General Chapter of Excellence Streamer.

I want to thank all those chapters who made the effort to participate in and submit their Americanism Reports. By your efforts, you will certainly enhance the Georgia Society's position in the Americanism Contest at National.



Membership Committee—Gordon Woodard

Attended April 2017 Georgia State BOM. Met President Bill Dobbs of George Walton Chapter. Spoke with other Chapter Presidents and State Vice-Presidents about status of Chapters in their Region.

Reached out to President Bill Dobbs of George Walton Chapter with a proposal to assist from other interested SAR members from other Chapters. Discussed some of the roadblocks faced by the George Walton Chapter and some ideas to reach new prospective Members. Bill will discuss these ideas with his active members and we plan to meet soon in person. A trip to California (Bill) and Family events (Gordon) have hindered an earlier face to face meeting.

Other Chapters are also in need of assistance and I plan to reach out to discuss their roadblocks and formulate a map for retention and reaching Potential Members.

Attended Summer 2017 Georgia State BOM to discuss membership issues with several chapters and attended SE Region meeting in South Carolina prior to Kings Mountain observance.



Veterans Committee—Bill Kabel

The Georgia Society has long prided itself for its support of veterans and veteran causes. It has been commonplace for the society to be recognized as a leader in its society membership size group at annual SAR Congresses. In 2017 the Georgia Society continued to be recognized for its support of veterans when for the third consecutive year it received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Executive Director of Wreaths Across America for its support of that program.

As descendants of America's very first veterans it is incumbent upon the SAR to honor the memory and spirit of our Patriot ancestors by encouraging its chapters and state societies to have viable veterans programs. The tool that SAR uses to measure the effectiveness of chapter and society programs is the U.S.S. Stark report.

After a few "off-years" GASSAR made inroads in 2017 to reclaim its prominence. However, we still have a long way to go, which would be aided greatly if all chapters submitted Stark reports. It's interesting to note that 19 Georgia chapters recently submitted a request for "Distinguished Chapter" designation. Of those 19, there were ten that did not bother to submit a Stark report. Why they feel they deserve to be a "Distinguished Chapter" when they fail to provide a significant report is a mystery.

Stark results for 2017

46,407 Total points, which is a 26% improvement over last year's results, but still not good enough to be among the leading societies.

12 chapters submitted Stark reports, which is one more than the number reporting last year.

Membership Size Grouping Winners were:

Group A (1-24 members) NONE. There were no submissions made from chapters within this group

Group B(25-49 members) 1. Robert Forsyth Chapter 6 (8.46 Avg. Points per Member)
2. Casimir Pulaski Chapter (6.74 Avg. Points per Member)

Group C (50- 99 members) 1. Athens Chapter (127.96 Avg. Points per Member)
2. Button Gwinnett Chapter (103.50 Points per Member)
3. Marquis de Lafayette Chapter (66.59 Avg. Points per Member)
4. Marshes of Glynn Chapter (64.96 Avg. Points per Member)

Group D (100+ members) 1. Atlanta Chapter (38.32 Avg. Points per Member)

Overall top performing Chapter with 127.96 Average Points per Member is the Athens Chapter. It will receive a star to place on its BG Robert L Scott, Jr. streamer to signify it as a TOP PERFORMER. The Award was created by the Georgia Society several years ago to recognize the top chapter in each membership size category, based on Total Points.. In order to be in harmony and to be consistent with the NSSAR Veterans Committee determination of category winners is now based on Average Stark Points per Member instead of Total Points. Category winners receive a BG Scott Award streamer and a certificate.



Flag Respect—Paul Prescott

The Flag Respect Committee assumes that all of the GASSAR chapters have reported their Flag Certificate presentations for the year 2017. With that said, the committee congratulates the Georgia Society on qualifying for the ADM William Furlong award that will be presented at the SAR Congress.

However, we are still disappointed that Georgia did not qualify for the 100 Percent Chapter Participation award. There is always next year! Therefore, do not forget to order Flag Certificates or blank certificates if you print your own. Another Georgia Society order will be picked up at the Spring Leadership meeting.

These Chapters have reported presenting Flag Certificates:

Altamaha
Athens
Atlanta
Blue Ridge Mountains
Button Gwinnett
Capt. John Collins
Casimir Pulaski
Coweta Falls

George Walton
Joel Early
Joseph Habersham
Lagrange
Lyman Hall
Marquis de Lafayette
Marshes of Glynn
Mount Vernon

Ocmulgee
Piedmont
Robert Forsyth
Rome
Washington-Wilkes
William Few
Wiregrass



Education Outreach Committee—Rick Reese

Year End Education Committee Awards for 2017

Chapter Education Outreach Streamer Award

Contest Description: This certificate and streamer is presented at the GASSAR annual conference to any chapter that has sponsored education outreach programs to a total of 1,000 or more students and/or adults during the calendar year. The following are qualified for the award:

Button Gwinnett Chapter - 24 programs to 2725 students, teachers, and parents

Col Wm. Few Chapter - 27 programs to 2009 students and teachers.

Coweta Falls Chapter - 30 programs to 2332 students and teachers

Marshes of Glynn Chapter - 38 programs to 2781 students and teachers

Athens Chapter - 2 programs to 1057 students and teachers

Lyman Hall Chapter - 17 programs to 1994 students and teachers

Casimir Pulaski Chapter - 240 programs to 4124 students and adults

Robert Forsyth Chapter - 5 presentations to 1274 students and teachers

Best Chapter Education Outreach Award

Contest Description: This award goes to the chapter with best overall youth & adult education outreach program in calendar year.

Winner: Marshes of Glynn Chapter

Awards: A certificate and a \$200 cash prize to the chapter for use in improvements in its outreach program will be awarded at the GASSAR annual conference to the winner, except that a chapter will not be awarded the cash prize if they also won the cash prize for the Dr. Lyman Hall Award (most improved chapter).

Dr. Lyman Hall Most Improved Education Outreach

Contest Description: This award goes to the chapter that has shown the most improvement in their GASSAR Education Outreach program during the current year from the previous year. The award is given at the state level. No standard format for submitting a recommendation at the state level is required, but a submission should provide sufficient information to convince judges of the level of improvement from the previous year. Thus, a description of the prior year activity as well as the current year is necessary. The period of activity for consideration in the current calendar year is January through November.

Winner: Button Gwinnett Chapter

Awards: A certificate and a \$200 cash prize to the chapter for use in improvements in its outreach program will be awarded at the GASSAR annual conference to the winner. Only **ONE (1)** Chapter will be recognized as **THE** Most Improved.

John Dooly Education Outreach Award

Contest Description: This award goes to a GASSAR member who has significantly contributed their time and efforts in an outstanding manner to our youth and adult education outreach program as a member of the SAR. The award is given at the state level. No standard format for submitting a member at the state level is required, but a submission should provide sufficient information to convince judges of the outstanding nature of program participation and activity by the nominee. The period of activity for consideration is not limited to a specific time frame but must cover at least a 1-year period.

Winner: Bob Sapp – Piedmont Chapter

Awards: A certificate, \$200 gasoline credit card, and plaque will be awarded at the GASSAR annual conference to the winner and the winner will be a guest of the Education Committee at the award presentation. Each chapter's entrants will receive a certificate of recognition.

Nancy Hart Education Outreach Award

Contest Description: This award goes to a female who has significantly contributed their time and efforts in an outstanding manner to youth and adult education outreach programs. The award is given at the state level. No standard format for submitting a recommendation at the state level is required, but a submission should provide sufficient information to convince judges of the outstanding nature of program participation and activity. The period of activity for consideration is not limited to a specific time frame but must cover at least a 1-year period

Winner: Leslie Strickland Watkins – submitted by the Button Gwinnett Chapter

Awards: A certificate, \$200 gasoline credit card, and plaque will be awarded at the GASSAR annual conference to the winner and they will be a guest of the Education Committee at the award presentation. Each chapter's entrants will receive a certificate of recognition.



DAR Liaison—Shep Hammack

National SAR

Georgia submitted 113 DAR Referral Forms with applications in 2017 compared with 104 in 2016. While the number of new member applications was down in 2017, having the number of DAR Referrals go up indicates that the DAR continues to be one of our best resources for new members. Please be sure to submit a DAR Referral Form if you are assisted in any manner by a DAR member in the recruitment of new SAR members.

The National DAR Liaison committee continues to promote the expansion of the Georgia DAR Referral Award program to other states. I am pleased to note that the DAR Referral Awards structure has been updated at National:

The first track is using a leveling formula by percentage using the highest percentage with the number of application that have the DAR form finder submitted versus the total number of applications submitted taking into account the State Society total of active members.

The DAR State Society that has the highest score of participation as a factor of participation in the program will be awarded certificates and \$300 for 1st place, \$200 for 2nd place, and \$100 for 3rd place to to the DAR State Societies.

The second track is State Societies with the highest raw numbers of approved SAR members using the DAR Finder Form, with \$300 for 1st place, \$200 for 2nd place, and \$100 for 3rd place to the DAR State Societies with the highest number of approved SAR members using the DAR Finder Form.

This is a total of six awards totaling \$1,200. The competition runs from January 1 to December 31 of each year. In order to be counted, a DAR Finder Report Form must be attached to the application packet. The SAR Staff Registrar uses these forms to determine the winner. Applications without the form cannot be counted toward the competition. A separate form must be included with each application received and will be counted toward the contest after the application is approved. Multiple applications cannot be applied to one form.

This is an increase from \$500 to \$1,200 in total awards.

Liaison with Georgia DAR Society

The Georgia DAR Society SAR/SR Liaison Committee chairperson, Leslie Watkins, and I are exchanging notices of activities of our respective societies to keep our members mutually informed of SAR and DAR events in Georgia.

If any chapter has recognized a DAR lady for her efforts, please advise this committee so we can recognize her throughout the state.

DAR Chapters Visited this Quarter by this Committee's Members and other SAR members**

Visits to Georgia Society DAR Chapters by committee members were:

Committee member Shep Hammack presented a program for the Old Noonday DAR Chapter meeting on Nov 8th.

Plans for the Next Quarter

Continue to promote the use of the DAR Finders Form and the SAR competition for the awards to the DAR members and chapters.

Continue to promote the SAR/DAR joint activities.

Continue to stress at the BOM meetings the importance of submitting a DAR Finder Form with the applications, when appropriate.

Assist any Chapter with any awards that should be given to DAR members who have assisted with SAR membership applications.

Provide assistance to the GASSAR officers and Committees as may be requested.

This chairman is open to any suggestions for the work of this committee to better support the GASSAR goals and objectives.

Chairman Hammack presents a Continental Tri-corn hat to State DAR Regent Joyce Ball Patton at the Old Noonday Chapter meeting in December.

The hat was donated by Hall Martin of the Lyman Hall Chapter and will be placed by the DAR with Bobby Towns' uniform, donated by Robin Towns, at Meadow Gardens.





ROTC/JROTC & Service Academies Liaison Committee

LCDR David G. Jessel USN Ret

BOM Fourth Quarter Report 2017

JROTC Enhanced Program Chapter OC Packages deadline was Friday Dec 8, 2017. JROTC Units' OC must meet the same criteria as listed below for the Bronze ROTC Medal, plus write an original 500-700 word Essay "How JROTC has prepared me to be a better citizen of the United States."

All chapters sponsoring JROTC Units were encouraged to participate in the JROTC Enhanced (Outstanding Cadet Essay Contest) Program for 2017-2018. The NSSAR Store sells a special Chapter Outstanding Cadet Medal (bronze medallion) with neck ribbon, ribbon bar with a gold frame and a bronze star, and certificate (cost about \$45). **Please consider the Outstanding Cadet Enhanced Program and the Bronze ROTC Medal Program to be totally separate.** A cadet that wins the Chapter OC Medal should **NEVER** be awarded the SAR Bronze ROTC Medal.

The GASSAR OC Packages have been judged and the winner and runner-up along with all Chapter OC's are listed below. C/Maj Nobles will be recognized at the Georgia Society SAR 2018 Annual Awards Luncheon on Saturday January 27, 2018. The winner is awarded a cash award of \$600 while the runner-up C/CPO Beckum receives a cash award of \$400. The GASSAR Outstanding Cadet (OC) represents the Georgia Society in the National Competition. The top three OC's in the NSSAR Contest receive cash awards with the winner receiving \$4,000 and up to \$1,500 in travel expenses to the NSSAR National Congress in Houston, TX to receive the award from the President General.

Six chapters nominated a Chapter OC to the GASSAR State Competition. Chapter nominations are:

First Ocmulgee Chapter – C/Maj Jason Chandler Nobles AFJROTC Warner Robins High School

Second Marshes of Glynn – C/CPO Gabriel Beckum NJROTC Brunswick High School

Joseph Habersham Chapter – C/1st Lt Deborah Hulsey AFJROTC Habersham Central High School

Lyman Hall Chapter – C/CPT Jacob A. DeMello AJROTC Lumpkin County High School

Piedmont Chapter – C/CPT Jaylen Daniels AJROTC Centennial High School

Samuel Elbert Chapter – C/CPT Anna Kubas AJROTC Elbert County Comprehensive High School

Fifteen **Silver ROTC Medals** for twelve Georgia Universities will be presentation in 2018 to outstanding cadets/midshipmen selected by the ROTC Program. Medal Packages will be forwarded to ROTC Units starting in late January 2018. Chapter Presidents from ten GASSAR Chapters cause these Medals to be presented on behalf of the Georgia Society SAR. Chapters involve should record these presentations on the BOM Quarterly Report Form 10.06.3F or 10.06.0F. These medals are purchased and mailed by GASSAR to ROTC Units with copies of letters to applicable Chapter Presidents.

1.

BOM Fourth Quarter Report 2017 **Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution ROTC/JROTC Committee**

Chapters presented **Bronze ROTC Medals** to JROTC Units within the chapters' Area of Operations (AO). Recipients are selected by the Senior Military Instructor (SMI). Chapters should record these presentations on the BOM Quarterly Rpt Form 10.06.3F or 10.06.0F. Most JROTC Awards Ceremonies occur in late Spring.

Award Criteria: (a recipient of the SAR Bronze ROTC Medal can only receive it once)

*Awarded to cadet currently enrolled in the JROTC Program

*A junior (in their 3rd year of a 4 year program or 2nd year of a 3 year program) #

*Top 10% of the JROTC class

*Top 25% of their class

Cadet must start as a freshman in a 4 year program or sophomore in 3 year, to meet criteria.

Please ensure that your JROTC Units have been advised that they have a POC (Point of Contact) within the chapter and that the JROTC Unit knows that they should communicate directly with the Chapter. If there is a problem or if you have questions, do not hesitate to phone or email me.



Audit Committee—Shep Hammack

The full 2017 audit of the Society's books was conducted on January 10, 2018. Both the Treasurer's and Secretary's books were covered during this audit. Note: 80 % of the Society's deposits are made by the Secretary since all dues flow through him. During this audit, 20+% of the Income and Expense entries were evaluated and each had proper supporting documentation. No issues were found by this audit.



State SAR-C.A.R. Liaison—Robert W. Moore

The fourth quarter of 2017 started up with 4 C.A.R. Societies participating with the Fort Morris Come and Take It Event in Midway, GA. Zachary Frederick, Georgia State President brought greetings on behalf of the C.A.R.

Later in November, Erin Moore, National President and member of the Georgia State Society, C.A.R. traveled to the SAR DC State Society's Potowmack Ball. Two weeks later, Erin attended the Maryland State Society SAR's Patriot's Ball. She was privileged to bring greetings at both of these National SAR events.

I was glad to receive entries from Coweta Falls, Lyman Hall and Marshes of Glynn for the SAR/ C.A.R. Contest. Georgia SAR's serve as senior leaders on the local and state level of C.A.R. There was joint participation at commemorative and wreath laying events as well as providing monetary support. In closing, I would like to invite all of you to the 79th Annual Georgia State Conference on Friday, March 2 and Saturday, March 3, 2018 at Callaway Gardens.



Friends of the Library —Hugh Rodgers

The membership numbers for the Fourth Quarter, 2017, are as follows:

13 Chapters
 1 Georgia Society SAR
 47 Compatriots and friends
61 Total Georgia Society memberships

Chapter members: Athens, Atlanta, Captain John Collins, Casimir Pulaski, Cherokee, Coweta Falls, Lyman Hall, Marshes of Glynn, Piedmont, Robert Forsyth, Samuel Elbert, William Few.

Special kudos to the Atlanta Chapter for 11 FOL memberships in 2017. More chapter memberships are strongly encouraged: 20 of our 33 chapters are not members.

The Georgia Society is still the leader among state societies in the National Society SAR. Chapters and compatriots are urged to join or renew FOL membership to help make the SAR Genealogical Library one of the best in the nation.

Compatriots, wives and DAR members who support the Library deserve our thanks. Membership is available for \$25 annually for chapters and individuals. Membership forms can be found on line at the NSSAR web page and will be available at the Annual Meeting on January 27.

Georgia Army National Guard—Battle at Kettle Creek Movie



Bruce Maney, as Elijha Clarke leads the militia.



Georgia National Guard recruiter welcomes and thanks Compatriots for their supporting efforts.



Elijha Clarke militia advances on Boyd's forces at the Battle of Kettle Creek—fifth of six 'Takes' up and down the hill.



Some things about the Army never change—'Hurry up and Wait' - special thanks to Compatriot Dr. David Noble for his stories and perspective that helped pass the time.

2018 Conference Awards



The Patriot Medal

GA SAR President Wayne Brown with 2018 Patriot Medal Recipients Scott Collins, Bobby Shaw and Terry A. Gibbs. President General Larry Guzy congratulated the awardees.

Meritorious Service Medal



GA SAR Secretary George Wheelless presented the Meritorious Service Medal to (L to R) Dr. David A. Noble, Dr. David A. Ludley and Steve Ford



Distinguished Service Medal

GA SAR President Wayne Brown presented the Distinguished Service Medal to State Secretary George Wheelless

Conference Youth Awards



The winner of the 2015 Eagle Scout Scholarship Contest is Cameron MacDonald sponsored by the Piedmont Chapter.

Cameron is received a \$600 cash award and a trophy. He is entered in the National Society's Eagle Scout competition.



This year's winner of the Knight Essay Contest is *Miss Kayla Hutcherson*. She is a student at Armuchee High School in Rome, GA. And is is sponsored by the Rome Chapter. Accompanying Kayla are her parents David and Jina Hutcherson.

Her winning essay is entitled: "*Unity: A Progressive Element During the American Revolution*". She received a \$600 cash prize and a certificate and is entered in the National Society Knight Essay competition.



This year's JROTC winner is Cadet Maj. Jason Chandler Nobles from the Warner Robins HS AFJROTC Unit. Cadet Nobles is sponsored by the Ocmulgee Chapter. He received a check for \$600 and a medal and is entered in the National Society competition.

Fort Morris





Bill Raper Room—Habersham Library

Dedication remarks by Wendy Gera

About 25 years ago, Bill started coming to the library to learn about his family. At that time, there was very little information available and he had to visit the court house and other sources to trace his heritage. Although his time was limited because he was still working full time to support his family, he became interested in the project of the Clarkesville Library Genealogy section.

Bill started out in this building several years before the last remodel and enlargement which took place in 1996. During the remodel, the library was located in the gymnasium of the former Clarkesville Elementary School, and Bill continued to work

there until the new building was opened with a special room dedicated to Genealogy which is currently our Young Adult room.

Bill told me that having this new room dedicated “especially” to genealogy was the real beginning of a true genealogy collection at the library. During that time, Francis Black, a dear friend of Bill’s, was a part time genealogist and the caretaker of the genealogy records for the library. Every free minute Bill had he would come to the library and volunteer his time. As more information became available via the internet, Bill learned how to access records on the computer. This was a great NEW tool – these computer records! At that point, Bill was officially hooked on genealogy. As time went by, Bill’s schedule became more flexible and he was able to devote more time to the library helping Francis. Sadly, Francis passed away in 2010 and Bill felt that he needed to step up and spend more time at the library helping people find their heritage. So that’s exactly what he did.

I want to pause for a moment and speak a few words about Frances Black. Frances came to work for the library system through Legacy Link. Legacy Link matches up retired people with volunteer & job opportunities. Francis served the library for 19 years and was a paid library employee the last several years of her time here. Although I did not know her, Bill has told me what a wonderful person she was and how he respected her genealogy skills. Her legacy, is also being passed on, through Bill, and his deep respect for her. So as I mentioned earlier, Bill starting spending even more time at the library after Frances passed. Every year, the collection continued to grow, and about six or seven years ago, the collection began to outgrow the room. Bill told me if two or three people came in looking for help, the room became too crowded with the desks, and the microfilm machines, and everything else they had to navigate around. Bill had several conversations with Delana Knight, who was the librarian at that time, about moving the genealogy collection to its current location, in which the Regional Library Headquarters had vacated.

I imagine him telling her, as he often comes into my office and tells me, “I had another vision last night!” Bill is full of wonderful ideas! In 2011, the records were moved, and an Open House was held to celebrate the opening of the much larger space. This allowed for the collection to expand even further.

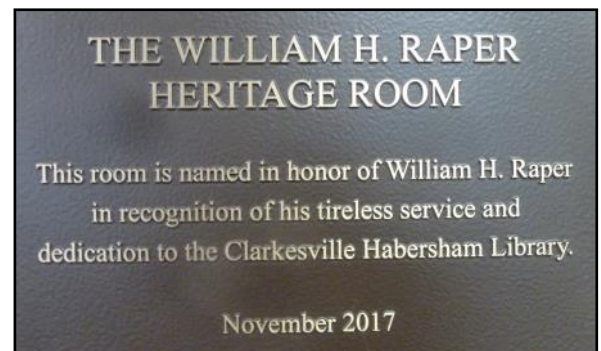
We currently have three separate rooms for you to enjoy; the Genealogy Heritage Main Room; a Computers and Records room; and the Habersham Room which contains our materials about Habersham County history.

Bill continues to grow the genealogy collection. What started out as just a few folders of papers has grown to a very impressive collection. But I want to share the secret to Bill’s success in growing that collection... – he cannot say no to any donation! Big or small, Bill will take them all. Because of this, The Clarkesville Genealogy Room is a tremendous asset to Habersham County, and the City of Clarkesville. Bill brings in people from all over the country researching their family ties to NE Georgia. In an average week, he’s busy assisting not only walk-ins and scheduled appointments, but he’s answering numerous phone calls, emails, and requests off our library webpage. Recently, Georgia Public Library Service released their genealogy-and-history brochure and I submitted our library information, and it was accepted into the brochure. The brochure will be distributed across the state, in collaboration with the Board of Tourism. This we hope, will create even more interest in our collection.

Bill & Cheryl Litton, who is our Circulation Manager, also created a Genealogy brochure in-house, which is available in the back. So this in turn, helps our community because these people need a place to sleep, and food to eat, and gas for their vehicles; and perhaps even souvenirs to take back home.

The Clarkesville Library, like all public libraries, is service oriented, and it gives us great pleasure to assist people in any way we can, and with Bill’s knowledge, we help people from all over the country. No matter how busy his day is, Bill is always so enthusiastic about his work. He gladly shares his knowledge with all who seek his help. Heck, even those who don’t seek his help! He told me last month about going to physical therapy and one of the ladies working there was adopted, and Bill helped her find her biological family members! He gets so much joy out of helping others. (He had a *really* hard time not helping with this event. I had to remind him several times that he was the guest of honor).

But that’s just Bill. Bill is a helper. A giver of his time. Bill loves genealogy and is a self-taught expert in his field. But most of all, Bill is truly dedicated to the Clarkesville Library. No one cares for this library more than Bill, and in the past he has fought to keep our doors open, so it is an honor to recognize his service to this library and our community.



The 'Field Trip that Comes to Your School'



Compatriot Knox Herndon is a retired US Army Lieutenant Colonel who served as the Chaplain of the Airborne (Paratrooper) school at Ft Benning for many years. It was his standard practice to be the 'Lead Jumper' - first man in the first 'stick' of trainees. He has hundreds of successful parachute jumps and only a few near-misses.

Now as a member of the Coweta Falls Chapter, GA SAR he continues to lead the way for students at Elementary, Middle and High Schools with the 'Traveling Museum' he has built and collected. Exhibits in the long trailer display the history of American military gear and uniforms from the period of the American Revolution to the present.

Colonel Herndon's trailer is also available for patriotic or historical observances and festivals. He travels many miles each year to show the continuing story of our nation's soldiers.

Knox's awards for military service include: Master Jumper, Pathfinder, Bronze Star, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Occupation Forces Medal and many more.

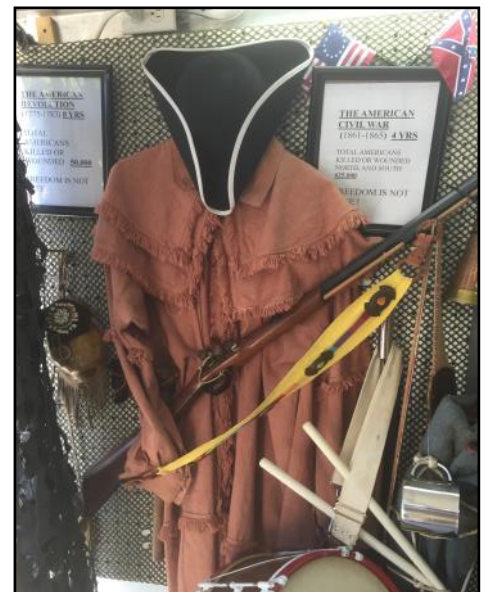


Compatriot Herndon is also a Presbyterian minister who now serves a church near his home. The photo above is his arrangement of a field altar with elements of worship set upon the hood of what had been the hood of an M-151A1 US Army jeep.

To schedule the
Travelling Museum
contact:

678 665 3628

khern2365@aol.com



American Revolution section of the traveling museum.

Chapter NEWS

Brier Creek

Chaplain Lee Smith, of the Brier Creek Chapter Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution, traveled to Midway, Georgia to attend the "Fort Morris - Sunbury 12th Annual Memorial Ceremony, held on Saturday, November 18, 2017.

This is the very first time that the Brier Creek Chapter has been able to present a wreath at this event. The Brier Creek Chapter SAR was just "chartered" on November 19, 2016 with a total membership of twenty-one.

In the past year, the Brier Creek Chapter has grown to a membership of thirty with an additional twenty "dual" members from other Chapters in Georgia and Alabama.

12th Annual Memorial Ceremony



New Compatriots

Brier Creek Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution inducted new members into the Chapter on Thursday night, November 2, 2017. They were Thomas Alan Smith, River Alan Smith and Ernie Alan Smith.

All three are descendants of the American Revolutionary War Patriot William Drew, who provided "Patriotic Service" in North Carolina during the War. All three new members are residents of Millen, GA and another son of Thomas, Philip Samuel Smith of Millen, will be inducted at a later date.

This brings the total membership of the Brier Creek Chapter to thirty members.



November Meeting Speaker



Brier Creek Chapter, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution held its monthly meeting, Thursday night, November 2, 2017 at R & D's Restaurant in Screven County, GA at 7:00. With President Craig Wildi presiding, we had 15 members in attendance and 2 guests.

The program for the evening was introduced by President Wildi, United States National Park Ranger Margo "Wildi" Blewett, Craig's sister. Margo's program was about the military leaders on both the British and American Army's that did battle on January 17, 1781 in South Carolina just across the Broad River in the battle at "Cowpens".

She told us about the American Commander, Brigadier General Daniel Morgan and how he beat the British Army commanded by Sir Banastre Tarleton with a tactical movement that is still taught to military officers today called a "Double Envelopment".

Brier Creek—continued

The Board of Management, Wiregrass Chapter Sons of the American Revolution held a special induction ceremony during their meeting on Friday morning, September 29, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. at Berni's Restaurant. Each Friday morning 7 or 8 members of the Wiregrass Chapter meet at Berni's to fellowship during Berni's \$5.00 breakfast.

This BOM meeting was special since our newest member was able to attend with his sponsoring grandfather Ruskin Powell. Jasper's application was just approved by the National Society Sons of the American Revolution in September and he was visiting his grandfather so he could be inducted. Jasper is 9 years old and he joined our Chapter as a Junior member.

A Junior member is a full member of the NSSAR, but his dues are greatly reduced. Jasper lives in Powder Springs, GA with his parents Jeb and Jordan Cameron. Jasper is also the grandson of Lennis and Ruskin Powell of Swainsboro."

Junior Member



Colby Smith Reunion

Wiregrass Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution had four of its members travel to Washington County, Georgia and participate in the 37th Annual Colby Smith Reunion, held on Saturday October 14, 2017 at Bethany Baptist Church at 10:00. This year we had a great group of Colby's descendants, 35 to attend and bring their best covered dishes with them.

Colby Smith was an American Revolutionary War Patriot in North Carolina and had moved with his family to Washington County, GA in 1800. He settled in the area close to where the Bethany Baptist Church would be organized in 1804, and about four miles west of Harrison, GA. Compatriot Steve Burke played two roles that day.

He brought several Revolutionary War items and his 6-pounder Naval Cannon, plus he presented his program on "Sherman's March through Georgia" during the American Civil War. Sherman came through Washington County on his march to the sea.

At the end of the reunion, we all moved out side and fired four volley's with our Pennsylvania/Kentucky Flintlock Rifles and Steve got three different Colby Smith family members to fire his 6-pounder Naval Cannon."



Patriot Elisha Hearn

Compatriot Don Bazemore traveled to an American Revolutionary War Patriots grave marking on Saturday, November 4, 2017 to participate along with many other Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution Compatriots in honoring Elisha Hearne's service during the War. Patriot Elisha Hearne's grave is located in the Hearn Family Cemetery just outside of Eatonton, Georgia in Putnam County.

Elisha Hearne was born in Somerset County, Maryland in 1755, his forebears having come to the colonies in 1681 from St. Croix. By the time of the American Revolution, he and his brother William were living in North Carolina. Elisha served in the North Carolina Militia. Following the Revolution, Elisha moved to Georgia settling in Hancock County. In 1805 he acquired 231 acres of land in Baldwin County, which became Putnam County in 1807. Elisha Hearne passed away in 1812. Compatriot Bazemore also participated with the Georgia Society Award Winning Color Guard and along with the Elijah Clarke Militia, firing his Pennsylvania/Kentucky Flintlock Rifle in a "Rifle Salute" of three volleys.



Lyman Hall

Three Generations of Compatriots



Georgia Society President Wayne Brown inducted nearly the whole Jesse Lee Jones family. USAF COL (ret) Jesse Jones also received the War Service Medal.

Guest Speakers

Another Supplemental



Recently retired Professional Scouter Foy Todd spoke about his service and the outstanding record of the single Council where he served for forty years.

Northeast Georgia is the only Council in the nation that has had increased membership or number of units or both for now over thirty-two consecutive years.



Riverside Military Academy Superintendent COL William J. Gallagher (ret) spoke on the meaning of patriotism and how it has not changed since the years of service by our chapter's namesake to the future soldiers at his school.



Compatriot James Parker, PhD proudly displays yet another completed Supplemental Patriot certificate.

Dr. Parker has researched and submitted nearly twenty Patriot ancestors. His diligent work continues with several more applications currently in process.

Piedmont

Grave Marking For Patriot Roswell King.

Piedmont Chapter Sons of the American Revolution was proud to sponsor the grave marking of Patriot Roswell King.

Under the direction of Piedmont Graves Committee Chairman Roy Greene, the ceremony was held at Founders Cemetery on 10/14/2017 in Roswell, GA.

We are grateful for the participation of the Georgia State SAR color guard led by Color Guard commander Bill Palmer, master of ceremonies Bobby Shaw, John Mortison (Piedmont Chapter Piper), GASSAR President Wayne Brown, Roswell City Councilwoman, Nancy Diamond, GA State District Representative Betty Price, Chuck Rann and Charlie Bruce (descendants of Roswell King), Allen Greenly (President of the Robert Forsyth Chapter SAR), Shep Hammack (President of the Mount Vernon Chapter SAR), John Flikeid (VP of the Robert Forsyth Chapter SAR), Lee Hulsey (Past President of the John Collins Chapter SAR), Bill Kabel (GASSAR Veterans Committee Chair and Past President Piedmont Chapter), Bruce Maney (member GA Branch, National Society Sons and Daughters of Pilgrims), Catherine Jimenez (Regent of the Martha Stewart Bulloch DAR Chapter), Dawn Levy (Regent of the Roswell King DAR Chapter), Leslie Strickland Watkins (President Georgia Society SAR Ladies Auxiliary), Eva Russo (member Martha Stewart Bulloch Society Children of the American Revolution), and George Thurmond (Past President GASSAR and Piedmont Chapter) for his wisdom and guidance, as well as the numerous members of the SAR and DAR Chapters who attended this historical event, making it a memorable success.



Photo by Rick Reese, III

Our special thanks and gratitude go out to Rick Reese, III, Piedmont's National Award winning photographer, for the excellent pictures that he shot during the grave marking event.

Three Generation Induction

On Saturday December 16, 2017 three generations of the Johnstone family were inducted into the Piedmont Chapter of the Georgia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. They completed their paperwork together, and now have been inducted together.



Chapter President Rick Reese, Jr. performed the ceremony with grandson Eric Johnstone and his father Steve Johnstone present at the early morning chapter meeting, and Steve's father Randy Johnstone present from California via video link using Steve's iPhone.



Eric Steve Randy

All three generations of the Johnstone family are now members of the Piedmont Chapter Sons of the American Revolution.



Piedmont—continued

Traveling Trunk



A major effort is made by the SAR to educate children about our country's past so they are aware of the sacrifices our forefathers made to free the people from the bondage of the British Empire and establish this new nation. This program is primarily a 'Show and Tell' of the Traveling Trunk's extensive collection of Colonial period items from the Revolutionary War era. On September 20th President Rick Reese, Jr. gave a Traveling Trunk presentation to the Fellowship Christian School.



Students enjoyed the glimpse into life in the 18th century, discovered some aspects of the lives of children their age, and we able to ask questions in addition to participating in some games contemporary to the period.

Historic Flags



On November 7 Piedmont speakers bureau and uniformed color guard members George Thurmond, Bob Sapp, Paul Prescott, and Rick Reese, Jr. attended a luncheon meeting at the Roswell Presbyterian Church to present an Historic Flags program to the attendees.

George Thurmond introduced the program, Bob Sapp was the narrator to introduce each of the twenty flags from colonial times through the present day 50 star flag. Bob Sapp also provided the historical background about each flag as Paul Prescott and Rick Reese alternated carrying each flag throughout the meeting room so that all could have a good look at the flag designs.



Terry White with Jaime Ruff is a descendant of James Coats, who fought as a lieutenant under CPT William Goodman in the NC Continental Line during the Revolutionary War.



Mark Anthony spoke about his participation in Kings Mountain Battle 237th anniversary, presenting the chapter with an event steamer.



On October 15th, President Rick Reese Jr. attended the Eagle Scout Court of Honor held by Troop 3143 for Surya Prabhakar at the Johns Creek United Methodist Church.

Marshes of Glynn



Middle School

During the past two months, nine Marshes of Glynn SAR Chapter Compatriots performed at six local Middle Schools for over 1,400 students and teachers. One of the schools, Camden Middle School in Kingsland, featured our performance on their Facebook page.

The right top photo includes the performers that day: Johnny Turrentine, Steven Ford, Kathy Trackwell, Bill Ramsaur and Brent Taylor.

The reactions of the students at each school were predictable – they booed Royal Governor Wright when he described the Intolerable Acts; pledged to read the entire Declaration of Independence when challenged by Lyman Hall; cheered Nancy Hart when told she hung the Tories; reacted to

Elijah Clarke's gun-fire sounds and battle commands; and paraded with Revolutionary flags which Samuel Elbert described as used in the Coastal Lowcountry.

The highlight was the dramatization of the duel between Button Gwinnett and Lachlan McIntosh. Two student Dualists were outfitted with jackets and toy pistols; and two others were trained to serve as Seconds. Steven Ford issued the commands, including falling when wounded; and directed the remaining students to serve as jurists in Lachlan McIntosh's Murder Trial and vote on his guilt or innocence. Everyone loved the duel and wanted to do it again.

A Salute to Veterans



On Thursday, November 9th, the Marshes of Glynn Chapter Sons of the American Revolution conducted a very special meeting - A Salute to Veterans.

Thirty Marshes of Glynn Veterans were presented SAR Service Medals and encouraged to wear some part of their original uniform to our meeting. Featured in the photo are Terry Barker in Army fatigues, John Morgan, Nick Hart in red Marine Corps shirt, Brent Taylor in Submariners cap, Bill Ramsaur in Naval officer's hat, Steven Hinson, Phil Callicutt, Herb Hucks, who piped our meeting to order with his Navy bosun's whistle, and Steven Ford in his Army officer's jacket.



Members brought socks and personal care items for the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Augusta. We collected over fifty pair of socks, and five shopping bags of tooth brushes, tooth paste, deodorant, mouthwash, etc., plus several magazines, games and puzzles.

Also during the meeting, Service to Veterans Award Certificates were presented to six Glynn County citizens in recognition for their support to local Veterans of the Armed Forces. They included the Commander of the Brunswick American Legion Post, Chairman of the Veterans Council of the Golden Isles, President of Warriors 22 who serve homeless and Veterans with PTSD, and a member of the Brunswick DAR who arranged for lap blankets to be sewn for the 155 Veterans who participated in the last two Honor Flights to Washington.

On Saturday, November 11th, our SAR Chapter participated in the Veterans Day Parade in the St. Simons Village. The parade featured three hundred marchers (Veterans, JROTC, Boy & Girl Scouts) with several thousand attendees lined on both sides of Mallery Street from the Park to the Pier.

Marshes of Glynn—continued



Fort Morris

Compatriot Tommy Christopher was selected as the Master of Ceremonies for the 2nd year in a row at the Fort Morris - Sunbury Memorial Ceremony in Midway, Liberty County, Georgia. This event was held on Saturday, November 18, 2017 and was attended by the National President General of the Sons of the American Revolution, Larry T. Guzy of Marietta, Georgia. PG Guzy was the event speaker and his subject was on the Rise & Fall of Sunbury & Fort Morris, "Come and Take It."

The event was attended by the SAR, DAR, and other patriotic organizations from Georgia and Florida. The event was a commemoration of the "British Demand to Surrender Fort Morris on November 25, 1778. There were over 47 wreaths presented during this event. Also, the Elijah Clarke Militia, Brier Creek Militia, and the Sunbury Militia Light Infantry Company, 2nd Company Georgia Artillery fired a musket, rifle and cannon salute with 3 volleys. Presenting and retiring of the Colors was carried out by the Georgia and Florida Society Com-

manded Color Guard, Commanded by Bill Palmer. This event was planned and organized by the Marshes of Glynn, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution Chapter.

Ocmulgee

Grave Marking in April

The Ocmulgee Chapter is sponsoring a grave marking ceremony for Patriots Charles McCall and John Everett on May 12, 2018 at 10:00 am in Chandler County, near Metter, off Diamondback Trail. Co-sponsoring the event is the Brier Creek Chapter, Dess Smith, President and the Wiregrass chapter, Wilder Smith, President. The event is on the Honor Guard Schedule (Bill Palmer, Commander) and we are hoping for a great turnout! Charles McCall and John Everett are the Patriot ancestors of many Georgia and national SAR/DAR members. The cemetery was in overgrown condition. The Chapter scheduled a clean up day is for Feb 3rd. For information, contact Ocmulgee Chapter President John Trussell at 478-957-7411. A map and directions can be provided to interested persons."

Ocmulgee Chapter at Kings Mountain



On 7 October 2017 Ocmulgee President John Trussell (left) and Ocmulgee Secretary Charles Garnett attended the Celebration of the Battle at Kings Mountain near Blacksburg, SC. President Trussell presented the chapter wreath during the ceremony.



Charles (Chuck) and Amanda Garnett toured the Walnut Grove Plantation in SC while attending the Battle of Kings Mountain SAR program in October 2017. The plantation was home to Revolutionary War Captain Andrew Barry and his wife, Kate Moore Barry.

Ocmulgee—continued



“Chuck” Garnett at the Moore Family Cemetery at Walnut Grove Plantation during his trip to participate in the ceremony at Kings Mountain. Chuck is the Secretary for Ocmulgee Chapter SAR.



On 22 October 2017 Ocmulgee President John Trussell spoke to Ms. Cynthia Davis’s 8th grade history class at Sacred Heart School in Warner Robins, GA on the “Revolutionary War in the South and finding their Patriot Ancestor”



On Veterans Day, 11 November 2017, James Stallings, Sr. receives a flag from Elena Jenkins, President of Liberty Tree Society C.A.R., to commit to the flames during a Flag Retirement Ceremony at Fort Hawkins in Macon, GA.



Ocmulgee member Jack Caldwell leads his guests in a rousing rendition of “Dixie” during his thirty-third celebration of “A Patriotic Southern Christmas” held at his home on 9 December 2017. Special guests were several disadvantaged children who received a gift from Santa who made a surprise visit.

Robert Forsyth

Robert Forsyth Chapter presented the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal to Deputy Jon Beival. Deputy Beival is a seven-year veteran of the Forsyth County Sheriff’s Office, joining in 2011 after serving in the US Army and completing a successful career with AT&T.

On July 16, 2017, deputies of the Forsyth County Sheriff’s Office were dispatched to an address in north Forsyth County for a domestic violence call. Upon arrival at the location, it was learned that a male had barricaded himself in the house with a firearm.

Deputy Beival was summoned to the incident to communicate and negotiate with the male. While trying to establish communication with the male, the male fired at the deputies with a AK-47. The male fired close to 70 rounds at the deputies. Deputy Beival was struck in the leg during the exchange of gun fire.

Deputy Beival is described by his superiors as “a courageous law enforcement officer who strives to serve his community in a positive manner. He has been credited for using his communication skills to strength the bond between the Forsyth County Sheriff’s Office and citizens of Forsyth County.

Law Enforcement Commendation Medal



William Few



Compatriot Don Thomas and his wife Pat conducted numerous Traveling Trunk workshops with students at Elijah Clark State Park.



Veterans Day was a big day for the Col. William Few Chapter as we participated in three events: The Uptown Augusta Veterans Administration cook out, the Augusta CSRA Veterans Day Observance, and the Heroes Overlook observance at Riverwalk Augusta.

Pictured from left to right are chapter compatriots Bill Croft, Bill Colbert, and Gary Edwards at the Uptown VA cookout.



Pictured from left to right at the Augusta CSRA Veterans Day Observance are chapter compatriots Campbell Chafee, David Titus, Bill Tankersley, Bill Colbert, and James Brady.



DAR Members at Meadow Garden in Augusta, home of George Walton, sponsored a Christmas Open House Program. Compatriot Bill Colbert presented the Traveling Trunk to visitors.

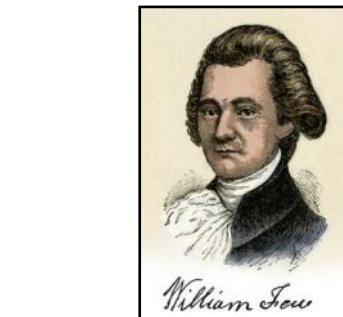
He also spoke about what it was like to winter at Valley Forge.



At our December chapter meeting, GAS-SAR President Wayne Brown brought greetings from the GA Society SAR and gave a very moving talk on Pearl Harbor. He also inducted incoming chapter President Sonny Pittman and the other chapter officers for 2018.



Compatriot Bill Colbert participated in the Wreaths Across America program at Bellevue Cemetery in Grovetown.



Four new compatriots were inducted at our December chapter meeting.

From left to right: Jim McPhail, Matthew McPhail, Frank McPhail, and Bill Morris.

Wiregrass

Wiregrass Chapter President Wilder Smith traveled down to the coast of Georgia Saturday, November 18, 2017 to participate in the "Fort Morris - Sunbury 12th Annual Memorial Ceremony". Also, attending with him was Registrar Dess Smith III. Both Wilder and Dess participated in the Georgia Florida Combined Color Guard and also fired their Pennsylvania/Kentucky Flintlock Rifles in the 3 round volley.

President Wilder Smith, Jr. presented the Wiregrass Chapter wreath during the "Commemoration". Attending the ceremony were members of SAR, DAR and many other patriotic organizations from Georgia and Florida and from these organizations over 47 wreaths were presented. The actual battle took place on November 25, 1778. Also attending this event was the President General of the National Sons of the American Revolution, Larry T. Guzy of Marietta, Georgia.

PG Guzy presented the program on the Rise and Fall of Sunbury & Fort Morris, "Come and Take It". This annual event is sponsored by the Marshes of Glynn Chapter, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution.

"Come and Take It".



New Compatriot



Wiregrass Chapter held its weekly meeting, November 9, 2017 at the New China Restaurant. With President Wilder Smith, Jr. presiding, Compatriot Don Edward Wilkes was inducted into our Chapter. Compatriot Don's parents were Velton N. L. and Edith Adell McBride Wilkes.

All of Don's ancestors have lived in Emanuel County with the exception of his American Revolutionary War Patriot, James Beasley who died in Warren County, GA on June 3, 1799.

Patriot James Beasley was a Soldier in the Georgia Militia and received bounty land for his Military Service. Patriot James Beasley's daughter, Polly Beasley, married the Reverend Warren Key, who founded the Key's Methodist Church just outside of Adrian, GA.

New Compatriot

Wiregrass Chapter held its monthly meeting Thursday night, November 9, 2017 at the "New China Restaurant" at 6:30. With President Wilder Smith, Jr. presiding, we had 22 members in attendance and two guests.

The program for the evening was presented by our Wiregrass Chapter Chaplain Emory Fennell. The program was, "American Revolutionary War knives and other forms of Survival Items".

Emory is an accomplished "blacksmith knife forger" and has been making knives for over 15 years. Emory announced, presented and donated at the Chapter's meeting tonight, his 16" bowie style blacksmith forged knife that the chapter will have a drawing for the winner at our February 8, 2018 monthly meeting.



Each ticket costs \$5. Emory mentioned to our Wiregrass members to sell, sell, sell. Emory's handmade knife is valued at over \$600.

Wiregrass—continued

Several members of the Wiregrass Chapter, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution traveled to Putnam County, GA to attend and participate in the American Revolutionary War grave marking of Patriot Elisha Hearne on Saturday, November 4, 2017.

Elisha served in the North Carolina Militia during the War. Following the Revolution, Elisha moved to Georgia settling in Baldwin County and in 1805 acquired 231 acres of land that became Putnam County in 1807. Elisha Hearne passed away in 1812.

The Wiregrass Chapter militia members participated with the Georgia Society Color Guard in firing their Pennsylvania/Kentucky Flintlock Rifles in the "Musket Salute" and Wiregrass Chapter President Wilder Smith, Jr. presented the Wiregrass Chapter Wreath during the "Wreath Presentation".

American Revolutionary Grave Marking



L to R: Dess Smith III, Wilder Smith, Jr., Ruskin Powell

Personalized Grave Markers



Emil Decker, GASSAR Militia member, was recently at the Kettle Creek celebration in Washington, Georgia, and delivered to John Trussell the grave marker for Charles McCall that is set for May 12, 2018.

Emil is a retired Industrial Arts School teacher. He makes these markers at his home at the present cost of \$40. They are very durable in granite with the patriots name and SAR emblem on them. They are four inches deep, four inches wide and eight inches high with engraved lettering to last many years.

They can just be sunk in the ground or anchored with a small amount of concrete, if desired. Since they are not metal they may be less subject to vandalism.

If interested in this grave marker, please contact Emil Decker at:

eldecker@windstream.net