



# BRIER CREEK PATRIOT

BRIER CREEK CHAPTER  
SCREVEN COUNTY, GEORGIA

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Vol. 7

February 20, 2022 - Copies - 60

Issue 2

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Compatriots,

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of 2022 was held on Thursday night, February 3, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the American Legion. Dual member Steve Burke presented his program on the “Sharpshooters Shooter”.

## **1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER, 2022 SAR EVENTS**

**Mar 4, 2022: Brier Creek Battlefield Education Event & meeting, battlefield at 9:00, 11:00 & 1:00.**

**Mar 4, 2022: 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual BCRWBA, Inc. Banquet, location TBA at 6:30.**

**Mar 5, 2022: 243<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Celebration at the Brier Creek Battlefield at 11:00.**

**Mar 8, 2022: Fall Line Chapter meeting at Chamber of Commerce at 7:00.**

**Mar 10, 2022: Wiregrass Chapter meeting at the New China Restaurant, at 6:30.**

**Mar 17, 2022: Little River Chaptet meeting at the Thomson Library at 6:30.**

## **2<sup>nd</sup> QUARTER, 2022 SAR EVENTS**

**Apr 2, 2022: [Sylvania Livestock Parade](#), meet at 8:30 am at High School.**

**Apr 7, 2022: Brier Creek Chapter meeting, American Legion at 7:00.**

**Apr 12, 2022: Fall Line Chapter meeting at Chamber of Commerce at 7:00.**

**Apr 14, 2022: Wiregrass Chapter meeting at the New China Restaurant, at 6:30.**

Apr 16, 2022: **Frederica Patriots Day, St. Simons Island** at 9:00 am.

Apr 21, 2022: Four Rivers Chapter meeting at Chatters Restaurant in Lyons at 6:30.

Apr 21, 2022: Little River Chapter meeting at the Thomson Library at 6:30.

May 5, 2022: Brier Creek Chapter meeting at the American Legion at 7:00.

May 7, 2022: **75<sup>th</sup> Annual Pine Tree Festival Parade**, corner Hwy 1 & Mable Ave at 9:00 am.

May 10, 2022: Fall Line Chapter meeting at Chamber of Commerce at 7:00.

May 12, 2022: Wiregrass Chapter meeting at the New China Restaurant, at 6:30.

May 14, 2022: **2<sup>nd</sup> Bi-Annual Brier Creek Artillery School** – Instructor Elaine Wommack, TBA.

May 19, 2022: Four Rivers Meeting at Chatters Restaurant in Lyons at 6:30.

May 19, 2022: Little River Meeting at the Thomson Library at 6:30.

Jun 2, 2022: Brier Creek Chapter meeting at the American Legion at 7:00.

Jun 9, 2022: Wiregrass Chapter meeting at the New China Restaurant, at 6:30.

Jun 14, 2022: Fall Line Chapter meeting at the Chamber of Commerce at 7:00.

Jun 16, 2022: Four Rivers Chapter meeting **NONE FOR JUNE 2022.**

Jun 16, 2022: Little River Chapter meeting at the Thomson Library at 6:30.

## **BRIER CREEK MEMBERS MAKE THE VETERANS CORPS**

Scotty Scott

Military Service Veterans Corps

Allen Mincey

Southwest Asia Veterans Corps

Bernard Martin

Southwest Asia Veterans Corps

Bernard Martin

Special Operations Veterans Corp

## "243rd Anniversary Celebration of the Battle at Kettle Creek Held"

"Chapters of the National Society Sons of the American Revolution traveled from all over the southeast to attend the 243rd Anniversary Celebration of the Battle of Kettle Creek on Saturday, February 12, 2022. The event started with the raising of the 13 Star U.S. Flag and a 3-round firing of over 30 flintlocks. Next a parade was held by marching around the downtown square 2 times. At 10:30, all the Elijah Clarke Militia and the Brier Creek Artillery formed on the pasture behind the Wilkes County Courthouse and participated in a re-enactment of the battle at Kettle Creek. We then formed in front of the courthouse and lowered the 13 Star U.S. Flag for the end of the morning ceremony and again fired our flintlocks 3 times. After lunch we moved to the actual battlefield on top of "War Hill" for the 243rd Celebration at 2:30. Many wreaths were presented and then 3 rounds each were fired by the flintlocks, muskets and cannons. Again, the weather was the best that we have had in several years."

**Photo #1: The Elijah Clarke Militia firing their flintlocks and muskets on the Washington, GA downtown Square.**

**Photo #2: Our 8-pounder Field Gun along with the 3 cannon Crews of the Brier Creek Artillery on top of War Hill at the battlefield.**







## "East Fall Line Region Members Attend Elijah Clarke Event"

"On Friday morning, February 11, 2022, members of the East Fall Line Region traveled to Elijah Clarke to participate in the "Heroes of the Hornet's Nest Event". We arrived around 09:00 to help set up Compatriot Steve Burke's "traveling trunk", 4 tables full of relics and different skins of "road kill". The Brier Creek Artillery also set up our 6-pounder mortar, 6-pounder Naval Gun and our 8-pounder Field Gun. At 11:00 and every 15 minutes we fired our Pennsylvania/Kentucky 50 Cal. rifles, our Brown Bess 75 Cal. Muskets and our Charleville 69 Cal. Muskets, followed by all 3 cannons. At 12:00, we were fed a fantastic meal by Compatriot Jay Guest. At 1:30 the Elijah Clarke event started and during the event, many wreaths were presented followed by flintlock and cannon fire. We have to say that the weather was the best that we have had in several years."

Photo #1: National, State, Region and Chapter SAR members in attendance.

Photo #2: President Wilder Smith, Jr. presenting a wreath for the Wiregrass Chapter.





## "Brier Creek hears Sharpshooters program"

"The Brier Creek Chapter, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution held its monthly meeting on Thursday night, February 3, 2022 at the American Legion, Sylvania, GA at 7:00. With President Wayne Howard presiding, we had 12 members in attendance. President Wayne opened the meeting with the Pledge to the U.S.



Flag and then the pledge to the Sons of the American Revolution. Then Bernard Martin said the prayer. President Wayne then asked Compatriot Dess Smith III to report on the upcoming 243rd Anniversary Celebration of the Battle at Brier Creek. Dess reported that there will be 3 different events as in the last 6 years. The first event will be the "Education Day Program" that will be held on Friday, March 4th beginning with the first session at 9:00 a.m. at the battle field site. Other sessions that day will be at 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Each session will have 4 stations rotating at about 15 minutes for each station. At the end of each session, there will be a 10-minute re-enactment between the British and American forces. Hopefully students from different schools in the area will schedule their times with the Coordinator, Dess Smith III at 478-299-1039. The second event will be the 3rd Annual Brier Creek Revolutionary War Battlefield Association, Inc's Banquet at the First United Methodist Church beginning at 6:30 p.m. Reservations are needed by calling Dess Smith III at 478-299-1039 by February 21st. The Banquet speaker will be "Jason West" who will be presenting his "Button Gwinnett" impersonation. The third event will be the 243rd Anniversary Celebration of the Battle at Brier Creek. This will be held on Saturday, March 5th at 11:00 a.m. on the Battlefield. This year's speaker will be "Charles B. Baxley, publisher of and co-founder of the Southern Campaigns of the American Revolution. Charles was also the tour guide for the "Francis Marion's War in South Carolina. Charles also was the organizer of the "Southern Campaigns Revolutionary War Roundtable and Corps of Discovery held on February 20, 2016 at Ebenezer, GA. President Wayne then introduced Compatriot Steve Burke and his assistant Bernard Martin. Steve's program was on the "Sharpshooter's Shooter". Steve began by telling us all about the period rifles that he brought for demonstration. The Matchlock 50 cal. musket (1600's), which had a burning piece of rope that would fall onto the powder when the trigger was pulled. The flintlock eventually replaced it. The flintlock (1700's) had a much better ignition system and they came in rifled 50 Cal. barrels, 69 Cal. and 75 Cal. smooth bore muskets that could mount a bayonet for hand to hand fighting. In 1842 the percussion cap was invented to replace the flint on the rifle and smooth bore muskets. The fourth weapon that Steve showed us was the sniper percussion cap smooth bore Whitworth 45 Cal. musket. Our meeting was ended with the Sons of the American Revolution processional and the invocation."

Photo is from L to R: Steve Burke, Bernard Martin.



## "Brier Creek Chapter Officers Installed"

"The Brier Creek Chapter, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution held its monthly meeting, Thursday night, January 6, 2022 at the American Legion at 7:00. With President Wayne Howard presiding, we had 14 members in attendance and 1 guest, the Georgia Society Senior Vice President Joe Vancura. President Wayne called on the Wiregrass Chapter President Wilder Smith, Jr. to introduce the Georgia Society Senior Vice President Joe Vancura to hold the installation for our Brier Creek Chapter 2022 Officers. Senior Vice President Joe first talked to our Chapter about membership and then installed 1st Vice President Gary Jenkins, Secretary/Treasurer Adam Bazemore, Registrar Scotty Scott, Genealogist Bill Tankersly and Sgt-at-Arms Don Bazemore. Senior Vice President Joe then installed our President Wayne Howard. Absent and will be installed at a later date are, Chaplain Lee Smith, Historian John Fitzner, Newsletter Editor Dess Smith III and Genealogist Bill Tankersly. President Wayne then awarded Compatriot Bernard Martin with his "Special Ops Veterans Corps and Southwest Asia Veterans Corps Certificates. President Wayne then talked about our upcoming 243rd Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, March 5th and the Education Day Event at the battlefield on Friday, March 4th at 9, 11, and 1. He also mentioned the BRIER CREEK REVOLUTIONARY WAR BATTLEFIELD ASSOCIATION, INC. Annual Banquet on Friday night at 6:30 at the First United Methodist Church in Sylvania. Our next meeting will be on February 3rd."

Photo #1: Senior Vice President Georgia Society Joe Vancura presenting his program.

Photo #2: Brier Creek Officers being installed: L to R: Don Bazemore, Scotty Scott, Adam Bazemore, Gary Jenkins, Wayne Howard and Joe Vancura.

Photo #3: President Wayne Howard and Bernard Martin.





"Brier Creek and Wiregrass Chapters, SAR, attend Wreaths across America"



"Brier Creek Chapter and Wiregrass Chapter members traveled to Sylvania, GA on December 18, 2021 to participate in the "Tribute to the 40 Screven County Veterans" Who never made it home. The tolling of the bell was done in three parts: 17 casualties of WWI, then 22 casualties of WWII and 1 casualty of the Korean War. Including these 40 wreaths, there were a total of 559 wreaths placed in the Screven County Cemetery on veteran's tombstones. This event was Sponsored by the American Legion Screven County History buffs in support of the Ellis E. Williams Memorial Post 7116, Veterans of Foreign Wars George Alexander Mincey Memorial Post 116. Members of the Brier Creek and Wiregrass Chapters, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution at the conclusion fired a 3-round volley with their flintlocks. Those members firing their flintlocks from the Brier Creek Chapter were Don Bazemore and Allen Mincey. Those members firing their flintlocks from the Wiregrass Chapter were Wilder Smith, Jr., Steve Burke and Al Smith. Don Bazemore played tapes on his bugle at the end of the ceremony."

Photo #1: File Photo during WAA 2020 at Screven County Cemetery

Photo #2: File Photo during WAA 2020 at Screven County Cemetery.





## "Brier Creek Presents 6th Flag Certificate"

"On Friday, December 17, 2021, President Wayne Howard met Mayor Preston Dees on the square in Sylvania, GA to present the Brier Creek Chapter's 6th U.S. Flag Certificate to The City of Sylvania. Mayor Dees received the "Certificate of Commendation" in recognition of exemplary Patriotism in the display of the Flag of the United States of America in the correct way. Recognizing people, businesses, organizations and the government with a U.S. Flag Certificate is a project of the Sons of the American Revolution. The Brier Creek Chapter began presenting these certificates in June 2014 and this project is an ongoing project of the Brier Creek Chapter, the GASSAR and the NSSAR and we will be honoring others with this certificate."

Photo #1 from L to R: Mayor Preston Dees of Sylvania, President Wayne Howard, Brier Creek Chapter in front of the U.S. Flag on the Square.

Photo #2: from L to R: Mayor Preston Dees of Sylvania, President Wayne Howard, Brier Creek Chapter in front of the Brier Creek mural on the Square.







## "East Fall Line Region compatriots attend Fort Morris Event"

"On Saturday, November 20, 2021, several Compatriots from the East Fall Line Region, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution, traveled to the Revolutionary War Battlefield between Midway and Sunbury, GA to participate in the annual "Come and Take It", Fort Morris Event. This year the Wiregrass Chapters Compatriot Alton Reynolds was selected to fire his 8-pounder Field Gun during the 3-round volley. Last year, Compatriot Steve Burke was selected to fire his 6-pounder Naval Cannon during the event. Wreaths presented by the East Fall Line Region were: Wilder Smith, Jr. - Dual member of the Mill Creek Chapter, Alton Reynolds - 2nd Vice-President of the Wiregrass Chapter, Wilder Smith, Jr. - dual member of the Fall Line Chapter, Don Bazemore - Sgt-at-arms of the Brier Creek Chapter, Steve Burke - Dual member of the Patrick Carr Chapter, Steve Burke - dual member of the Four Rivers Chapter and Alton McCloud - Vice President of the Little River Chapter. After the event all Compatriots had a fantastic meal at the Crab House in Sunbury."

Photo #1: Compatriot Don Bazemore presenting the Brier Creek Chapter wreath.

Photo #2: Getting ready for the "Come and Take it" event at Fort Morris.







## "Brier Creek Chapter enjoys Christmas meal"

"The Brier Creek Chapter, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution, held its monthly meeting, December 2, 2021 at Compatriot John Fitzner's Clubhouse on the banks of the Brier Creek. With President Wayne Howard presiding we had 20 in attendance including guests. After blessing the food by Compatriot Bernard Martin, President Wayne said let's eat, and we did. We consumed a great covered dish meal. After the meal, Compatriot Steve Burke came forward and presented President Wayne Howard with the flag streamer that the Brier Creek chapter had earned by presenting a wreath at the "Come and Take it", Fort Morris event on Saturday, November 20, 2021. At the end, President Wayne thanked John Fitzner for opening his clubhouse to us and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

Photo #1: photo of the Chapter's covered dish meal at Compatriot John Fitzner's Clubhouse on the Brier Creek.

Photo #2: photo of Compatriot Steve Burke presenting President Wayne Howard the Streamer from the Fort Morris Event wreath presentation.







## "Derden Presents the Court Martial of MG Ashe"

"The Brier Creek Chapter, Georgia society Sons of the American Revolution held its monthly meeting on Thursday night, November 4, 2021. With President Wayne Howard presiding, we had 20 members and guests in attendance. After the invocation and pledges, President Wayne introduced Samuel Bazemore to our chapter. Samuel is our newest member and is the son of Compatriot Adam Bazemore and grandson of Compatriot Don Bazemore. With both of them looking on, President Wayne inducted Samuel into the Brier Creek Chapter. President Wayne then called on the Wiregrass President Wilder Smith, Jr. to introduce the speaker for tonight. President Wilder introduced Compatriot Dr. John Derden, Historian for the Wiregrass Chapter and retired History Professor from East Georgia State College. John's program tonight was on "The Court Martial of Patriot Major General John Ashe", the commander of the North Carolina Patriot forces and state troops from 1776-1779 was the commander at the Battle of Brier Creek, March 3, 1779. He resigned from military service after the Patriot defeat at the Battle of Brier Creek in 1779. At the Battle of Brier Creek, Colonel Mark Prevost, commander of the British force, approached the Patriots camp from the rear on March 3, with Ashe's force having just 15 minutes notice to prepare for the onslaught. Ashe's poorly trained and supplied militia were routed, with an estimated 150 casualties compared to around 16 British casualties. Ashe was subjected to a court martial, which found that although he was not entirely to blame for the debacle, he was guilty of setting inadequate guards around the camp."

**Photo #1: Compatriot Dr. John Derden presenting his program.**

**Photo #2: new Compatriot Junior member Samuel Bazemore being installed.**





### **ADAM BAZEMORE'S TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Compatriot Adam reports that we are doing great with our bank balance. Thanks to Secretary Dennis Wiggins and Treasurer Adam Bazemore for their hard Work in 2021. We lost 5 members this year. Jason Quick passed away, Blake Marchant did not renew and our 3 Cotton-Dixon members did not renew. On January 1, 2022 our membership will be 36. Our retention rate is 90 % for the beginning of 2022.

### **SCOTTY SCOTTS REGISTRAR'S REPORT:**

Grady Jenkins has been **approved** as a Brier Creek Chapter Member

Bernard Martin has been **approved** as a Brier Creek Chapter Member

Blake Marchant has been **approved** as a Brier Creek Chapter Member

Brooks Marchant has been **approved** as a Brier Creek Chapter Member



Norman Waters has been **approved** as a Brier Creek Chapter Member

Scott Waters has been **approved** as a Brier Creek Chapter Member

Ross Waters has been **approved** as a Brier Creek Chapter Member

Rowland Neil Dickey **re-instated** into the Brier Creek Chapter

Gary Hills has been **approved** as a Brier Creek Chapter Member

Alexander Stephen Hogsette has been **approved** as a Brier Creek Chapter Member

Forrest Boyer Hogsette has been **approved** as a Brier Creek Chapter Member

Samuel Hutcheson Bazemore has been **approved** as a Brier Creek Chapter Member

Richard Lee Herron has been **approved** as a Brier Creek Chapter Member

Danny Lynn Derriso has been **approved** as a Brier Creek Chapter Member

## OUR TOTAL MEMBERSHIP IS NOW 36

If you have anyone that would like to become a member of our Chapter, please contact me at 478-299-1039 or e-mail me at [saussure@bellsouth.net](mailto:saussure@bellsouth.net)

In SAR Friendship & Service,

*Dess*