



The President's Dispatch

Newsletter of The Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution The Hornet's Nest

October - December 2023



Since January 1, 2023, the Georgia Society has grown from 1921 members to 2,067 members! That's an increase of 146 GASSAR compatriots by December 31st Not bad!

Continued on page 3

National Archive Bingo?

"Y'all might be interested in sharing this program." was the byline of a recent email from Compatriot Chuck Olsen, GASSAR Chancellor. It was a forwarded copy of an email from the National Archives about their catalog, [Access to Revolution War Pension Records](https://www.archives.gov/), and other related documents of interest. [we'll get to the bingo portion eventually] <https://www.archives.gov/>



[I copied portions of this email from the National Archive to share with you.....Editor]

Honoring America's First Veterans

What are the Pension Files?

Originally, the Continental Congress provided a pension for soldiers wounded in the war and unable to earn a living. In 1818 Congress passed a law allowing all veterans who served for at least nine months to receive a pension. That was expanded in 1832 to veterans who had served for six months, and in 1836 widows were allowed to apply.

The files average 30 pages each, but many are much longer. They contain accounts of the veterans' time in service, including campaigns they took part in. Familiar places are peppered throughout the files: Saratoga and Yorktown, Washington and Lafayette. Genealogists will be delighted to learn that some pension files include genealogical information taken directly from family bibles to provide proof of familial relationships. We're looking for volunteer Citizen Archivists who can read cursive, are interested in reading some very interesting stories, and are up for a challenge. https://www.archives.gov/citizen-archivist/missions/revolutionary-war-pension-files?utm_campaign=RevWarVets11-2-2023&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter

One such sample comes from Private Edward Elley, who wrote "Come, my brave fellows, stick to your posts and the day will soon be ours"

Revolutionary War veteran Edward Elley was 95 years old when he recounted the story of his service in a sworn affidavit for his pension file.



Continued on page 2

2003, 2006, 2021

In The Nest	
President's Dispatch.....	1
National Archive Bingo.....	1
Kettle Creek.....	3
Calendar of Events.....	5
Blast from the Past.....	6
National & State Events.....	7
Grave Markings.....	28
Independence.....	37
Nat. Color Guard Commander's Report.....	39
Coming Events.....	40
Chapter News.....	41
Ladies Aux., C.A.R., DAR.....	68
In Memoriam.....	73
State & Committee Reports.....	74
Trading Post.....	83

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.

Spread out over several years, his service culminated at the Battle of Yorktown. At Yorktown he rallied his fellow soldiers with these encouraging words within earshot of General James Clinton. General Clinton was so moved by these words that he rewarded Edward Elley with a good breakfast, the first food he had in twenty-four hours.

This story is just part of one Revolutionary War pension file found in the National Archives and the National Parks Service Revolutionary War Pension File Transcription Project. The project includes over 83,000 pension files from Revolutionary War veterans with the goal of transcribing them for our nation's 250th birthday in 2026. https://www.archives.gov/citizen-archivist/missions/revolutionary-war-pension-files?utm_campaign=RevWarVets11-2-2023&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter

Transcribers of Edward Elley's pension file found a sworn affidavit in which he recounts his military service in Virginia. Drafted into service a number of times for several months at a time, his third time being drafted, he hired a substitute. The fourth time he was called in a requisition of men, Elley found himself marching to Williamsburg and on to Yorktown. He describes engagement with the British, cannonballs hitting the battery near him, and sightings of General George Washington. After two months, a substitute arrived, hired by his wife. Elley quickly made for his home. Along his way home in Fredericksburg he learned the British surrendered and the war had ended.

By transcribing these handwritten records, you can help make them searchable and accessible by the public. We'd also love to hear what stories you discover. Please submit what you find in a very brief survey https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RevPenPro?utm_campaign=RevWarVets11-2-2023&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter

Also linked on the Revolutionary War Pension Files Transcription Mission page. So far, we've heard stories about men in Washington's Life Guard, a soldier who traveled with Lafayette, and an account of crossing the Delaware:

"We crossed the Delaware to Trenton and remained in the opposite side until the 26th Decr. [December] 1776 & in the night we recrossed the river & took a body of Hessians lodged in Trenton on the next day I was appointed officer of the day to bury the dead..."

https://catalog.archives.gov/id/111477767?objectPage=11&utm_campaign=RevWarVets11-2-2023&utm_medium=email

Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application File W. 27,514, Peter Humrickhouse, Penn, page 3, National Archives Identifier 54961325

Interested in reading more?

Isaac Howel was wounded and captured, returned in a prisoner exchange, was then attached to General Washington's Life Guards, captured again, then *"He then enlisted in a British Corps in order to regain his liberty and deserted as soon as he had an opportunity."* https://catalog.archives.gov/id/54940761?objectPage=2&utm_campaign=RevWarVets11-2-2023&utm_medium=email

Jacob Reeser was a drummer in Capt. John Cribby's company of Infantry of the 3rd Battalion who was wounded and disabled.

https://catalog.archives.gov/id/196474830?utm_campaign=RevWarVets11-2-2023&utm_medium=email

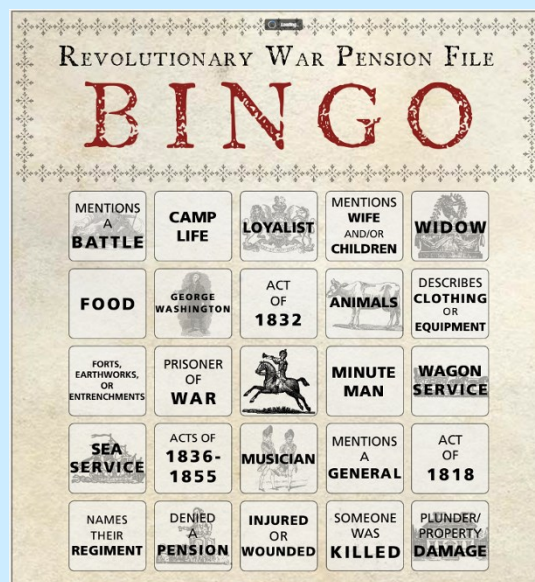
Richard Hubbell's father was captured at Ft. Washington and died while a prisoner in 1777. In 1782, Richard joined up at age 16, along with a twin brother. https://catalog.archives.gov/id/54947604?objectPage=4&utm_campaign=RevWarVets11-2-2023&utm_medium=email

Now to get to the bingo..... Sometimes the pension file contains so many details, events, and famous historical figures it feels like you could fill out a bingo card. So we thought a bingo card was in order! Check out this bingo card we made with our National Park Service partners to get an idea of some of the things you might find in the pension files.

<https://www.archives.gov/files/citizen-archivist/file/revwarpensionbingo.pdf>

Print out a card and fill it in as you transcribe these fascinating pension records. If you manage to get a bingo, please share a picture of it on History Hub!

https://historyhub.history.gov/citizen_archivists/?utm_campaign=RevWarVets11-2-2023&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter



The President's Dispatch (Cont.)

This final quarter, as in every quarter as Georgia Society SAR. State President, I spent much time organizing, adding cover letters, and signing the many new SAR Membership Packets, then sorting and mailing them in postal envelopes to appropriate chapter contact members across Georgia. I thank State Secretary Gary Smith and State Registrar Steven Hinson for their hard work, to make all that possible. They do their jobs very well. I also frequently responded to many email queries and worked closely with our State Chancellor Chuck Olson on pressing SAR concerns, as well as our ExCom, and many of our other officers and outstanding compatriots.

Along the way, with the help of many of our Compatriots, the Georgia Society and I accomplished the following:

October 1st: 7PM Participated in a South Atlantic District Council of Presidents Zoom Meeting.

October 6th-7th: King's Mountain Battle Commemoration with S.A.R. President General John Dodd in attendance.

Oct. 6th: 2PM Participated in an in-person meeting of the South Atlantic District Meeting in Gaffney Museum.

4PM Social Hour and then Dinner Provided.

Oct. 7th: 11AM -1:30: King's Mountain National Battlefield Commemoration. I brought Greetings and spoke a bit.

October 9th: The Siege of Savannah 2023 Battlefield March was held.

October 10th: Participated in Marquis de Lafayette monthly meeting in Senoia, Georgia, and brought some membership packets.

October 21st: I traveled to Fairview Presbyterian Church Cemetery near Lawrenceville and took part in the 2PM Double Grave-Marking of Patriots John Bagby and Philip Isley. Compatriot Bagby was killed in battle, but Compatriot Isley survived the Revolutionary War and went on to be an 1823 Founder of this Presbyterian Church.

October 23rd: Participated in South Atlantic District Zoom Meeting.

October 24th : 5PM: Chaired important ExCom Zoom Meeting with special guests added: Compatriot John Trussel, the Chancellor, and others invited to join us.

Continued on page 4



Kettle Creek Part. 3

Painting by Jeff Trexler

In early February, 1779, Colonel John Boyd, an Irishman from Raeburn Creek, South Carolina set out with a newly raised regiment of 800 Tories. His goal was to unite with British General Archibald Campbell's force, which had successfully captured Augusta, Georgia. As this column moved on, the men plundered and pillaged along the way, predictably drawing angered Patriots to take up arms.

After crossing the Savannah River, Boyd ordered his men to rest and make camp on the north side of Kettle Creek in Wilkes County, Georgia. Unbeknownst to Boyd, about 350 Patriots under the overall command of Colonel Andrew Pickens were close by, preparing to strike. Splitting his men into three columns, Pickens attacked at 10 A.M. on the morning of February 14, 1779.

The British had expected thousands of loyal southerners to rally to their flag and restore the whole South to the king. However, Boyd proved only able to assemble 600 men, some of whom were criminals in flight. Other men who traveled with him were allegedly coerced into joining under threats to their lives and property.

Southern loyalists fought in almost every major engagement in the south, including the Siege of Savannah, Siege of Charleston, Siege of Ninety Six, Augusta, Brier Creek, King's Mountain, Cowpens, Hanging Rock, Rocky Mount, Blackstocks, Camden, Hobkirk's Hill, Long Canes, Enoree and countless others.



To Be Continued

October 25th: There was a Joint Liberty Tree Dedication and Ceremony in McCaysville, Georgia, at the Toccoa River Park at its Veteran's Memorial. It started at 11AM and was jointly sponsored by the SAR and the NSDAR, represented by DAR State Regent, Jennifer Anderson.

October 28th: As State President, I presided over the GASSAR Fall BOM Quarterly Meeting at Pam's Garden Patch Restaurant in Barnesville, Georgia. We accomplished quite a bit.

November 4th, 2023: I traveled to 2367 Cunningham Road in Elberton, Georgia, to participate in a Grave Marking ceremony for Patriot Jacob Higginbotham at 11AM.

November 9th -10th: My wife and I drove all the way to St. Simons Island since I was invited by the Marshes of Glynn Chapter and President Marty Moore to present my "Colonial and Revolutionary War Art and Related Works" Powerpoint lecture/discussion to that Chapter. Several members of the Chapter and we ate together at the Mullet Bay Restaurant and then traveled to the St. Simons Airport Fire Station Community Meeting Room, where we attended the meeting and I gave my Powerpoint presentation. Great Audience! And great participation! Including from the very knowledgeable Captain of one of the Reenactment ships. The next couple days, we stuck around and visited a few museums and the light house.

November 14th: I attended the Marquis de Lafayette Chapter Meeting in Senoia, Georgia.

November 17th -18th: For another exciting few days, we participated in the Fort Morris "Come and Take It!" commemoration along the southern coastline, from 5-9PM on Friday and 10AM-1PM on Saturday. Marshes of Glynn President Marty Moore did a tremendous job of MCing the event. I brought Greetings and dedicated a wreath. Great event!

After Thanksgiving, on December 2nd: I travelled to Newnan, Georgia, where I took part in the Planting of a Liberty Tree, bringing Greetings from the Georgia Society SAR and the Office of the President, and speaking briefly on the event. The Marquis de Lafayette Chapter and our America 250 committee chair, along with chapter president Dave Jessel, did a great job of organizing the outdoor event, along with several other members who participated.

On December 7th: I participated in the funeral of Compatriot & Past President James Edward Stallings down in Macon, Georgia, at the St. Joseph Catholic Church. At the beginning of the Funeral Mass, I escorted Color Guardsman John Trussell up to the right of the altar, to post his colors, while Color Guardsman Chuck Garnett led another Color Guardsman up the left side of the altar to post his flag. Afterwards, a few of us including John and Chuck ate lunch together nearby and spoke fondly of Compatriot Stallings.

On December 8th: I journeyed to Columbus, Georgia, to attend the Coweta Falls Chapter Christmas Banquet at the Green Island Country Club. I gave my "Colonial and Revolutionary War Art and Related Works" Lecture/Discussion to an excellent audience there. I also inducted all their 2024 Officers and new Chapter President. I also was pleased to see and converse with PG Mike Tomme and his lovely wife Cilla, also visiting there.

On December 11th: I traveled to the Georgia State Capitol in Atlanta, where I spoke under the Gold Dome in honor of our Wreaths Across America State Event, along with DAR State Regent Betty Brown Harrah. I spoke on this year's theme, which is "Serve and Succeed" to a good crowd, including a children's chorus from Central Hatchee Elementary School.

I went to a Button Gwinnett Chapter Dinner and Meeting on December 14th at the Frontera Restaurant in Lawrenceville. I have had the honor of visiting my good compatriots there other times as well! This time, it was to perform the Induction Ceremony for their 2024 Officers.

Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the Captain John Collins Christmas Meeting this time. It was on December 19th this year. They always throw a tremendously good Christmas celebration, featuring two professional trombonists—Harry Hagan and Rodney Smith—and Rodney's lovely bride, who sings Christmas songs along with them. If you haven't experienced it yet, you must in the future!

On December 22nd, I was happy to see the good publicity our PG Larry Guzy earned, in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution "Every Day Heroes" article that featured him!

January promises to be another great month for the Georgia Society SAR! I know I look forward to the Marquis de Lafayette formal Christmas Banquet and meeting, where I will perform an Induction Ceremony for all the good 2024 new officers, on January 6th.

For much of January, I will be working on several scripts for the Annual State Conference, as well as scheduling and chairing at least one more ExCom Meeting.

On the evening of January 16th, I will have a lot of traveling to do! First, up to the Captain John Collins Chapter for a special meeting near Kennesaw. And straight from there, my wife and I will drive through the night to Gaffney, South Carolina, for the Cowpens Battle Commemoration near Kings Mountain on the next morning.

January 17th, 2024: my wife and I will participate in the Cow Pens Events near Gaffney, including Georgia SAR Greetings and remarks and a wreath dedication.

January 26-27th, 2024: And then the Georgia Society's big event of the year: our Annual Georgia Society SAR Annual Conference in Duluth. Thanks to former G.A.S.A.R. state president Wayne Brown for all his work on that! Please, Compatriots, be sure to register and attend. It will be great to see you there for the passing of the Torch from me to the new state president, Ed Rigel, Jr.!

Libertas et Patria,

Dr. David A. Ludley

Georgia Society SAR President



Calendar of Events

Event	Location	Date	Status
Georgia Society Annual Meeting	Sonesta Hotel Duluth, GA	Jan 26 - 27, 2024	State
Heroes of the Hornets Nest	Elijah Clark St. Park Lincolnton, GA	Feb 9, 2024	State
Kettle Creek	Washington, GA War Hill	Feb 10, 2024	National
Kettle Creek Colonial Church Service	Washington, GA	Feb 10, 2024	State
Battle of Thomas Creek	Seaton Creek Historic Preservation Park, Jacksonville, FL	Mar 23, 2024	National
Frederica Naval Action	Saint Simons Island, GA	Apr 13, 2024 ?	National
State BOM	Barnesville, GA	Apr 27, 2024	State
Midway Grave Marking	Midway, GA	Apr 28, 2024 ?	State
Memorial Day	Various	May 27, 2024	National
Flag Day	Various	Jun 14, 2024	State
Battle of Alligator Creek Bridge	45383 Dixie Ave, Callahan, FL	Jun 29, 2024	State
Independence Day	Various	Jul 4, 2024	National
National Congress	Lancaster, PA	Jul 10, 2024	National
State BOM	Barnesville, GA	Jul 27, 2024	State
State BOM	Barnesville, GA	Oct 26, 2024	State

134th NSSAR National Congress

Lancaster, PA

July 11 - 16, 2024

Lancaster Marriott, Penn Square, 25
S. Queen St., Lancaster PA

Phone number is 1-717-239-
1600

Give them the **GROUP CODE** of
NSSAR

Rooms are \$149 plus tax per night
with a 48 hour cancellation policy.
These rates are good for the dates
July 8 - 17, 2024

Room options are either a king or
double. All suites have been
allocated already.

<https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1694032062042&key=GRP&pp=resvlink>



Lancaster
Marriott,
Penn Square,
25 S. Queen
St., Lancaster
PA

BLAST FROM THE PAST



"Blast from the Past", looks at some back issue / historic news relevant to the Georgia Society, Sons of the American Revolution. Looking back to January - March of 2006, we find an article from Chuck Hyder, Button Gwinnett Compatriot.

In the Grand Scheme of Things, Where Would You Place Georgia?

Right on the Line

Chuck Hyder

Generals have tough decisions to make, and sometimes they work out just fine. General Washington's experience comes to mind. As an aide to General Braddock, he was well schooled in enemy formations and knew that the armies in Europe always conducted their campaigns by posting their elite, strongest and most able units on the right for the attack, while the left was conserved for the defense.

After the Continental Army defeated General Cornwallis in October 1781 in the lowlands of Virginia, General Washington thought it appropriate to hold a parade. He asked his staff if there was a contingent, or at least a few soldiers, still present from each state. The staff checked and duly reported there was, but the leaders were contending over which state would be posted on the right, the traditional position of honor, and first to pass the reviewing stand.

We're not sure of all the states' arguments, but at least, these follow. Massachusetts claimed it should be the first because the opening battle of the Revolutionary War – the shot heard round the world – was fired in Lexington, Massachusetts. Pennsylvania felt it should be on the right because the Declaration of Independence was approved there, the First Continental Congress and Valley Forge all

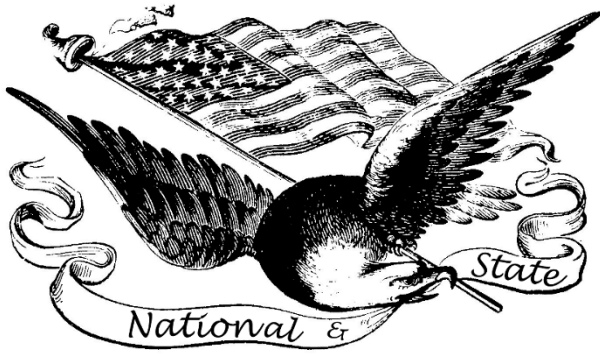
signify the paramount role of Pennsylvania. Maryland raised the matter of the first capitol at Annapolis and New York State had the largest city.

His own Virginia soldiers reminded him that Virginia was the most populated state. That Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry and many notable leaders hailed from Virginia, not the least of which was the General himself also made it a likely choice.

George Washington paused and then spoke. What was his decision, you ask? He chose Georgia.

His selection was steeped in logic, pragmatism and military tradition. More significantly, it was a clever solution to a ticklish problem. Georgia, the southern most colony of the original thirteen was already positioned foremost on the right. Consequently, Washington avoided friction among his armies by forming up the remainder of his troops by colony in geographical order from South to North.

Chuck Hyder, a member of the Button Gwinnett Chapter, is a retired Army Signal Corps officer. He was the first professor of Military Science at Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, Georgia and formerly served as Chief of Reserve Component Training Division, Office of Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, U. S. Army Forces Command.



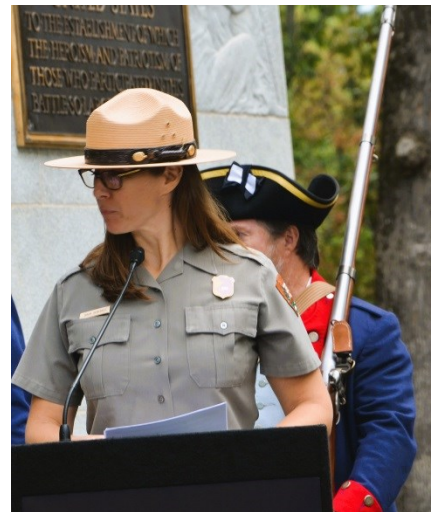
SOUTH ATLANTIC DISTRICT

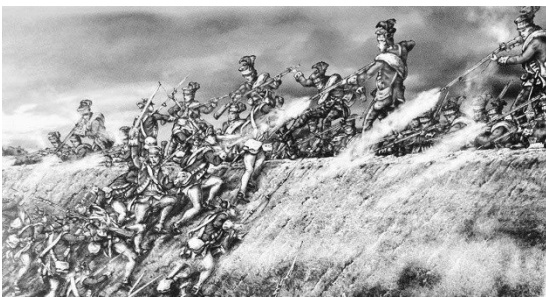




KINGS MOUNTAIN







SIEGE OF SAVANNAH

Below: On Monday morning October 9, 2023, the Skunk Brigade traveled to Savannah, GA with other SAR members to participate in the annual Siege of Savannah event. The event started at 9:30 a.m. with a parade formation from the museum traveling the original route of the Patriots & French when they attacked the British on October 9, 1779. This major assault against the British siege works failed with the result of the British remaining in control of Savannah until July 1782. While we were marching to the event location, cannons fired at least 5 times. During the event, several speeches were given by dignitaries and then the laying of wreaths was held. After this, the Sons of the Revolution fired a 3 round volley with their flintlocks and one shot by their cannon."





BOM

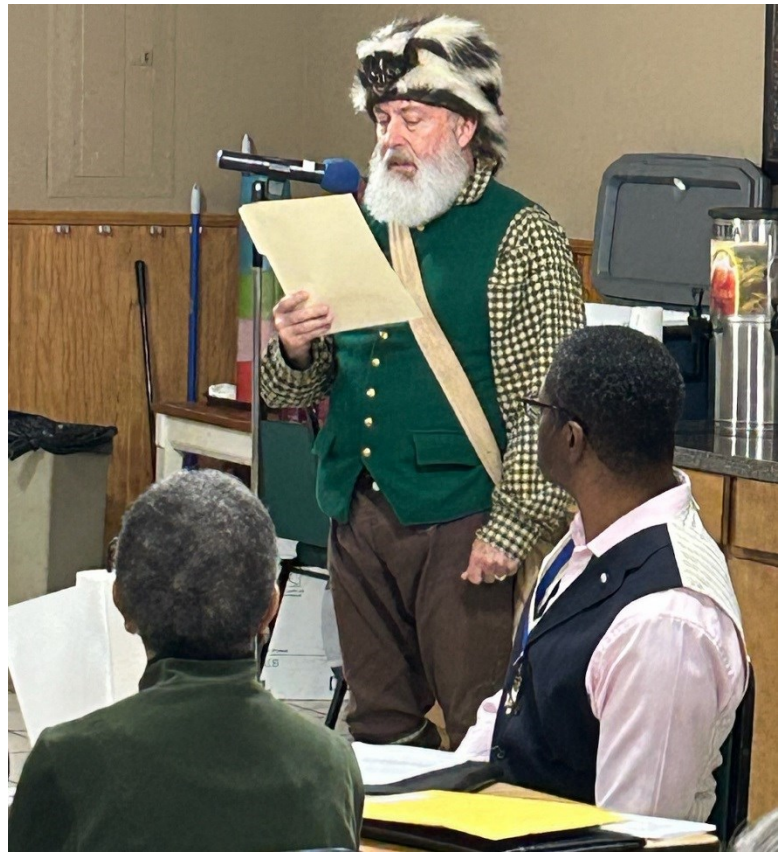


The Georgia Society SAR held our Fall BOM on 10/28/2023. We had a large in-person attendance, as well as 30 individuals who attended on Zoom. In addition to the business of the society, this meeting also included a Candidates Forum for those compatriots running for NSSAR general officer positions.

The video recording of this meeting may be viewed by clicking on the YouTube link:

<https://youtu.be/Dbcl5gLffI8>

Right: At the end of the "new business" session, Compatriot Lee Herron of the Brier Creek Chapter came forward with his proposal for the Georgia Society to support the State of Georgia in developing a 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution Georgia State License plate. This vehicle tag will not cost the Society any funds and will be used by all Georgia vehicles from 2025 - 2030. Senator Max Burns from Screven County is working with Lee to make this a reality. After hearing that the United States and all 50 states are organizing with the 250th campaign, Lee got the tag idea from South Carolina and said to himself, why not? Thank you, Lee Herron, for developing this idea to help remind our state how we got our freedoms and for honoring those Patriots with a vehicle tag for Georgia."

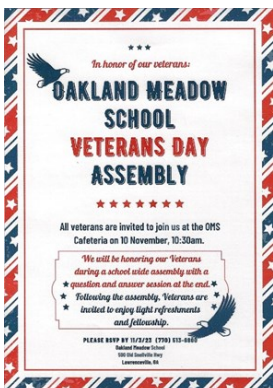


VETERANS DAY



Left: Ocmulgee Chapter Color Guard members Chuck Garnett and John Trussell presented Colors at the Veterans Day ceremonies in Warner Robins. General James Seahorn, former Prisoner of War, was the guest speaker.

Below Left and Right: Button Gwinnett members celebrate with the Oakland Meadow School at their Veterans Day Assembly.



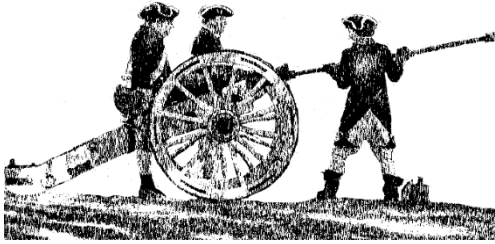


Veterans Day
Commemoration at
Watkinsville, GA



Veterans Day Commemorations continued all day, at various locations. Here the Color Guard presented Colors at the Yaarab Shrine Program. Compatriot and Veteran Carter Wood was the speaker.





COME AND TAKE IT ! FORT MORRIS







Chestatee River Chapter's DAR - *Day of Service* - incorporated a Cherokee Chapter SAR planting of another Liberty Tree.



LIBERTY TREES



Below: Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter held two, back to back days of Liberty Tree Events. The first, shown below was at West Fannin Elementary School. See Jared Ogden's article on page 20.





Center: Betty Brown Harrah, State Regent of Georgia Society, DAR. And Sid Turner fill in the hole.

Below: Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter attendees, VP Sid Turner, Past Pres. Jared Ogden, dual member from the Florida Society, dual member Emil Decker, and President Stephen Weaver.

Below: Captain James Kell Chapter DAR with Betty Brown Harrah, State Regent of Georgia Society, DAR.



By Jared Ogden



L-R Allison Danner, Principal of West Fannin Elementary School, Shannon Miller, Fannin County Superintendent of Schools, BRM Chapter VP Sid Turner, and Chapter President Stephen Weaver

A TALE OF TWO HOLES OR GENERAL WASHINGTON MAY HAVE SMILED WHILE WATCHING 21ST-CENTURY COMPATRIOTS OVERCOME ADVERSITY

Recently, the Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter, SAR, joined the Captain James Kell Chapter, DAR, in celebrating the Nation's 250th Anniversary by planting Liberty Trees on two consecutive days. The dates were set, sites were selected, and the events were organized. All that remained was to dig the holes, place the granite markers, and conduct the ceremonies. The hole digging and marker placing were scheduled for the day before the first ceremony. How little did we know of the challenge to be faced?

For the SAR Digging Team, the first hole was easier than expected. The compatriot team, consisting of Chapter President Stephen Weaver and Treasurer Jared Ogden, did no digging. The East Fanning Elementary School Principal and the Assistant Principal dug the hole with occasional help from the team by

breaking a few sedimentary rocks with a pickaxe.

The second planting site was in the McCaysville [GA] City Park, about 1/3 of a mile south of the Georgia/Tennessee border. This Liberty Tree was to be planted in a spot formerly occupied by an old and beloved Maple tree whose removal was necessitated by failing health and falling branches. The ancient tree stump had been ground away, leaving only the soft, decaying grinds to remove to form the hole. The compatriot digging team anticipated an easier task than digging through the rocky, red clay native to the mountains. Initially, the digging was easy. Then disaster struck; the stump grinder only removed six inches of stump and roots. The hole needed to be 13 inches deep.

The team could not dig through, chop up, or pull out the remains of the stump and the tangled roots surrounding it. Remembering General Washington's tactic of strategic retreat to keep the Continental Army from annihilation, we attempted a strategic retreat, too. But the tough old web of roots prevented hand digging near the prime location. Then, the digging team considered alternative locations. Still, no sites were satisfactory. And we heard the whispers from future generations asking why the beautiful Liberty Tree was planted in such an odd place. We would never explain to our descendants how dead Maple roots defeated us.

General Washington felt relief when Lafayette brought arms, ammunition, and soldiers, and the team felt relief when the McCaysville Parks supervisor arrived with a big yellow backhoe. Our Revolutionary War victory was not assured with Lafayette's arrival, and problems continued to plague the path to victory. The digging team continued to have problems, too. The roots of the ancient maple proved too challenging for the big yellow backhoe. Frustration and desperation crept in. Just as General Washington continued to face challenges with optimism and fortitude. The digging team did, too. The team would not accept defeat from dead roots.

Just as General Washington relied on Admiral Comte De Grasse's French Fleet to bottle up the English Forces in the Battle of the Chesapeake in 1781, preventing Lord Cornwallis from getting supplies and reinforcements at Yorktown, we relied on additional reinforcements from the city of McCaysville. A replacement machine arrived. It was smaller than "Big Yellow." It was orange, but it was equipped with hydraulic jaws. We silently cheered as the jaws of "Little Orange" ripped through the tough roots. The mission was accomplished! The holes were created.

The following days were memorable. At the dedication in West Fannin Elementary School's athletic field, only compatriots, DAR daughters, 4th graders, teachers, and the superintendent of schools attended. It was a joy to watch the 85 little 4th graders take a spade of dirt and fill in the hole, knowing that 50 years from now, when they visit, they will recall planting the Liberty Tree.

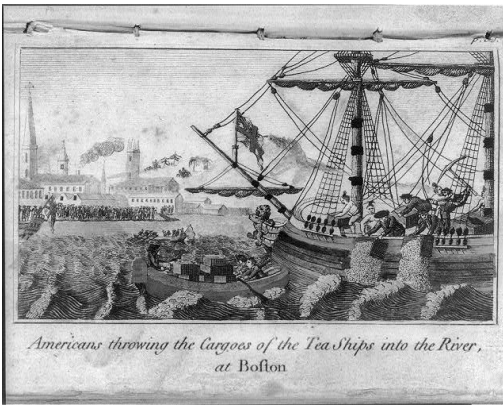
The next day at McCaysville City Park, the public dedication of the Liberty Tree delighted those attending. The daughters of the Captain James Kell Chapter, DAR, orchestrated an impressive ceremony. Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter SAR President Stephen Weaver and DAR Chapter Regent Jennifer Anderson welcomed the guests. Betty Brown Harra, Regent for the Georgia Society, and Georgia Regional VP Sid Turner presented greetings. The Mayor of McCaysville, Thomas Seabolt, commented, and Johnny Chastain, representing the 7th District of the Georgia House of Representatives, spoke. Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter President Stephen Weaver gave the keynote address by explaining the historic importance trees played in our past and of the importance trees will continue playing in our future.





Coweta Falls Chapter conducted their Liberty Tree dedication ceremony on December 4 on the town square in Hamilton, GA. Roger Butterbaugh officiated as the Coweta Falls Chapter President. The color guard, commanded by Dan McMichael, was there. They partnered with the King's Gap DAR out of LaGrange, GA., to purchase and dedicate the tree. We plan to plant a Liberty Tree in Columbus next spring.





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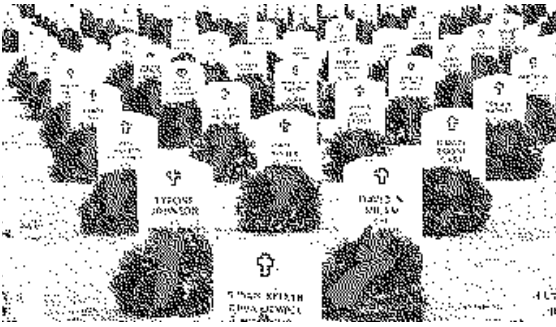
Below Right: A lot of activity happening around the 250th Anniversary of the Boston Tea Party. Bill and Janet Edelen attended the Fielding Lewis, NSDAR event, where Compatriot, Dan Mc Michael portrayed George Washington.

Left: Members of the Captain John Collins Chapter with Spouses.

BOSTON TEA PARTY







WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

Right: GASSAR Color Guard participated at the DAR opening ceremonies at the state capitol to begin the Wreaths Across America Campaign in Georgia.



Right: Lyman Hall Chapter is blessed to partner with three DAR Chapters, the Colonel William Candler, Sunbury, and Jacob Braselton Chapters. At Alta Vista Cemetery, Gainesville, GA. on Dec. 16.



Left: Robert Forsyth Compatriot Carl Jackson attended the Providence Baptist Church Ceremony held by the Patriots of Liberty DAR Chapter, in Milton.

A large Wreaths Across America event was hosted by the Kennesaw Mountain DAR, at the Kennesaw City Cemetery, with several SAR Chapters represented.





Right: Button Gwinnett SAR Compatriots took the opportunity to present Hunter Newton, his Eagle Scout Certificate at the Wreaths Across America Ceremony held at East Shadowlawn, Lawrenceville, GA.

Hunter is President, Elisha Winn C.A.R. Society whose SAR application is pending National Approval. Hunter is the first member of the Elisha Winn C.A.R. society to become an Eagle Scout.





Left: Chuck Garnett, Ed Trust and Roy Griffis served in the Wreaths Across America ceremonies at Rose Hill Cemetery in Macon, Ga.

Below: Mt. Vernon members Hamilton (Ham) McDonald, his wife Judy, John Galt, and Chuck Rann attended the ceremony at Marietta's National Cemetery. Chuck and Patsy Rann also visited Georgia National Cemetery on December 19th.



Below Right: Brier Creek participated in Wreaths Across America at the Swainsboro City Cemetery. Benard Martin also sent thanks for not forgetting his father on the farm.

Below Left: Little River participates in Wreaths Across America at Bellevue Memorial Gardens & Cemetery in Grovetown. Pictured are Alton McCloud, Bill Tankersley, and Gary Smith.



GRAVE MARKING CEREMONIES



Joseph Avant served as a private in Colonel George Mathew's Regiments of the Virginia Continental Line and fought in the Battles of Germantown and Brandywine. He received bounty land in Washington County for his services.



Left: L to R - Benjamin Martin, Bernard Martin, Steve Burke, Dess Smith III, Alton McCloud, Lee Herron, & Don Bazemore

Philip Isely was born circa 1754 in PA. The family moved from PA. to Orange County, NC. circa 1754-1756. They settled near present day Friendship United Methodist Church in south Alamance County.

Philip volunteered to serve a short period as a Light Horseman in the Revolutionary War. In the later part of 1777, he served in the Infantry. He participated in three major battles: Battle of Camden in SC, 16 Aug. 1780; Battle of Guilford Courthouse, NC, 15 Mar. 1781; and Battle of Eutaw Springs, SC, 8 Sep. 1781. Philip and his wife, Mary Ann, were founding members of the Fairview Presbyterian Church, in present day Lawrenceville, GA.

Philip began the process for his Revolutionary War Pension by testimony on 25 Sep 1832. He was issued a Certificate of Pension on 13 Sep 1833, with an effective date of 4 Mar. 1834. He was approved for receipt of \$30.00 per year. In 1833, he was paid \$75.00 in arrears plus \$15.00 for a partial year, for a grand total of \$90.00.





Private John Bagby served in the NC militia and was in the Battle of Guilford, NC. Later in 1781 Patriot Bagby was at the Siege of Augusta and was wounded while taking the forts; he was then furloughed from service. Born in 1757 in Hanover County, VA. John Bagby and his two sons, migrated with their families from Wilkes County, NC to Gwinnett County, GA between 1820 and 1830. A three-year residency was required to be eligible to participate in the 1827 Georgia Land Lottery. On May 15, 1827, John drew land in the new part of Georgia, known as Muscogee County. John Bagby appears for the first time in Georgia on the 1830 U.S. Census for Gwinnett County. In 1832, John Bagby applied in Gwinnett County Inferior Court at the age of 75, to file his Revolutionary War Pension application. On Mar. 1, 1837, Patriot John Bagby died and was buried in the Fairview Presbyterian Church Cemetery.





NE Ga. Physician's

Capt. Jacob Higginbotham was Captain of Militia on Jul 5, 1784, the same year that his twins were born. (Joseph and Benjamin G.) In an affidavit of John Higginbotham, Jacob's son, dated Apr 21, 1855 stated Jacob had been sent from Amherst Co. to General Nathanael Green at the time of the battle of Guilford Courthouse and that Jacob did not reach General Green until March 16, 1781, the day after the battle was fought. After the War, Capt. Jacob Higginbotham migrated from Amherst Co., Virginia where he received 257 1/2 acres of land in Wilkes Co., GA according to Land Court Records dated, Sept. 23, 1784. Jacob died and was buried in Elbert Co., GA in Jan. 1836.





Col. John McIntosh served as Captain of the 3rd Company of the Georgia Continental Establishment under General Lachlan McIntosh. He was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel of the 2nd Continental Battalion under Colonel Samuel Elbert, and later promoted to Colonel of the 3rd Regiment. He was twice severely wounded during the war. It was Colonel McIntosh, in command of Fort Morris at Sunbury, who, when the British Lieut. Col. L.V. Fuser demanded the surrender of the fort on Nov. 20, 1778, replied: "Come and Take It." After the war, he was a member of the Provincial Congress and became a Major General. He received 1,150 acres of bounty land along the Oconee River in old Washington County for his services. He died at his plantation "Fair Hope," near Darien, Georgia.







COMPATRIOT GRAVE MARKING CEREMONIES



Larry David Guest, one of seven, graduated from Athens High School and served in the Vietnam War as a Medical Corpsman with the U.S. Army. He retired from active duty and worked while attending the University of Georgia and graduated with a BBA. Larry worked multiple jobs over the years, working his way up the ladder of responsibility at each position. He has served on many community service boards, volunteer coached, and was a supporter of "Love A Child" a non-profit Christian humanitarian organization, serving the needs of children in Haiti, making several trips there. He was known to donate to youth sports teams for uniforms and equipment and mission trips for students. He loved to pick up the tabs for people's dinners without them ever knowing who did it, especially if they were a serviceman, and anonymously donated prosthetic legs to two families for the different stages that their child would need to grow with. Larry holds the highest civilian honor the Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky can bestow: The Title of Kentucky Colonel, and was a member of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Larry's 4th great grandfather was North Carolina Militia Captain Moses Guest, born 1750. Captain Guest was the only Captain of Horse at the Battle of King's Mountain. Moses died in Franklin County, GA in 1838, and is buried near Toccoa. His grave has been marked by the SAR.

Below is a 1795 map of the Upper Savannah River Region showing “Little R.,” in the eastern-central region of Georgia, along the Georgia and South Carolina border. Tankersley stated that he kept Independence near the mouth of the Little River, shown below, where the Little River flows into the Savannah River.

In

<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a2/UpperSavannahRiverGA1795.jpg>

1954, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers completed the construction of a dam across the Savannah River, which created the Clarks Hill Lake, also known as Lake Thurmond. Consequently, the land in this area was flooded. It is the third largest man - made lake east of the Mississippi River. Located in eastern central Georgia, it provides hydroelectric power, flood control, and opportunities for recreation. During the colonial, revolutionary, and post-revolution years, many plantations were located along the Savannah and Little Rivers. It would have been a prime location to engage in the practices of planting, farming, and all that went with it, including horse breeding.

INDEPENDENCE, as stated in the advertisement, descended from horses named Baylor's Fearnought and Janus, and was



bred by Col. Charles Dabney of Hanover County, VA.

As stated on this historical marker located in the independent city of Emporia, VA, Baylor's Fearnought (1755 – 1776) was quite an important name among horses in England and America. Janus was also an important horse in the history of our country.

According to the website for the International Museum of the Horse, of the 63 identifiable Thoroughbred imports before the Revolution, two of the most important studs were Fearnought and Janus. John Baylor imported Fearnought in 1764 as a nine - year - old. Fearnought had a stud fee that was five times the amount charged for other good sires, and he was the most important Thoroughbred sire in America until Diomed was imported after the Revolution. Janus was imported as a ten - year - old by Mordecai Booth in 1756 and had a profound influence on the Quarter Horse.

<https://www.imh.org/exhibits/past/breeds-of-the-world/europe/thoroughbred/>

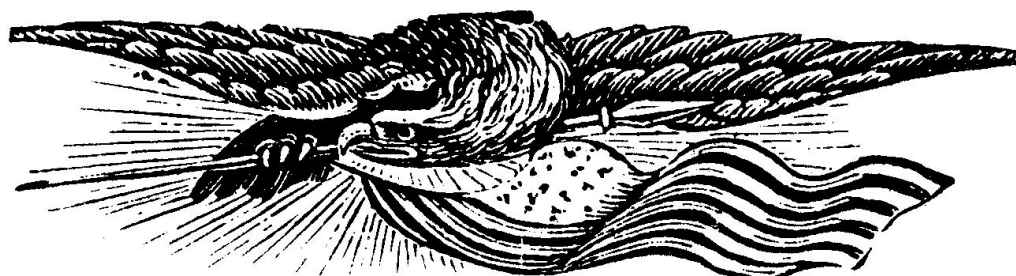
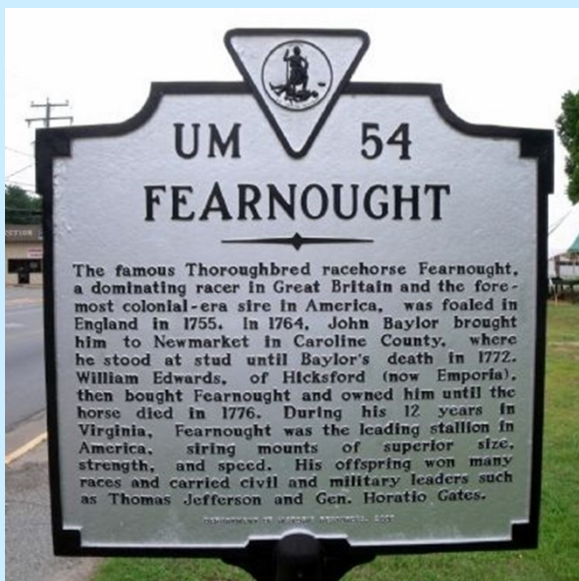
It seems that INDEPENDENCE “came from good stock” as the old folks might have said, being a descendant of both Fearnought and Janus. As for his size, the description “upwards of 16 hands high and remarkably lengthy” seems accurate as authorities say that Fearnought was 16 hands high and very strongly made.

State of Virginia Historical Marker dedicated to Fearnought

With the Virginia counties of Caroline, Spotsylvania, and Hanover all being in fairly close proximity to each other, the story of INDEPENDENCE makes perfect sense geographically. His breeder, Col. Chas. (Charles) Dabney, was an officer in the American Revolution, and was born in Montpelier, Hanover County, VA, in 1745. According to sources, Dabney served in various Virginia-based units and was present in October 1781 for the Siege at Yorktown. John Tankersley was likely born in Caroline County but later moved to Spotsylvania County.

In summary, if you want to learn more about your ancestors, try researching newspaper archives if possible. You may just find a treasure trove of information.

And, if you ever find yourself in a boat or swimming near the mouth of the Little River at Lake Thurmond, know that you are approximately 330 feet above sea level and 130+ feet above the old stomping ground of INDEPENDENCE the Stud Horse. He was a Ladies Man.



NATIONAL COLOR GUARD COMMANDER'S REPORT

When our state Color Guard Commander is also the National Color Guard Commander, one can hardly expect him to regularly post his activities, and we often miss events and photos of him due to them being elsewhere. Having received a copy of his report, I thought it would be good for you to read portions of it.

Commander's Report

Another Color Guard year is off and running.

The National Society SAR Congress is both the ending point and the starting point of service as the National Color Guard Commander. This year we had the traditional change of command ceremony at the President General's Banquet with the passing of the SAR Halberd followed outside of the banquet hall by the passing of the National SAR Commander's Gorget.

While the national commander has worn a gorget in the past a new practice was started with the tenure of Commander Brooks Lyle. The new gorget worn by the national commander is suspended by three metal chains and has the SAR insignia affixed to the brass gorget. The gorget will be passed to the next national commander when he assumes the position. The Vice commander and First and Second Adjutants have similar gorgets suspended by a black ribbon with a SAR Maltese cross on them. At the SAR congress in Orlando the Fife Major and Drum Major were provided a silver gorget with the SAR Maltese Cross and a black ribbon.

These gorgets will help you identify the National SAR Color Guard Command Staff and the SAR Fife and Drum Majors. These individuals along with the Safety Officer, Assistant Safety Office, Quartermaster, Assistant Quartermaster, and Artillery Commander comprise the balance of the support staff.

While these may be the individuals at the top of the leadership structure, the actual "FACE of the SAR" is the local guardsmen on a chapter and state level. Without the participation of our compatriots and the giving of time and effort that goes into attending commemorations, grave markings, patriotic events, and other programs we would not have the level of visibility in our communities that we currently enjoy. The SAR Color Guard certainly lives the Mission Statement of the National Society SAR. For those that do not have the Mission Statement memorized I have included it below:

"The Sons of the American Revolution honors our Revolutionary War patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities and education and inspiring future generation about the founding principles of our Country."

If you have not viewed the training videos on the sar.org color guard committee webpage, please do so and encourage all color guard members to also view them. These videos help with a visual of some of the material in the National Color Guard Handbook. Speaking of the Handbook, it is acknowledged that it needs revision, but it is still a good source of guidance. If you have questions on best practices or about specific items, please reach out to me. Just realize that I am still working full time, but I will certainly try to be of assistance.

Each State Society and Chapter Color Guard may nominate ONE compatriot each year for the SAR Color Guardsman of the Year. While not required, state endorsement is strongly encouraged.

There is not a particular format, but most prior nominations have been in a similar format as the general officer candidate publicity material. Please note that while a guardsman may be very active at the chapter and state level the National Color Guardsman of the Year looks at their service on the national level and at events classified as national events no matter where held.

The National Color Guardsman of the year looks at the guardsman that best exemplifies both the spirit of the Sons of the American Revolution and the use of Color Guards to display that spirit. Please see the Handbook for other requirements and for expectations if your nominee is selected.



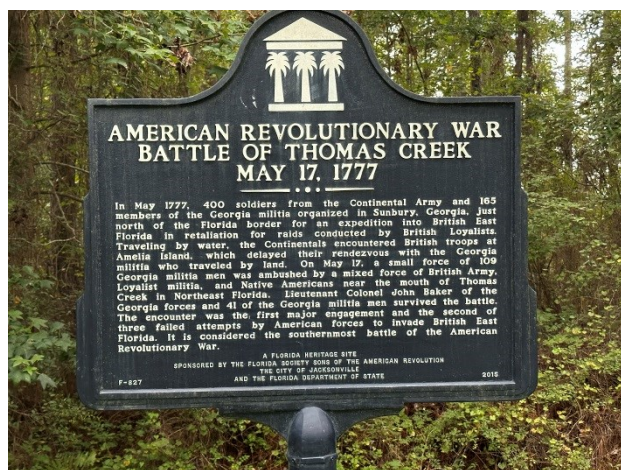
K. Scott Collins, National Society SAR Color Guard Commander

APPROACHING EVENTS

The Florida and Georgia
Societies Sons of the American Revolution,
the City of Jacksonville, and the National Park
Service: Commemorates the 247th
Anniversary of the 17 May 1777
American Revolutionary War Battle of Thomas Creek a
SAR National Color Guard Event

10:00 a.m. Saturday March 23, 2024

Exit 366, off I-95 to W. Pecan Park Rd. or off US#1 to Lannie Rd. to 2145 Arnold Rd/Gold Star Family Parkway, to Seaton Creek Historic Preservation Park



AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY WAR BATTLE OF THOMAS CREEK (Southernmost Battle) May 17, 1777

In May of 1777, 400 soldiers from the Continental Army and 165 members of the Georgia militia organized in Sunbury, Georgia, just north of the Florida border for an expedition into British East Florida in retaliation for raids conducted by British Loyalists.

Traveling by water, the Continentals encountered British troops at Amelia Island, which delayed their rendezvous with the Georgia militia who traveled by land.

On May 17, a small force of 109 Georgia militia men was ambushed by a mixed force of British Army, Loyalist militia, and Native Americans near the mouth of Thomas Creek in Northeast Florida. Lieutenant Colonel John Baker of the Georgia forces and 41 of the Georgia militia men survived the battle. The encounter was the first major engagement and the second of three failed attempts by American forces to invade British East Florida. It is considered the southernmost battle of the American Revolutionary War.

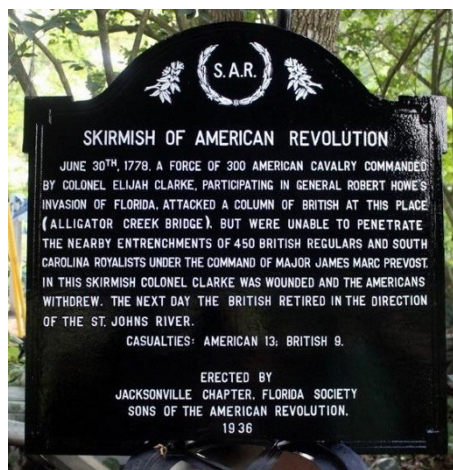
**A FLORIDA HERITAGE SITE
SPONSORED BY THE FLORIDA SOCIETY,
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION,
THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE,
AND THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE
2015**

FLORIDA

The Florida Society
Sons of the American Revolution,
the City of Callahan,
and the West Nassau Historical Society
celebrate the
Anniversary of the
American Revolutionary War
Battle of Alligator Creek Bridge
30 June 1778

11:00 a.m. Saturday June 29, 2024
at the West Nassau Historical Society
45383 Dixie Ave, Callahan, FL 32011

RSVP to Darryl.jaxsar.sec@att.net



AMERICAN
REVOLUTION-
ARY WAR
BATTLE OF
Alligator Creek
Bridge

The 3rd Florida invasion took place on June 30th, 1778, led by Col. Elijah Clark. It is known as the Battle of Alligator Creek Bridge. Col. Clark led his mounted Georgia Militia

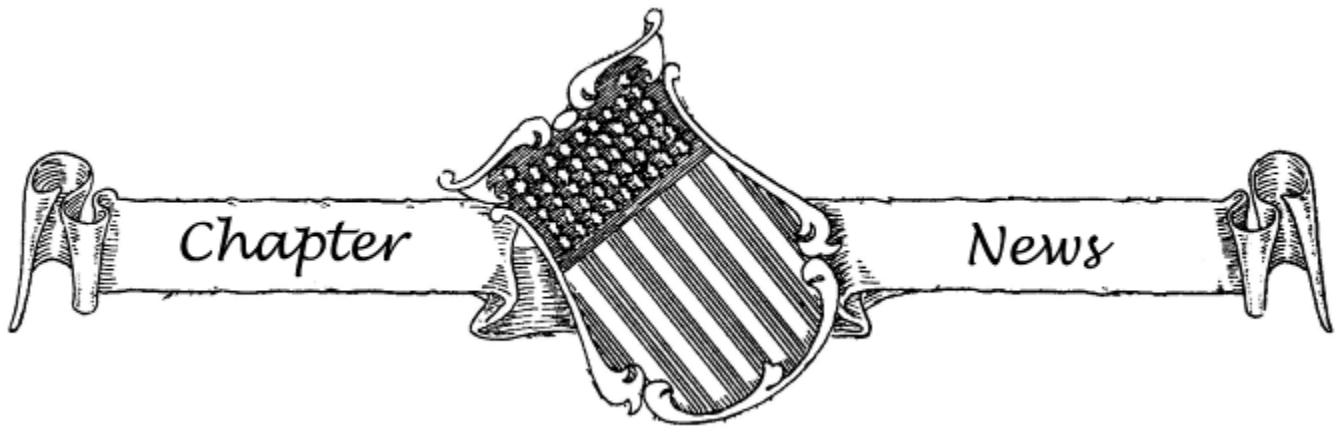
against British Major Prevost's forces who were defending Alligator Creek Bridge.

As with the prior two expeditions, there was a serious leadership disagreement between the two leaders: Governor Houstoun and General William Howe. Even though there were 2,600 Continental and militia forces under the two leaders, they did not agree on how to proceed with the invasion into Florida.

General Howe (with one half of the forces) opted to stay and occupy Fort Tonym located about 14 miles north of the Alligator Creek Battle site on the St. Mary's River, even though it had been burned by British Loyalists.

Governor Houstoun opted to attack the 500 British Regulars, 200 South Carolina Royalists and Seminoles at Alligator Creek Bridge. As Houstoun's forces under General Screven chased the Loyalist forces back to the bridge, the British Regulars thought Screven's forces were also Loyalist forces retreating from the burned Fort Tonym.

Col. Elijah Clarke led his mounted militia against the British bridge entrenchments during the skirmish and Clarke was wounded. General Screven's main reserve force, seeing that Clarke was injured and being barely able to escape capture, ordered a retreat. This was the third failed expedition. It was primarily due to a lack of coordination that had also doomed the two previous assaults on the Florida-Georgia borderlands. The third invasion into Florida swamp land was a disaster. Although American battle casualties were only 13, over 500 Patriots died of disease before they could be withdrawn from East Florida.



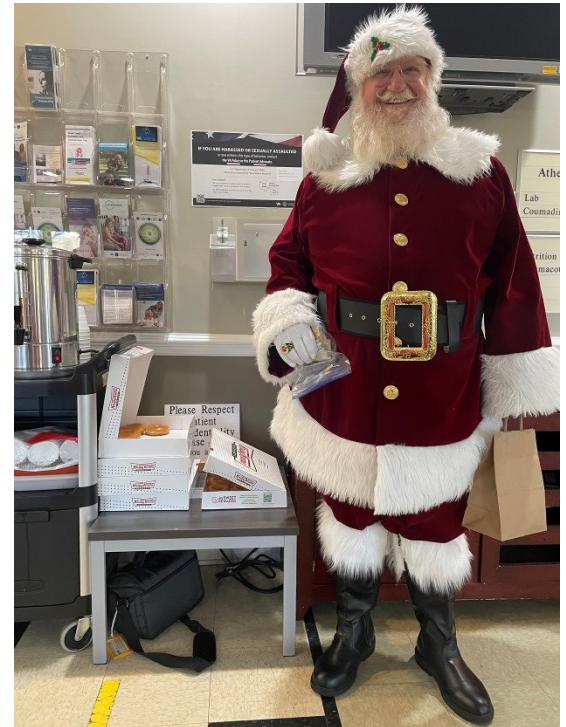
Athens

Below Left: On Tuesday, December 12, 2023, Santa visited the Athens VA Clinic giving out some 90 goody bags to over 100 clients at the clinic that morning. The bags were put



together by Daughters from the Elijah Clarke Chapter NSDAR. The bags included toiletries, note pads, pens, toothbrush and snack crackers. Baked goods from the DAR members, meal cards donated by a local McDonalds and donuts donated from the local Krispy Kreme along with coffee and orange juice were available for consumption.

Right: Santa (AKA Compatriot Jay Guest) ready to give the VA Clinic clients a goody bag and McDonalds meal card.



Above: Elijah Clarke Chapter NSDAR assembling the goody bags.



Above: Goodies ready for the VA Clinic clients include cookies, donuts and coffee.



Above: Santa talks with a client at the Athens VA Clinic.



Above: Santa and A buddy from Viet Nam.



Baldy
2

Blue Ridge Mountains

Left: Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter had the honor to conduct the INDUCTION CEREMONY for our new compatriot member John Hill, Union County School Superintendent. John is seen here with his uncle and Chapter Veterans Committee Chairman Ronald Hill Sr.



Below: In October, Members of the Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter, Compatriot Gary Hoyt, GASSAR Veteran Committee Chairman awarded Ron Hill, the Silver Roger Sherman Medal and Certificate in recognition of his faithful service in the Sons of the American Revolution and his many years of exemplary service to Georgia State SAR especially noteworthy his work with Veterans.

This Medal is named after Roger Sherman (1721-1793), who was a founding father, and the only person to sign all four Congressional papers of the United States: the Continental Association, the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution.

Photo: (L - R) President Steve Weaver, Vice President Sid Turner, Ron Hill, Gary Holt not in photo Jared Ogden, Past President



Below: On Oct 21, the Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter co-sponsored the Grave Marking Celebration for Patriots John Bagby and Philip Isley at the Fairview Presbyterian Church Cemetery in Lawrenceville, GA. Fairview Presbyterian Church is the oldest Church in Lawrenceville. The congregation is currently celebrating the church's 200th anniversary.

Thanks to Chapter Compatriot Bruce Maney. Bruce spent hours planning and organizing the Double Grave Marking Celebration. The North East Georgia Mountains were well represented. Members of the Chapter Color Guard participated in the Presentation of the Colors, and members of the Chapter Militia, commanded by Sid Turner, presented The Musket Firing Salute, followed by the Morn Muskets Salute in tribute to the fallen Revolutionary War Patriots. Also, the BRM Chapter's newest Color Guard member, John Mays, presented the chapter wreath, OUT Chapter, DAR Vice-Regent Barbara Weaver presented a wreath, and duel member Emil Decker presented a wreath on behalf of the Robert Forsyth Chapter.



The weather was perfect; the scenic ride through the mountains was enhanced by the magnificent fall colors, which are only fully displayed on crisp, clear, sun-shiny days.

The host congregation was welcoming and egalitarian, offering participants and guests alike barbeque before the celebration and snacks afterward.

Please consider participating in or attending these impressive ceremonies in the future.

Chapter participants L-R Jack Dugger, John Mays, Stephen Weaver, Emil Decker, Jared Ogden, and Sid

Turner are pictured above. Unfortunately, Patriot Grave Marking organizer Bruce Maney was busy orchestrating and coordinating and could not be present when the photo was taken.

Obituary for Ron Hill. Wednesday, December 27, 2023:

<https://www.cherokeescout.com/>

Sautee Nacoochee, Ga. – Ronald Hill Sr., a U.S. Army veteran and community leader, passed away Dec. 17, a day after his final gift to the county was dedicated. Hill was 89 years old. He had Stage 4 pancreatic cancer. Many of the statues honoring heroes in White County had Hill as the driving force behind them, including the White County Veterans Memorial in Freedom Park, the life-size statue of Private Rondall H. Glaze in Helen Veterans Park, and the new Families of the Fallen Monument in Freedom Park. His daughter shared on Dec. 16 that Hill did get to visit the park prior to the ceremony and see the bronze statue of the soldier kneeling and presenting a folded American flag that he designed and worked hard to bring to the county in his final months. Longtime Helen city commissioners Jeff Ash and Fred Garmon recalled working with Hill to bring the Glaze statue to Helen. “Ron Hill was a driving force behind the creation of our veterans park,” Ash said. Garmon said the city had already started working on the park when Hill and Ron Webb approached the city about the statue. “I told him we’d be very interested,” Garmon said. “It was a great addition to our park.” Ash and Garmon recalled how well everyone worked together on the project. “To me, it was a pleasure working with him,” Garmon said. “I think he’s a very good advocate of the VFW.” Ash was impressed with Hill’s personality and drive. “He was a mover and a shaker,” Ash said. Hill served the Army in three wars – Korea, Vietnam and Operation Desert Storm – and had a military career spanning 21 years. Outside of his military service he served the communities he lived in and the people, especially veterans, through his employment and volunteer work. He became good friends with Webb, who said he would be sorely missed by the Northeast Georgia Veterans Society and White County. “He was such a public service-minded individual,” Webb said. “He was the most patriotic, generous, righteous, religious man I’ve known. To have all those qualities in one man made him an exceptional human being.” Hill was a founding member of the Northeast Georgia Veterans Society when it formed in 2014. The society honored Hill as its Veteran of the Year in 2021. When Tony McIntyre moved to Cleveland, the first organization he joined was the Northeast Georgia Veterans Society, where he met Hill. “It did not take long to see how much he did behind the scenes to make that organization as productive as it was,” McIntyre said. McIntyre saw that he wrote the programs for monthly meetings and special veterans events, created certificates of recognition for vets for their involvement in the organization, created medallions, made monuments of tribute to fallen service men and their families, and found other ways to enhance the unit and those involved in it. He saw that Hill was paying for materials out of pocket. “For whatever reason, every time I saw him at meetings and observed him, he had what I call an ‘angelic’ quality about him,” McIntyre said. “He always seemed to be at peace with himself in a world that seems to be spinning out of control.” He added that Hill epitomized the word “great.” “For those that knew him, I’m sure that they consider themselves lucky to have known that greatness had a face, a body, an angelic quality that time will never erase. Truly, he was a ‘great American,’ if anyone ever deserved that ultimate compliment.” Hill is survived by his wife of 68 years, Shirley; his daughter, Rebecca; and his two sons, Ronald Jr. and William; as well as grandchildren and other family members.



Ron loved his country enough to serve with the U.S. Army during the Korean and Vietnam wars, retired while working at the Pentagon and was later recalled during Operation Desert Storm, picking up more than 30 military decorations along the way.



[I often received emails from Ron as he sent articles for me to publish in The Hornets Nest. The email always started with.... “Good morning Emil, Hopefully you will have space in your next issue of Hornet's Nest for this story.”

The article always included a reference to his military service, something he was very proud of; the dynamic history of the SAR Chapters he had the pleasure to work with; but above all, the character and quality of human being he was awarding a medal, certificate, or other honor. He made each of them feel special. Ron had a knack of finding someone who deserved recognition, and went out of his way to make it special for that person. To the very end, Ron was a man on a mission, honoring veterans everywhere, any time, at all occasions, and did it from the very depths of his heart. Ron, you will be remembered, and truly missed. . . . The editor]

Brier Creek

Right: Compatriot Lee Herron presented his program about his ancestor, Capt. John "Jack" Jouett who was a Patriot of the American Revolution and referred to as the "Paul Revere of the South". Best known for his 40-mile (64 km) ride, Jouett rode to warn Thomas Jefferson, then out-going governor, and the Virginia legislature that British cavalry had been sent to capture them.



Left: Members of the Colby Smith family met at the Bethany Baptist Church 4 miles outside of Harrison, GA for their 43rd reunion. In attendance were about 30 including 10 members of the Skunk Brigade. The reunion President Dess Smith III welcomed everyone with Bernard Martin blessing the food and everyone enjoyed a great covered dish meal. Bernard Martin and Steve Burke presented a program on "Christianity and Survival during the Revolutionary War". After a short business meeting everyone went outside for a 3- round volley by our flintlock rifles and four 6-pounder cannons."





Above: The Brier Creek Chapter held its December meeting at Compatriot John Fitzner's Clubhouse. We had 25 in attendance. Our Christmas meeting was a covered Dish meal with plenty of the holiday fixin's: Boston Butt, casserole, mac-n-cheese, buttered corn, ribs, potato salad, pie's, pasta salad, banana pudding, little smokies, divinity baked beans, ambrosia salad and green beans.



The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the "Sgt. John R. McKinney Distinguished Service Medal" to Compatriot Richard Lee Herron.

A SAR Chapter President may present one Chapter Distinguished Service Award and Medal each year of his term of office to a compatriot in recognition for that compatriot's conspicuous service to the Chapter.

The Brier Creek award is named after Screven County's Medal of Honor winner Sgt. John R. McKinney. Congratulations Lee for all your hard work in the Brier Creek Chapter.

Button Gwinnett

Left: Terry Manning, Past President, GASSAR (2009 - 2010), gave an outstanding November presentation on "Tea Party Tidbits". Dec. 16, 2023 was the 250th anniversary of the Tea Tossing event.

Below: Members in attendance.



Right: Jim Freeman's Veterans Day Presentation at Philadelphia Winn DAR. Button Gwinnett Chapter member Jim Freeman did another exceptional presentation for the Philadelphia Winn DAR Chapter.



Right: Compatriot John Zeiglar, Button Gwinnett SAR, was presented with his 55th Year Membership Award in recognition of his dedication to the principles of the Sons of the American Revolution. John is one of the few SAR members who can attribute his participation to his time in the Children of the American Revolution (C.A.R.). John served in C.A.R. with distinction as the President, of the Fort Gatlin Society, Florida. While in C.A.R., John also earned his Eagle Scout rank. John's distinguished legacy demonstrates that C.A.R. and Scout participation is a gateway for future SAR participation.



Left: Andrew Edward McConney, with parents John "Jack" and Ramona participating, was inducted at our December meeting. Ramona McConney is a member of the Atlanta DAR Chapter.



Below: Ronald Thomas McCarty (brother of Don McCarty) was named a Memorial Member of the SAR through Patriot Michael McCarty. The Memorial SAR Membership qualifies a male who is a deceased close relative within two genealogical connections to an active SAR member and whose application is based on most of the same lineage as that SAR member.



Left: The Chapter Medal of Distinguished Service was presented to Compatriot Ralph Galpin. The CMDS is the highest medal that a Chapter President can award.

Below Right: Philadelphia Winn Regent Lynn Baxter Jacques received a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the SAR Martha Washington Medal. This marks the 4th time that the Martha Washington Award has been presented to her.

Below Left: President Jacques presented the SAR Certificate of Appreciation and a Boston Tea Party 250th Anniversary Coin to the outgoing 2023 Button Gwinnett Chapter Committee Chairmen.



Capt. John Collins

The photos taken by Janet and I at Woodcraft 10 November 2023, while turning a few pens for the Troops. This was a great opportunity for a fun time and to do something for the Veterans. Woodcraft does this annually and Wayne, at the local Woodcraft, has turned over 4000 pens for the Troops over the past several years.



We're stronger together: A special project

<https://www.ajc.com/sponsor/everyday-heroes-2023/everyday-heroes-larry-guzy/OSCAVEJT55D6FOWJVHJ3UNOFA/> Online Article is paywall

In the Friday, December 22nd issue of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, the Hon. Larry Guzy of the Captain John Collins Chapter is featured in the full top half of page A9, as the "Everyday Hero"!

The article is entitled "Marietta Man Finds New Routes to Fitness."

Compatriot Guzy has served the SAR as chapter president, Georgia Society President, and of course President General of the Sons of the American Revolution. HUZZAH!

Coweta Falls

Right: President Roger Butterbaugh presents a Certificate of Appreciation for a Medical presentation delivered by Emil Decker, Robert Forsyth Chapter.



Fall Line

Left: October monthly meeting at the Washington County Chamber of Commerce welcomed Mike Lisenby from Swainsboro to present his program, "Freedom Shrine". Mike's presentation included the Declaration of Independence, Articles of Confederation, Treaty of Paris, 1781 and the Constitution.



Four Rivers Patriots

Right: Compatriot Hu Daughtry presented the Four Rivers Patriots Oct. meeting his program on "Irish American Patriots in the Family Tree".



Little River

Below: Captain John Evans (L) and (R) Chief Robert Rosier (ret) of the Columbia County Fire Rescue were chosen for this year's recipients of the SAR Fire Safety and Emergency Medical Services Commendation Awards, respectively.



Right: Alton McCloud was sworn in as Chapter President on October 19. His grandson and chapter Compatriot Hayden McCloud (left) traveled from Tennessee to the meeting.



Left: Scott Collins made the trip from Athens to be our guest speaker for the November meeting on the subject of the Navy in Georgia during the Revolution.

Right: To close out the year, Chapter Compatriot Col. W. Glenn Yarborough Jr. USA (ret) (L) spoke on his service in the Vietnam War with the armored cavalry. During his talk, he presented chapter members Bobby Felder (C) and David Donehoo (R) with Vietnam Era Veterans pins.



Below: Our awesome Ladies Auxiliary made a cake celebrating the chapter's 4th anniversary for our October meeting.



Below: On December 9, members of the Little River, Brier Creek, and Wiregrass Chapters participated in the Thomson Christmas Parade.



Lyman Hall

Right: Lyman Hall Chapter was proud to assist the Col. William Candler Chapter,

NSDAR on October 8th, at Alta Vista Cemetery in Gainesville as they honored and remembered Sandra Deal, First Lady of Georgia, Teacher, Literacy Advocate, and Author.

Color Guard and Militia line up to present Colors L to R: Ray Kyle, Carter Wood, Amy Woodrick, Mike Watkins, Ralph Galpin, Sid Hughes.

Below: SAR applicant Phillip Moss closed the ceremony with "Amazing Grace".



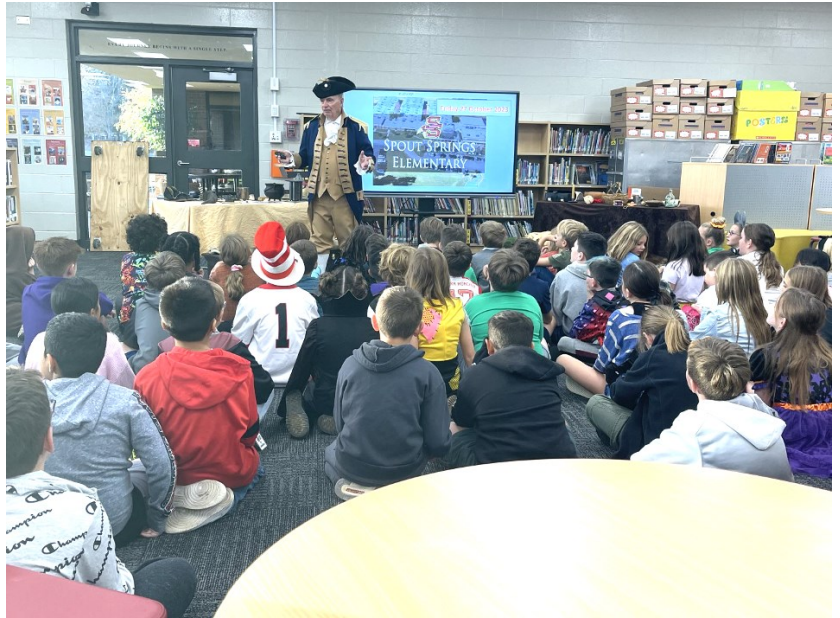
Below Left and Right: W. Bruce Hustis, retired State University of New York Professor brought a fascinating explanation of the Liberty Bell. Which one was 'The Old One'? Which was "The Other One"? How many bells are there? How many times bells were recast and why. Very interesting material. Many thanks for a great presentation. *[In true fashion of a seasoned professional, he quickly overcame AV technical difficulties.]*

His presentation was appreciated by all in attendance.





Left and Right: President Carter Wood shares the Lyman Patriot Chest with 4 sessions of fourth graders just starting their study of the American Revolution. Great students, close attention and good questions.



Frontier dwellers lived close to Native Americans who traded buckskins for items they wanted ...and that's why we often call money 'Bucks'....

In Mid Oct., compatriot Sid Hughes and his wife Terry were in Kentucky to participate in the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) Grave Marking Ceremony for Terry's Patriot Ancestor, Pvt. William Kindred. He is buried in the Red Lick Cemetery, Berea, KY.





Left and Above: Colonel William Candler Chapter Regent Carolyn Launer was well protected from any enemy foreign or domestic. L to R: Sid Hughes, JC Hustis, Carter Wood, DAR member, Mike Watkins, Steve Wang attend the Annual Col. William Candler Christmas Luncheon.

Marquis de Lafayette



Left: Honorary Regent Brenda Jessel with Past State President LCMDR (ret) David Jessel attended the Grave Marking Ceremony for First Lady Sandra Deal.



Mill Creek

Right: Mill Creek Chapter's October meeting was graced by Archeologist Dan Elliott whose program, "Arms of Ebenezer" talked about how he had received grants and "doing archeology" in the town of Ebenezer since 2001. He showed us maps of Ebenezer dating to 1757 forward, which showed locations of the earthworks for



protection of up to six different locations within the town. Also, since the town was laid off in 1736, after the plan of Savannah, it had locations of the homes, the church, parsonage, an academy, orphan house, public storehouse and marketplaces. During the occupation by the British from January 2, 1779, to 1782, the people of Ebenezer were exposed to every hardship. Its handsome brick Jerusalem Church was used first as a hospital for the sick and wounded soldiers, later as a stable for cavalry horses. Ebenezer became a thoroughfare for British troops passing from Augusta to Savannah. Dan talked to us about the Revolutionary War artifacts that they found with metal detectors after digging. All kinds of artifacts were found, recorded, pictures taken and then replaced where they found them, including buttons, nails, cannon balls, rifle balls, rifle parts, etc. Each year, Ebenezer Heritage Day event is held on Labor Day and the Church is still in use each week.

Right: Registrar Dess Smith presented President Randy Jones with a Chapter Flag Streamer received when Compatriot Lee Herron presented a wreath for the Mill Creek Chapter at the 2nd Siege of Augusta Celebration held in September at the Knox Center in Augusta.



Mount Vernon

Dear Editor: [Chuck Rann wrote me]

Looking at your Newsletter for Robert Forsyth "The Marshal" and on page 10 there is a locket portrait that was done by Charles Willson Peale. Guess what? My mother had a portrait by

Charles Willson Peale of our patriot ancestor - William Henry Bruce. She donated it to the Anderson House (Society of the Cincinnati) in Washington DC since my great - grandfather was a member. They restored it and display it occasionally.

[One may view the locket at the American Revolution Institute, the website for the Society of the Cincinnati. Copyright laws prohibit the display in this edition without financial compensation to the Institute. Go see it. . . . It is in very fine shape. The Editor]

<https://www.americanrevolutioninstitute.org/masterpieces-in-detail/william-henry-bruce-portrait/>

William Henry Bruce was born in 1752, and died in 1825 at 73 years of age. He was from Port Tobacco Maryland, which was in Charles County Maryland. The portrait miniature (by Charles Willson Peale) shows W. H. Bruce who served as a patriot from 1775 to 1783. Bruce was about 25 years old in this portrait (1778), wearing the uniform of an infantry officer in the 1st Maryland Regiment.

Highlights of William Henry Bruce's Service:

Bruce volunteered in July 1775 in the Maryland and Virginia Rifle Regiment and was assigned the rank of Sergeant in Colonel Smallwood's First Maryland Regiment.

Gowanus Heights NY, August 22, 1776 - Slowed advancement of General Cornwallis' men to protect American defenses stationed on Brooklyn Heights. Their action allowed for the successful escape of General Washington's remaining Continental forces across the East River into Manhattan. With their blood, Bruce's comrades purchased that precious hour which saved the Continental Army from utter annihilation. Bruce and other surviving members of First Maryland Regiment were ordered to remain in the fortifications of Brooklyn Heights and cover the retreat of the Continental Army.

Battle of White Plains, NY - fought on October 28, 1776

December 25, Bruce, along with the First Maryland Regiment, embarked with the Continental Army across the Delaware River into New Jersey.

Fought at the Battle of Princeton NJ - January 3, 1777.

Wintered with General Washington at the first Morristown, New Jersey encampment. The winter of 1779-1780

Bruce received a commission as a second lieutenant in the First Maryland Regiment in December 1776, and was made a first lieutenant on June 10, 1777.

Participated in a failed raid on Staten Island - August 22, 1777

Helped repel a British attack at the Battle of Brandywine and allowing the Continental forces to retreat. September 11, 1777

Fought alongside Continental forces at the Battle of Germantown - October 4, 1777.

Bruce stayed at Valley Forge between 1777-1778. At that time he was a 1st lieutenant with the 1st Maryland Regiment, 1st Maryland Brigade - 5th Division. *See Certificate of Service from the Valley Forge Park Alliance.*

Bruce and First Maryland Regiment pursued the British forces into New Jersey - waging the battle at Monmouth - June 28, 1778.

Bruce and the Maryland Division set up camp in Middlebrook, New Jersey - winter of 1778.

Spring of 1780 - Bruce received a promotion to the rank of captain, in command of a company in the First Maryland Regiment.

The First Maryland Regiment assisted General Horatio Gates's army during their southern campaign at the Battle of Camden, SC on Aug 16, 1780. Gates's army fell victim to General Charles Cornwallis's early morning offensive, a lopsided British victory.

Following defeat at Camden, Continental forces called for the immediate changes in the military personnel. Gates and his officers were relieved of their command.

Bruce remained with Major Thomas Lancaster Lansdale of the Third Maryland Regiment, and fought alongside Continental and French forces at the Battle of Yorktown in October 1781.

After being discharged from the army, Bruce returned to Charles County, where he married Elizabeth Hamilton in the 1780s. William and Elizabeth had two sons, Henry and Walter, and two daughters, Sarah and Jane.

Insignia of the Society, c. 1783. By Daderot - Own work, CC0,
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=28728270>



Right: Chapter Vice President John Galt introduced our October guest speaker Emil Decker, who gave a very good presentation on America's most enthusiastic ally during the Revolutionary War - *The Marquis de Lafayette*.

Below: Mount Vernon President David Wellons, 'Flags' Committee Chairman Shep Hammack (in uniform), John Galt and Chuck Olson presented Sandy Springs Fire Station #2 with a Sons of the American Revolution Flag Certificate



Below: The City of Sandy Springs held a Veterans Day and Park Dedication on Friday November 10th, at which the opening of the cities newest park, across from City Hall was announced. The Veterans tribute ceremony began at Byers Theater with music and speeches by dignitaries and by City Mayor, Rusty Paul.



Veterans Park Ceremony

The next phase of the ceremony was the Veterans Park dedication in the newly landscaped park area across from City Hall. A Trident Maple or "Liberty Tree" centers the landscaping. The Sandy Springs Chapter of the DAR and the Mount Vernon Chapter each contributed to the purchase of this tree, and a plaque will be placed at the base. It coincides with the SAR's 'America 250 Program' honoring America's 250th Anniversary.

The City of Sandy Springs will hold a separate ceremony with the DAR and the SAR for its contribution towards the tree at a later date. The Mount Vernon Chapter will also present two Flag Certificates to the city at that time. One for the flag in this park and the other which is at city hall.

President David Wellons (uniform) , Chuck Olson (uniform), Shep Hammack (uniform), and Tom Chrisman (militia uniform) were present at this event.



Right: The Mount Vernon Color Guard presented the colors at the November meeting of the Martha Stewart Bulloch Chapter. (R - L) Color Guard Commander Shep Hammack, President David Wellons, Rev Bill Floyd and Tom Hewett were all in uniform.



Below: Dr. Tom Hewett, Mount Vernon Registrar was honored by the Martha Stewart Bullock DAR chapter by presentation of a certificate and pin for his military service during the Vietnam War.



Right: Mount Vernon Chapter member Bill Floyd attended another United States Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) ceremony at the Fulton County Courthouse representing the Sons of the American Revolution this December day. The Ceremony, held in the Atlanta Division, is a function of the United States District Court, Northern District of Georgia, the Honorable Judge Amy Totenberg (shown) presiding.

Below: Our November guest speaker Chuck Olson, who spoke about Georgia's Court system and how we ended up with the process and structure we have today. Chuck is the retired General Counsel of the Prosecution Attorneys' Council of Georgia where he trained and advised Georgia's prosecutors on ethics. He is also a published legal historian. He is a retired Army officer who served for 24 years and is active in Scouting.





Left: For our December program we welcomed back Bill Kabel, a fellow member of the Sons of the American Revolution, and Past President of the Piedmont Chapter, who shared with us the very first lecture he researched and wrote for SAR speaking engagements, "A Revolutionary Christmas."



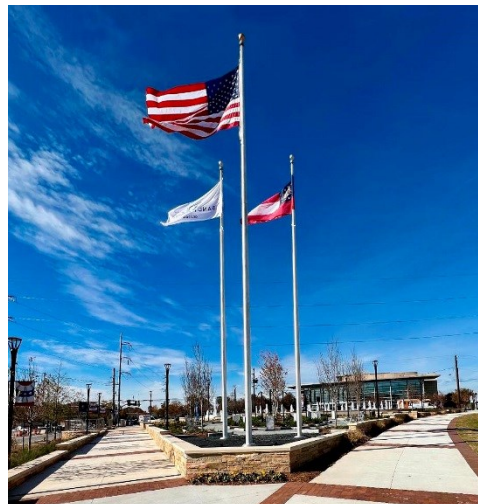
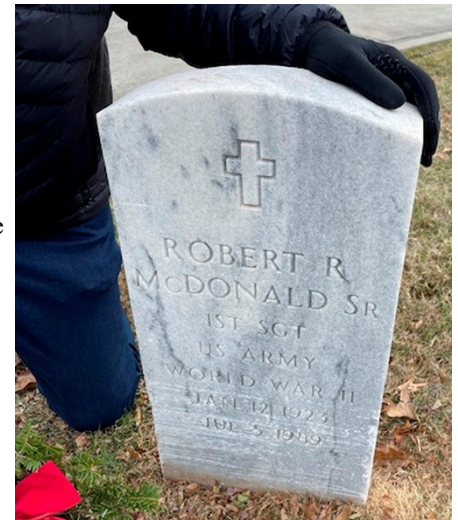
Above: (L to R) Rev Bill Floyd, Tom Chrisman, David Wellons and Shep Hammack (in uniform). Our Color Guard acted as the Cordon as guests entered the church for Don Hart's funeral service. They also took the colors into the church at the beginning of the service and posted them on either side. The service was conducted by The Reverend Dr. Bill Murray, who is also a member of the Mount Vernon Chapter.



Left: Remembering Donald M. Hart ~ 1936 - 2023. Don was a proud Marine Corps veteran, and a member of numerous organizations including the SAR. He was an avid car enthusiast and entrepreneur. He and Marlene traveled the world and enjoyed life together. He and Marlene were consistent attendees at our chapter monthly meetings and his smile will be missed.

Right: Our Veterans Chairman Hamilton (Ham) McDonald, his wife Judy, John Galt, and Chuck Rann attended the ceremony at Marietta's National Cemetery. Ham and Judy volunteered to place wreaths on graves after the ceremony and had the honor of placing a wreath on his uncle's grave in Marietta - First Sergeant Robert McDonald.

Below: Chuck and Patsy Rann visited Georgia National Cemetery on December 19th, where Chuck's parents are buried. His father was a Captain in the US Army Signal Corps during WWII in North Africa and Italy.



Left Center: Mount Vernon President David Wellons and 'Flags' Committee Chairman Shep Hammack, presented Sandy Springs Mayor Rusty Paul with two Sons of the American Revolution Flag Certificates on this Tuesday. The city has two flag poles, one at City Hall and the other at Veterans Triangle Park.



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Ocmulgee

Right: John Trussell, Past President Ocmulgee Chapter, presented wreaths at Andersonville National Cemetery on "Wreaths Across America Day" December 16. He was also on the official program and read President General John Dobbs official SAR proclamation to about 2,200 attendees. Assisting him was

Billie Trussell, past Regent of the Sukie Hart Chapter, DAR.

Below: Ocmulgee Chapter Color Guard members Chuck Garnett and John Trussell presented Colors at the Veterans Day ceremonies in Warner Robins. Also present was Robert Cruthirds, seated, veteran and Ocmulgee Chapter member.



Piedmont

Below: The Golf Ball Drop was held yesterday (11/13/2023) at the Brookfield Country Club in Roswell, GA. The winning Golf Ball numbers were: **1st Place prize of \$1000.00 = #79** **2nd Place prize of \$250.00 = #169**

MONDAY NOVEMBER 13th

Fourth Annual Fundraiser for Atlanta Area Female Veterans

Sponsored by the Piedmont Chapter SAR, Roswell, GA
with support from VFW Post 12002, Alpharetta, GA



Congratulations to the winners! This fund raising program to support our women veterans has been a great success, thanks to everyone who participated!

The article is up on the *On-Line PATCH Newspaper* for our SAR Piedmont Chapter and VFW Post 12002 Ball Drop Fund Raiser for the Atlanta Female Veterans that Rob Ufford did for us.

<https://patch.com/georgia/alpharetta/sar-piedmont-vfw-post-12002-support-atlanta-female-veterans-nodx>

You may also watch a brief video of the actual Golf Ball Drop by clicking on the YouTube link below:

<https://youtu.be/Q-34K64LW-A>

Many thanks to all who supported this worthy cause.

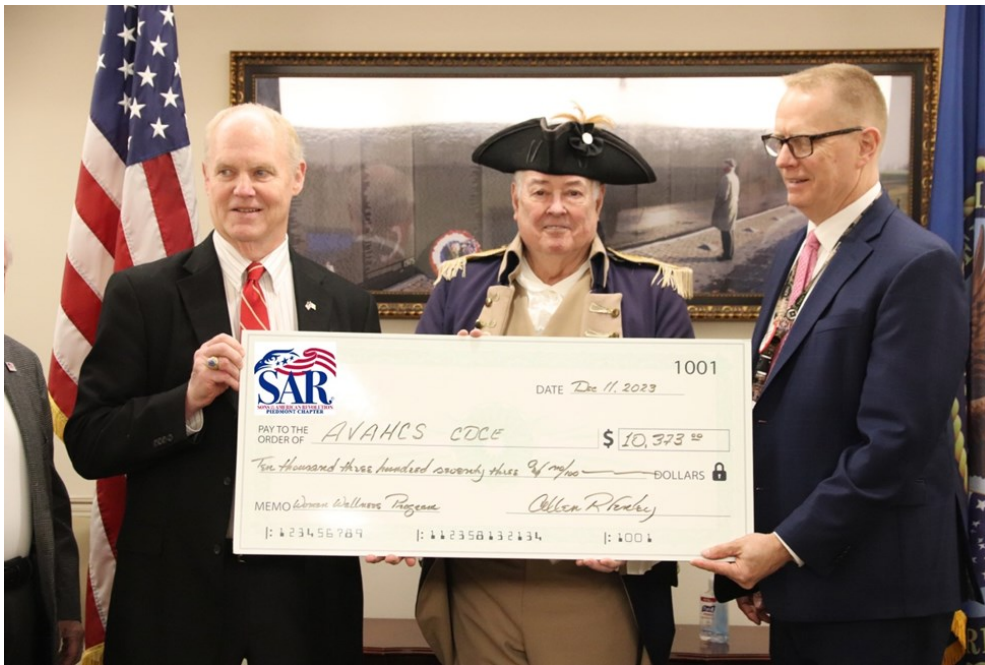
The Piedmont Chapter (Roswell, GA), Georgia Society, Sons of the American Revolution, completed its fourth annual Joe Zimmerman fund raiser for Veterans. A Golf Ball drop raffle on November 13th was the main attraction to stimulate donations and raffle ticket purchases. The Golf Ball drop raffle was supported by the Brookfield Country Club and the Roswell Fire Department. Proceeds from the fund raiser were targeted to support Atlanta area women veterans.

The Atlanta area has the highest number of women veterans (over 24,000) of any city in the United States.

The funds provide immediate assistance to area women veterans in time of need ranging from shelter and medical assistance to newborn care.

"We thank the local community for their tremendous support of this yearly event" noted Rob Ufford, chairman of the Piedmont Chapter Veterans Committee. "The raffle (first place prize: \$1000) was a fun way to raise money and more importantly to increase awareness of the challenges that many women veterans face."

The fund raiser culminated with a check presentation ceremony at the Atlanta VA Medical Center on December 11, 2023.



Left: (L - R) are Rob Ufford, Rick Reese Jr., and Daniel Ducker, interim Executive Director, Atlanta VA Medical Center.

Below: Piedmont Chapter members Craig Benton and Ron Redner at the October 13th INS Naturalization Ceremony at the Federal Courthouse in downtown Atlanta



Left: Craig Benton attends many events as a member of the Georgia Society Color Guard and representing Piedmont Chapter when presenting wreaths. Craig recently attended the William McIntosh Grave Marking Ceremony followed closely by the Ft. Morris "Come and Take It" National event.

Robert Forsyth

Below: Arch Kielly, LtCol USAF Retired, Pilot, Fighters & Helicopter Gunships, Fought in Three Wars, US Diplomat in Central America, Political Appointee in Two US Presidential Administrations, Professor of Political Science, Georgia State & European Universities talked about his mission in Vietnam, and the conditions under which he returned to the U.S. during our November meeting.



Left: Member Carl Watkins presented our October lesson in history with his talk about William Penn.



Right: Several meetings have past before receiving and presenting the Youth Education Medal to Chaplain Byron Tindall. Byron and his wife work closely with the Pickens County School system to educate the youth about the early American life on the wilderness.



Left: We have a connection. This lovely lady was at the recent grave marking for Jacob Higginbotham. Her ancestor is William Allen. If you are familiar with Robert Forsyth, our chapter's namesake, then the Allen name should be familiar. William's brother, Beverly, was the one who murdered Robert. He shot through the door when Marshal Forsyth knocked in a fatally failed arrest attempt. Beverly was later arrested, then escaped, and was never apprehended again. Robert was the first Marshal to die in the line of duty.

Ms. Allen and I parted on friendly terms.

Below: No, its not what you think. It's tea! The chapter sent an large package filled with black tea leaves to The Tea Party Museum for the 250th Reenactment of the Boston Toss the Tea Event. Any photo you see of the loose tea being dumped by a patriot surely contained some of this donation. We enjoyed our ability to participate, even from afar.

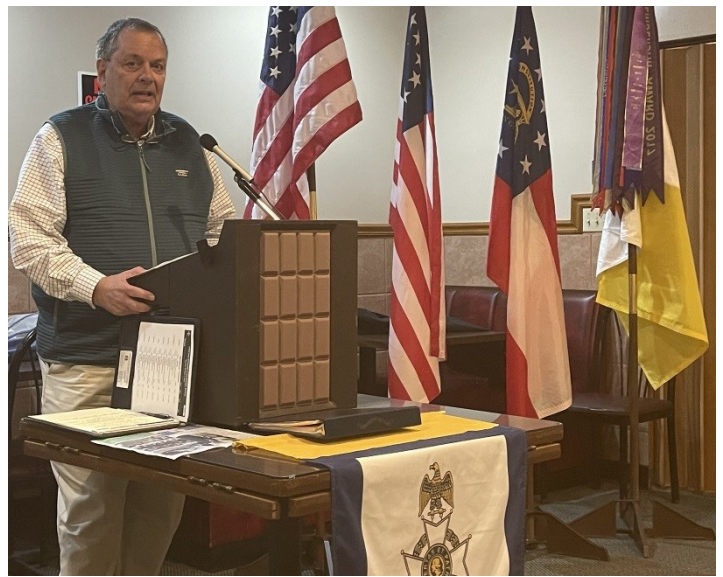


Left: Our December Presentation was delivered by a former boss of mine, retired Forsyth County Principal Gary Davison. Gary is a great motivational speaker and talked about Mount Rushmore. Not just the one up north, but raised the question, if you had a personal Mount Rushmore of leaders who inspired you, who would be on your Mount? Very thought provoking.

Wiregrass

Right: The Wiregrass Chapter's monthly meeting for October featured Mike Lisenby who presented his program on the "Freedom Shrine". Mike talked about 4 documents; the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, Treaty of Paris, 1781 and the Constitution.

Below: Interim President Steve Burke presented Sgt-at-Arms Dess Smith III with the Chapter Flag Streamer for presenting a wreath at the Siege of Augusta.



Right: Our speaker, LTC (ret) Ed DeVos, is a retired Army Ranger; received the Silver Star with one oak leaf cluster, the Legion of Merit, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry, and the U.S. and German Parachute Wings. Ed's presentation was on "Revenge at Kings Mountain; The Over the Mountain Boys".



Below: The Wiregrass November 9 meeting saw Dess Smith III receiving the Liberty Medal with 3 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters. Each Leaf means 10 new members sponsored for the previous year. Then Steve Burke presented Dess with the "Gold Liberty Medal" in recognition of outstanding services in the recruitment of 200 plus new members.





Left: The Annual Wiregrass Presidents awarding of the "Fred D Womack, Distinguished Service Medal". It was presented to the late Henry Wilder Smith, Jr. for his outstanding service to the Wiregrass Chapter, the Georgia Society and the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution. His son, Compatriot Colby Isaac Smith, received the award for his dad. Judy Womack, wife of the late Fred D Womack. was present to present the award with Steve."



Left Center: East Fall Line Region Vice President Dess Smith III came up for a special presentation. Dess presented the Wiregrass Chapter with the President Generals Education Outreach Streamer and Certificate for the Chapters over and above education to children. Steve's "Traveling Trunk" presentations at a lot of Revolutionary events and others like the Pine Tree Festival vendors area helped the Chapter in receiving this award from the National President General.



Left Bottom: Compatriot Bill Carmichael received his "Military Service Veterans Corps" Certificate for serving in the Georgia Army National Guard and the U.S. Army.



Children of the American Revolution

Fairview Presbyterian Church, Lawrenceville, GA.

Right: Georgia C.A.R. State Chaplain Noah Tindall bringing greetings at the two Patriot Grave Ceremony at



Below: Noah and Honorary Elisha Winn C.A.R. President Isaac Long presenting a wreath on behalf of C.A.R.



Left: Georgia C.A.R. State President Joy Frederick brings greetings at the Fort Morris Commemoration.

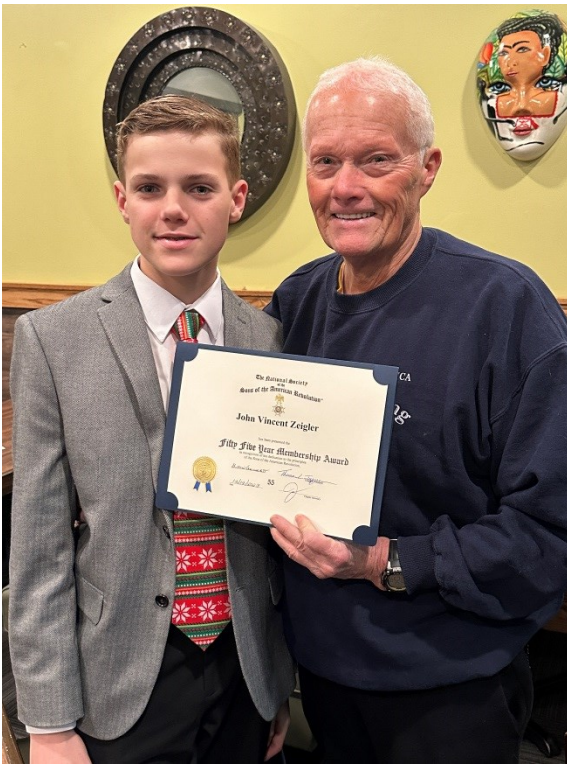
Below: National Color Guard Commander Scott Collins and 2nd Adjutant Patrick Wesloskey with members of the Elisha Winn C.A.R. Society participating at Fort Morris.





Below: Benjamin Fitzpatrick, Elisha Winn, and Sukey Hart C.A.R. societies discovering historical artifacts in a one room schools house from the Button Gwinnett SAR and Philadelphia Winn DAR chapters at the Elisha Winn Fair. They also learned colonial dancing from the Atlanta Historical Dancers and practiced with Button Gwinnett SAR members.





Left: John Zeiglar (Button Gwinnett SAR, was presented with his 55th Year Membership Award recently) is with Georgia C.A.R. Chaplain Noah Tindall of the Elisha Winn Society. John is encouraging Noah as a Star Scout who is pursuing his Eagle Scout. John was both a C.A.R. member and Eagle Scout.



Colonel William Candler Chapter, NSDAR
Gainesville, Georgia

Grave Marker Dedication and Wreath-laying
Ceremony

for

Sandra Dunagan Deal

Sunday, 8 October 2023
2 pm

Alta Vista Cemetery
521 Jones Street
Gainesville, Georgia

Right:
Regent Carolyn Launer and
Chaplain Terry Hughes
unveiling the marker





Left: Former Governor Nathan Deal spoke of memories of Sandra, her life and her work in campaigns and as First Lady of Georgia.

Below:

L to R: front Row: Phyllis Shockley, Jerry Patterson, Pam Dover, Judy Dyer, Leslie Johnson, Mary Lou Goehring, Chery Ray, Brenda Jessel, Patricia Hein, and Nancy Moss

Back row: Michael Dunagan, Frank Sims, Brenda Sims, Governor Deal, Carrie Deal Wilder, and Jason Deal,

Flag Bearer for DAR – Amy Woodrick

Color Guard: Mike Watkins, Sid Hughes, Ralph Galpin



Toccoa Chapter, NSDAR 100th Birthday. GASSAR Color Guard provided the fireworks.

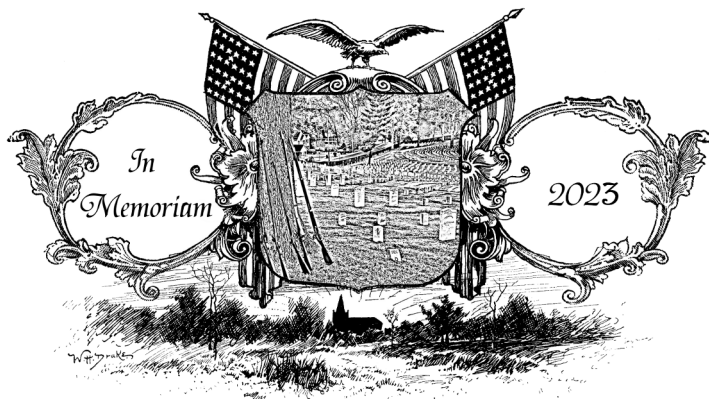


NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE & LIBERTY TREE

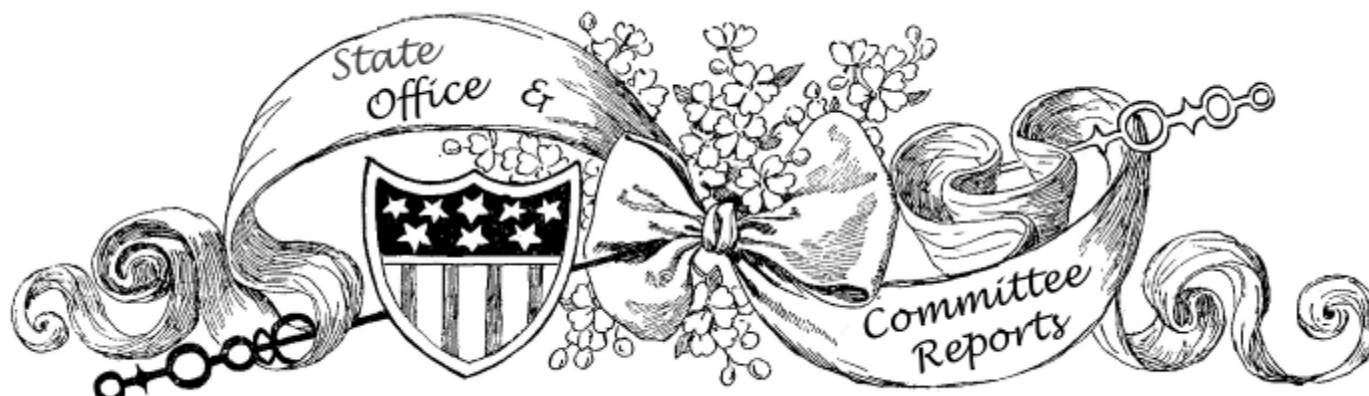


Chestatee River Chapter's National Day of Service was combined with a Liberty Tree planting at the Sherrell House in Forsyth County. The historic location (start of the Trail of Tears) and old home, soon to be a museum, are the property of the Forsyth County Historical Society. Cherokee Chapter SAR members Kevin Karel and dual





Compatriot	Nat'l No.	Chapter	DECEASED
Thomas Milne OWEN	175077	Wash-Wilkes	01 Oct 2023
Virgil Cecil CURTIS, Jr.	111145	Coweta Falls	04 Oct 2023
Charles Rutledge LORD	151619	Atlanta	26 Nov 2023
James Edward STALLINGS, Sr.	167984	Ocmulgee	01 Dec 2023
Donald Michael HART	143825	Mount Vernon	04 Dec 2023
Joel Wylie SEYMOUR	156276	Samuel Elbert	07 Dec 2023
Ronald Guy HILL, Sr.	158809	Blue Ridge Mtns	17 Dec 2023
James Ebb DAUGHTRY,	192384	Wiregrass	22 Dec 2023
Philip Henry MOODY,	177067	Marquis de Lafayette	24 Dec 2023



Secretary - Gary Smith



Georgia Society Compatriots:	1-Jan-23	1921
Additions as of:	31-Dec-23	
New Members		138
Reinstatements		48
Transfer ins		8
Reinstatement-Transfers		4
Total gains as of:	31-Dec-23	198
Losses as of:	31-Dec-23	
Transfer outs		10
Deceased		42
Dropped		0
Resignation		0
Total lost as of:	31-Dec-23	52
Active Membership as of:	31-Dec-23	2067
Year to date change:	31-Dec-23	146

I have received and posted 2024 Dues for 1647 Compatriots with more to be added after recent online payments are updated.

In 2022 there were 213 Compatriots dropped for non-payment of dues.

We are short 420 as of this missive.



Georgia Society New Members Since Friday, September 22, 2023

Registered	New Member	Patriot	Sponsor
Altamaha			
08 Dec 2023	James Willie DENISON	Samuel DESURRENCY	Jason Ronald DEAL
Atlanta			
04 Oct 2023	Joseph Idous CHAFIN, Jr.	John LEFTWICH	Joseph Harrell BLACKMON
17 Nov 2023	Jeffrey Craig YACKEL	Abner WARD	James Steven HINSON, Sr.
17 Nov 2023	David Benjamin YACKEL	Abner WARD	Joseph Harrell BLACKMON
08 Dec 2023	Paul Frederick BOSHEARS	William PENDLETON	Joseph Harrell BLACKMON
Blue Ridge Mtns			
22 Sep 2023	Dion Lamar ELLER	Absolom HOOPER	Jack Powell DUGGER
Button Gwinnett			
22 Dec 2023	Nicholas Alan HAMRICK	John HUBBS	Harold Douglas FORD
Casimir Pulaski			
27 Oct 2023	Dayton Timothy CLARK	Philip MCCONNELL	Jimmy Glynn SWINSON
31 Dec 2023	William Thomas ORR	Samuel VITTILOW	Jimmy Glynn SWINSON
Dalton			
01 Dec 2023	Randall Lee FRANKS	Daniel DUNN	John Wesley BRINSFIELD
John Collins			
31 Dec 2023	Robert Luther BARTLETT	Ebenezer MASON	William Stiles EDELEN, Jr.
John Milledge			
17 Nov 2023	Jeffrey Clayton WELLS	Thomas CONNER	Michael Shaun VEAL
Little River			
06 Oct 2023	James Gordon BLANCHARD, Jr.	Reuben BLANCHARD	William Joseph TANKERSLEY
Lyman Hall			
08 Dec 2023	Thomas Franklin CHRISTIAN, Jr.	George CHRISTIAN	William Joseph TANKERSLEY
Marquis de Lafayette			
17 Nov 2023	Timothy Ray KING	Richard PUCKETT	David George JESSEL
17 Nov 2023	Jack Jett NEEDLE	James JETT	
08 Dec 2023	John Sidney DRAKE	John THORNTON	Robert Donald BULLOCH

Marshes of Glynn

06 Oct 2023	Sean MITCHELL	Caleb GOLDSMITH	James Steven HINSON, Sr.
27 Oct 2023	Paul Christopher LEWIS	John WELD	Harry Colson LEWIS
03 Nov 2023	Ryan Wade MARKS	Thomas BLASSINGAME	Charles Pendleton LEWIS, Jr.
17 Nov 2023	Mason Lior MESSER	John CALLAWAY	Mason Lior MESSER
17 Nov 2023	Morgan Maor MESSER	John CALLAWAY	James Steven HINSON, Sr.
22 Dec 2023	Mitchell Joseph MESSER	John CALLAWAY	James Steven HINSON, Sr.

Mount Vernon

22 Sep 2023	Lyman Braddy SMITH, Sr.	Colesby SMITH	Richard L MCCRARY
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Ocmulgee

08 Dec 2023	Paul Wesley ROBERTS	George ROBERTS	Charles Neal GARNETT
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Piedmont

18 Oct 2023	Richard Plant MORTHLAND, II	Abraham PLANT	
01 Dec 2023	Miller Hampton WESTERFIELD	Arthur DAVIS	Ronald Clinton WINDSOR

Robert Forsyth

22 Sep 2023	John Hollis MCCULLARS	Henry JORDAN	Charles Haywood Nixon MEAGHER
22 Sep 2023	Scott Anthony MCCULLARS	Henry JORDAN	Charles Haywood Nixon MEAGHER

Rome

03 Nov 2023	Andrew Russell DAANE	John FUNDERBURGH	Harry Logan BOSS, III
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Valdosta

03 Nov 2023	Bohen Jack HERNDON	James LITTLE	Alan Anthony TUCKER
03 Nov 2023	Barton Kinney HERNDON	James LITTLE	Alan Anthony TUCKER
03 Nov 2023	William Atden AQUE	Abasalom TATUM	Michael Maxwell BLACK

Wiregrass

13 Oct 2023	David Morris MORGAN	Thomas BRANDON	DeSaussure Dugas SMITH, III
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Total: 34**Georgia Trustee - Bill Dobbs**

July 14th through 20th were the dates for the 133rd Annual Congress of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. The Congress was held at the Rosen Plaza in Orlando, FL. The Georgia Society had a fair number of attendees.

I mentioned in my Spring BOM Trustee's report, that the delegates would be voting (at Congress) on increasing membership dues from \$35 to \$50. Motion made by the Trustees and the voted on after 25 minutes of deliberation. The vote easily passed. The membership classes are for Regular Members, CAR Transfers and Reinstatements. Current members have until August 31st to purchase a Life Membership at current rates. Should you wish to do so, please get your form in to our State Secretary Gary Smith. For those attending the Summer BOM, forms will be available and Gary will be pleased to

take them. I have put off doing this for over 25 years but have decided to become a life member this coming Saturday.

Compatriots, this dues increase is about \$1.20 per month and it is the first increase since 2015. Membership growth has stalled during the past 5 years and we have been unable to keep up with inflation. Our dollar purchases only 76% of what it did in 2015. Had it not been for the Federal PPP programs during the pandemic the National Society would have been in trouble financially. We need a 3% plus growth rate to keep up with our current economy.

The other major vote came on a motion by the ExCom. Motion was: "ExCom moves that the delegates to Congress to approve Office Re-Design Project as presented with funding for the project in the amount not to exceed \$420,000 from the principal of the Building and Outreach Education Fund."

Per ExCom: “While salary requirements are clearly important, environmental and cultural conditions are also of high priority. Our goal should be to provide the right environment to foster the kind of working conditions which enables our staff to work constructively, safely and one that we can be proud to call our Headquarters.” Balance for the Building and Outreach Fund as of the end of 2022 was \$2,141,650.

There was considerable discussion. The Delegate’s votes passed.

It has been my honor and privilege to serve the Georgia Society as National Trustee for 2022-2023. I thank each of you for allowing me to do so. On July 19, Scott Collins, our past state president and the current National Society Color Guard Commander took the oath of office to serve our Georgia Society as the 2023-2024 National Trustee.



250th - Ed Rigel Jr.

The Chairman has investigated the potential of forming an America 250 Commission in the State of Georgia. I believe it will take multiple organizations partnering together with a “friendly” member of the State House or Senate to initiate the legislation. Anyone with a good point of contact is encouraged to pass that information to the Chairman so we might begin the process.

On October 21, members of the Cherokee and Robert Forsyth Chapters joined the Chestatee River Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, in a National Day of Service at the Historic Sherrill House in Ball Ground, GA, which included the planting of a Liberty Tree.

The Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter conducted two Liberty Tree Plantings: October 24 at West Fannin Elementary School in Blue Ridge, GA, and October 25 at Toccoa River Park in McCaysville, GA. These events were a joint effort with the Capt. James Kell Chapter NSDAR.

At the Fall Board of Managers Meeting, Lee Herron (Brier Creek Chapter) introduced a motion that “The Georgia Society, Sons of the American Revolution, support the creation and design of a 250th Anniversary license plate commemorating the American Revolution in the State of Georgia.” Compatriot Herron described his correspondence with State Senator Max Burns regarding the plate.

John Trussell (Ocmulgee Chapter) has agreed to serve as the Program Coordinator for the National 250 Bench Memorial Program. This project, being run in conjunction with the National History Committee, aims to place one bench in every state by 2026. This program was kicked off at the 2022 Congress in Savannah with the dedication of benches in Johnson Square and Tricentennial Park. The 250th Anniversary Celebration officially began in December with the anniversary of the Boston Tea Party. Information on the events of the weekend may be found on the SAR Members America 250 website (below).

SAR Members who have participated in recognized America 250 events are encouraged to submit their applications for the Bronze, Silver, or Gold Medals to the Chairman at the email above. The Bronze Medal may be approved by the Chapter or State, and the Silver is approved by the State. The Gold Medal is approved by the National Committee after submission to the State Chairman. The reporting form is available at <https://www.sar.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/250th-Anniversary-Form.pdf>

Members of the Georgia Society have earned the following America 250 Medals (*Bold indicates new medals since the last report*):

Craig Benton (Piedmont): Bronze, Silver
 Cadence Blackburn (Captain John Collins): Bronze
 Scott Collins (Athens): Bronze, Silver, Gold
 Roger Coursey (Edward Telfair): Bronze, Silver
 Emil Decker (Robert Forsyth): Bronze, Silver, Gold
 Ralph Galpin (Button Gwinnett): Bronze, Silver, Gold
 Sid Hughes (Lyman Hall): Bronze, Silver
 JC Hustis (Robert Forsyth): Bronze, Silver, Gold
 Thomas Jacques (Button Gwinnett): Bronze, Silver
 Ray Kile (Button Gwinnett): Bronze, Silver
 Jack Martin (Button Gwinnett): Bronze
 Don McCarty (Button Gwinnett): Bronze, Silver, Gold
 Steve Morrison (Piedmont): Bronze
 Jared Ogden (Blue Ridge Mountains): Bronze, Silver
 Rick Reese, Jr. (Piedmont): Bronze
 Rick Reese, III (Piedmont): Bronze

Ed Rigel, Jr. (Robert Forsyth): Bronze, Silver, Gold
 Bobby Shaw (Piedmont): Bronze
 Noah Tindall (Button Gwinnett): Bronze, Silver
 PG J. Michael Tomme, Sr. (Marquis de Lafayette): Bronze
 Chip Van Alstyne (Robert Forsyth): Bronze, Silver
 Steve Weaver (Blue Ridge Mountains): Bronze, Silver, Gold

Websites:

<http://www.america250sar.com> (Public)







<http://www.america250sar.org> (Members)

Public Service & Heroism - William Tankersley



The Public Service and Heroism Committee (PS&H) recognizes and honors citizens and individuals in our public service sectors of Law Enforcement, Fire Safety, and Emergency Medical Services for their contributions to the community and for heroic acts with a commendation and medal. Medals are purchased by the chapters from the SAR merchandise department. States, chapters, and commendation recipients are recognized in a booklet published and distributed at the National Congress each July.

Our goal is for each of our 35 chapters to award at least one of the five PS&H medals to a deserving recipient. Please let me know how I can help.

Chapter	Law Enforcement	Fire Safety	Emergency Medical Service	Heroism	Life Savings
					
Athens					Brad Vaughn Travis Wooster
Blue Ridge Mountains	Allana Barclay Dustin Carder Leslie Cheek Shawn Dyer Bryan Forsyth	Jeff Fortenberry Tim Klimoski Cada Morris Nelson Soriero	Justin Mathis Ken Nicholson Dale Stiles Adrian Stroud		Mark Patrick Joshua Perigo
Button Gwinnett				Jeff Legg Thomas Rodriguez Coty Steward	
Capt John Collins	Jesse Evans				
Coweta Falls	Jane Edenfield				
Joseph Habersham					Jonathan Hughes Joey Newkirk
Little River	Alton McCloud Gary Smith, Sr.	John Evans	Robert Rosier	Mason Aguilar Justin Gilstrap	
Marquis de Lafayette					Alexis Callaway Christian Spinks (Medal and OLC)
Ocmulgee	Wesley Cannon				

Streamers Presented to Chapters:

Yellow (for Gold - Excellence): Chapters awarding a medal in ALL 5 PS&H categories: Law Enforcement, Fire Safety Commendation, Emergency Medical Services, Heroism, AND Life Saving

Silver (Distinction): Chapters awarding at least one medal in the following 4 PS&H categories: Law Enforcement, Fire Safety Commendation, Emergency Medical Services, and either Heroism or Life Saving

Brown (for Bronze - Honorable Mention): Chapters awarding at least one medal in the following 3 PS&H categories: Law Enforcement, Fire Safety Commendation, and Emergency Medical Services



[Patriot Medal - Roger Coursey](#)

The Patriot Medal Committee would like to thank those who submitted nominations for the Patriot Medal for 2023. The Committee has made its selections and the results will be revealed at the Annual Meeting Friday Night Banquet. A full report of the results will be submitted after the Annual Meeting has concluded.



[Medals - Wayne Brown](#)

The Georgia SAR Medals and Awards Committee has reviewed and approved a Youth Education medal and Silver Roger Sherman Medal. Both medals were presented during the fourth quarter due to special circumstances.

Currently, the Committee is preparing for the upcoming Annual Conference, January 26th & 27th.



[Education Outreach - Rick Reese, Jr.](#)

Year-End 2023 Education Outreach Awards

During the annual Georgia Society meetings on January 26 & 27, 2024 we would like to recognize the GASSAR Chapters and individual chapter members for their efforts to reach out to students and our communities in order to keep Revolutionary War history alive during this past year.

Awards Available:

Chapter Education Outreach Streamer Award; Best Chapter Education Outreach Award; Dr. Lyman Hall Most Improved Education Outreach; John Dooly Education Outreach

Award; Nancy Hart Education Outreach Award; Youth Education Medal

The qualification criteria for each of these awards were sent out previously. If you have a Chapter or Chapter members that qualify, please email those details to: RickReese68@att.net

GASSAR 2023-2024 school year Brochure Contest Guidelines.

Brochure theme:

Select: One of the Nation's Five Foundational Documents:

The student should research one of these five foundational documents in the American Revolutionary War:

1. Articles of Confederation;
2. Declaration of Independence;
3. Constitution;
4. Federalist Papers
5. Bill of Rights.

GASSAR 2023-2024 school year Elementary School Poster Contest:

The guidelines for the Poster Contest are set by the NSSAR, but the specific topics are determined at the state level by the GASSAR Education Committee. Consistent with the stated permanent themes of the SAR for this contest, "Revolutionary War Events" in school years ending in an even number will be the general topic. The specific options for topic selection for the GASSAR poster contest will be ONE of these:

Boston Tea Party

Battle of Bunker Hill

Stamp Act

The contests judging will be held on April 27, 2024 before the start of the Spring BOM meeting in Barnesville.

The State-wide Youth Video Contest for the 2023-2024 school year:

The goal of the Georgia Society Youth Video Contest is to promote education, research, and creative expression regarding the American Revolution.

The entries and awards will be made at the GASSAR state level. However, individual chapters should select their best entry for submission to RickReese68@att.net 4/5/2024, for judging by the selected judges. There will be a First, Second, and Third place award.

Contest overview:

Contestants will submit a video presentation five to ten minutes in length

This contest is open to all high school students (9th through 12th grades) attending home schools, public schools, parochial schools, or private high schools.

Entries may be submitted in the following formats:

◦ MP4 ◦ MOV ◦ WMV ◦ AVI

Entries must contain ORIGINAL content. Content must be based on scholarly research of the presented topic. Content may not violate copyright laws.

The subject of the entry should focus on an event, personality, document, or topic pertaining to the American Revolution. Emphasis on the 250th anniversary of the Revolution is recommended.

The style, approach, and perspective are not limited. The entry may be in the form of a documentary, dramatization, interview, advertisement, etc. Creativity is encouraged.



Flag Respect - Gary Smith

NSSAR Admiral William R. Furlong Award is due 15 April of each year. If 50% of State Chapters present a Flag Display Certificate (GASSAR receives the red, white and blue Furlong Streamer), 100% (GASSAR receives Furlong Streamer and Certificate of Excellence)

NSSAR U. S. Flag Retirement Award is due 1 March of each year. If over 50% of the chapters in the state, as well as the state society, present at least one U. S. Flag Retirement certificate each; the state will receive the U. S. Flag Retirement Award.

Background Statistic Percentage of Chapters currently reporting:

Admiral Furlong Award: 57% (Award Criteria of 50% is met) Flag Retirement Award: 19% (Award Criteria of 50% is not met)
20 Chapters reported at least one Flag Display Certificate presentation exceeding the Admiral Furlong Award 50% requirement.

7 Chapters reported at least one Flag Retirement Certificate presentation with 11 more reports needed to earn U.S. Flag Retirement Award.

2024 Plans

Chapters are encouraged to obtain and present flag display and retirement certificates that can be purchased for \$4.00 through the SAR Merchandise Department at (502) 589-1779 and on web at: <https://store.sar.org/categories.aspx?Keyword=flag%20certificate>

<https://store.sar.org/categories.aspx?Keyword=flag%20certificate>

Library - Hugh Rodgers



At the end of the 3rd Quarter the Georgia society had 66 members in Friends of the Library (FOL). Nearing 20 percent of the total national membership, the Georgia Society continues to be the national leader. The Georgia Society held strong during the last quarter of 2023. Thanks to all society and chapter officers, compatriots, wives of compatriots, who make this outstanding record possible.

Our 13 Life Members provide a solid base of FOL support. A big welcome and tip of the hat to our newest "lifer", Bobby Shaw. Please check the national library website for details of life membership and other types of membership recognition. During the year the Georgia Society made donations to the Georgia Archives, the Washington Library in Macon, and the library of the Atlanta Historical Society.

A special tip of the hat to Kenneth Scott Collins, a Life Member who also continues to send in an annual donation to FOL. Many thanks for his outstanding support.

Note that FOL membership dues have not increased but still remain at \$25.00 per year. The membership is renewable annually on the anniversary date of original entry. Several members are at renewal deadlines at the end of Dec 2023 or within early months of 2024. Please check your records and send in your \$25 FOL donation to keep the Georgia Society's position as the national leader and send your renewal check to NSSAR, 809 West Main Street, Louisville, KY 40202. On the memo line, write FOL, include your national number, chapter name, and Georgia Society. Thanks again for your continued support.



Chaplain - Edward M. Anderson Sr.

It has been my distinct honor to serve as GASSAR Chaplain during the Fourth quarter, 2023 and to participate in the following activities.

October 28, 2023 - I was present and said the Invocation, Grace and Benediction at our October 2023 GASSAR Board of Managers meeting in Barnesville GA.

Just prior to Veterans Day, I insured the placement of an American Flag at the gravesites of veterans in the following Wilkes County, Georgia church cemeteries (my ancestral home church cemeteries going back five or six generations) - New Ford Baptist Church (established in 1795), Reeves Chapel Baptist Church (established in 1891), and Cherry Grove Baptist Church (established in 1875).

November 11, 12 - Participated in several Independence Day celebrations. Most noteworthy is the special service honoring the service of 106 year-old, World War Two Era, Army veteran, Evans "Mr. Duck" Moore at Marks Tabernacle Baptist church in Washington, GA.

October - December 2023 - As GASSAR Chaplain, I regularly lift up our GASSAR leaders and GASSAR fellow Compatriots in prayer.

Oct - Dec - I regularly receive from Compatriot Gary Smith, GASSAR Secretary, and other Compatriots, information regarding members of GASSAR (and sometimes their spouses or family members) who pass on. This will result in the organization and execution of an appropriate Memorial Service at our GASSAR Annual meeting

Oct - Dec - Each Sunday I participate in weekly worship service usually at either New Ford Baptist Church in Wilkes county Georgia where I serve as Assistant Pastor and Adult Sunday School Teacher or at Reeves Chapel Baptist, also in Wilkes County, Georgia where I assist with Pulpit Services. Additionally, I have done several pastoral visits in hospitals with veterans and other community members. Moreover, I have officiated and delivered the Eulogy in several funerals of veterans, their spouses and other community members.



ROTC/JROTC - David Jessel

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

1ST – Marquis de Lafayette Chapter – Cadet Olivia M. Clark AFJROTC Ola High School GA-20102

2ND – Edward Telfair Chapter – Cadet Julian Watson AJROTC Benedictine Military School

3RD - Joseph Habersham– Cadet Jerome C. Maxwell AJROTC Stephens County High School

14 Silver ROTC Medals for eleven Georgia Universities will be presentation in 2024 to outstanding cadets/midshipmen selected by the ROTC Program.

Chapters present 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)

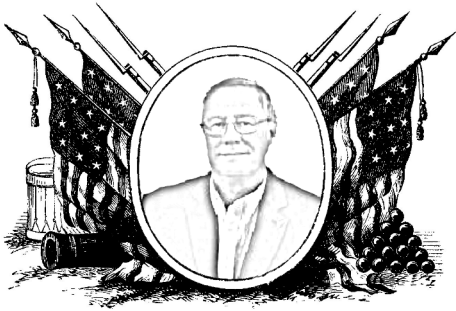
*Top 10% of the JROTC class

*Top 25% of their class

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

*Sea Cadet Units & Civil Air Patrol Cadets (CAP) can also be awarded the BGCM.

[IT - Richard Marsh](#)



2024 Dues Collection

Online collection of dues for 2024 was opened for participants in mid-August and closed December 31, 2023. For 2024 the following has been collected online:

Members paid – 301 Dual members paid – 26 Friends of the Library – 19
Georgia Fellows - 2

2024 Annual Meeting

Registration for the 2024 Annual Meeting may be done on the website. To register or to obtain registration information go to <https://gasocietyvsar.org/gassar-annual-conference-2024/>

Website Updates

When submitting form 10.07F (Change of Officers Form) to the GASSAR Secretary, please also submit a copy to the GASSAR webmaster (webmaster@gasocietyvsar.org).

Chapter Information

To update Chapter information found at <https://gasocietyvsar.org/georgiachapters/>, please submit updates to the GASSAR webmaster (**address above**) This information is only updated upon receipt of requests, not as a result of submission of form 10.07F. If you wish to include photos and have a particular layout of your information, please send your update in a Word document formatted in the manner you want.

Calendar of Events

Scott Collins has graciously volunteered to manage the Calendar of Events. Updates to the calendar may be submitted directly to him.

General Updates

Please submit other updates and/or suggestions to the GASSAR webmaster (**address above**). In some cases, your request may not be able to be fulfilled due to technical reasons.

[Public Relations / Publicity - John Trussell](#)



The fall quarter of 2023 was busy and as we look forward, we need to highlight our Color Guard activities in 2024, as we are honored to have our own hard working Past President, Treasurer and GASSAR Color Guard Commander, Scott Collins, serving as National Color Guard Commander. We need to send more photos into the National Color Guard Magazine to show the great activities that we do in Georgia! This is for Color Guard news only!

Steve Williams is the editor of the SAR Color Guard Magazine, and his email is sar-williamssa@gmail.com. You may send news items directly, but I would be glad to review, edit and submit for you.

Guidelines for Submissions:

Each article should be sent in a DOC or RTF format (Microsoft Word) or similar format. Pictures should be sent in JPEG format - **not embedded in a document but separately**. The NSSAR Color Guard is available online now. It can be found and read with all previous issues by visiting the SAR.org (and logging in) --> Compatriots --> SAR Committees --> Color Guard committee link, then the SAR Colorguardsman Magazine link . Or by clicking or copy/paste this URL <https://www.sar.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/July23.pdf>

SAR Magazine

GASSAR continues to participate in many great activities around the state and our members are to be thanked and congratulated for all the great work being accomplished! Please continue to send me your news items so I can edit it and forward on to the SAR magazine for the Georgia section. Also include at least one good photo! Send the same news items to Emil Decker for the Hornets' Nest! I get a lot of great stuff from Dess Smith but need more from our other regions! Same guidelines apply

National 250 Memorial Benches

I have agreed to serve as Program Coordinator for the National 250 Memorial Bench program. We have many states and individual chapters who have started bench programs. We are also promoting a Liberty Tree program that commemorates the 250th anniversary theme. Thanks to Ron Redner for his very important support and input on the Liberty Tree Program.

GASSAR is now preparing to get ready for the 200th anniversary of General Lafayette's Tour of America. I have volunteered to head the PR committee for the visit, and this will be a HUGE OPPORTUNITY to recruit new members into GASSAR as we recreate Lafayette's tour into Savannah, Augusta, Warrenton, Sparta, Milledgeville, Macon, Roberta and points westward. I anticipate that we will try to set up as many "Lafayette's arrival into town" events as possible in the coming months.

I have joined the "American Friends of Lafayette" and you can join too at this website. <https://lafayette200.org>.

There are several versions of Lafayette's tour of America, but the link below is based on newspaper accounts and is recommended for your reading. The Georgia section starts on page 95. <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=mdp.39015010692617&view=1up&seq=11&skin=2021>

A Georgia Division of The American Friends of Lafayette is comprised of myself, Billie Trussell, Lynne Tate and Beverly Baker. As the Georgia Steering Committee for the 2025 Lafayette in Georgia Bi - Centennial Celebration gets organized to fund the operation in 2025, there are several initial items that we must address:

- 1) We will purchase 6 large display panels to highlight Lafayette's travels through America. You should get to see this display at the GASSAR winter meeting, with Training Sessions for next year. The six panels need to be funded so that Georgia can own and display the panels, and they will be loaned out to responsible schools, museums, and libraries. The cost of the museum quality panels is \$2,000. One set are owned by the American Friends of Lafayette, and other states will be ordering their own panels. GASSAR has already added \$500 to help fund this project.
- 2) We wish to design a seventh panel for use in our state only. It would be a Georgia specific panel that covers Lafayette's tour through Georgia with specific recognition of each tour stop and significant events of importance. The cost of this panel will be approximately \$1,000.
- 3) We also wish to design and distribute a high-quality color tri-fold pamphlet about the tour through Georgia that will be given to schools, libraries, visitor centers, etc. We would start with an initial quantity of 5,000 and reproduce as needed. Cost of these is unknown at this time, but the SAR logo and contact information will be on the pamphlet.
- 4) We also anticipate a variety of expenses including rental costs for the horse drawn carriages, boat rental (he approached Savannah and Augusta by boat) and possible expenses for actors, bottled waters, local hand out sheets, possibly refreshments, and other expenses. The Georgia Steering Committee is self-funded and will not seek reimbursement for personal expenses.
- 5) We may consider having a Dancing Ball with an orchestra at one of the major locations such as Savannah or Augusta. A Dancing Ball would be the climactic conclusion of the local Lafayette Tour Celebration. This decision will depend on local support.

In closing, I want to thank Bill Edelen, our Historian, for all his hard work in taking great photos of our events that he shares with everyone! Also, thanks to Emil Decker for putting out an excellent GASSAR newsletter, chock full of excellent photos and valuable information!

Editor - Emil Decker



You have viewed, or at least I hope you have.... 3 quarters worth of photos and words of our events,

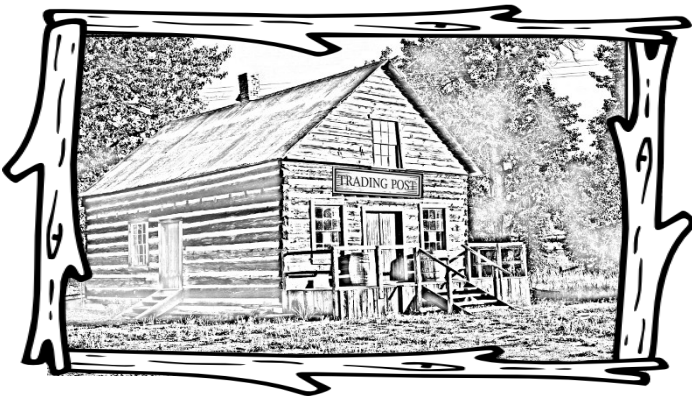
national, state, and local chapter, as reported by you the membership.

Also, there have been interesting articles posted by many of you. You've read of Liberty Trees, the Camden Reinterment, the First Washington Monument... This issue you read of Independence. Not the Celebration Day in July... Not the ideal for which our ancestors fought. No, this was a horse. Maybe something we all dream of....

At the end of the year, with many annual reports due, I hope everyone has had an opportunity to reflect on this past quarter and tendered their submissions to *The Hornet's Nest*. Unfortunately, some of the submissions have been for the passing of members of our society. My condolences. If you wish to include the obituary/photo/memory about a member, please **write up the article** to submit. Sending me the obit is informative, but I too am pressed for time with a HN deadline due, Chapter reports to file, and other life pressures from..... well, my other life. Your writing an article saves me time and gets your sentiment published.

Thank you to all who have submitted, and I again request that you continue to do so. I look forward to seeing you all in the new year. May it be one our Society can be proud of.





The Trading Post

This section is for members to post items wanted, or for sale or trade. Items should be related to SAR: uniforms, muskets, accessories, etc. and fairly represented in description. Photos accepted. Items will run for one issue unless a request is made to repeat the item. Please provide enough contact info for those interested in responding. The Editor is not responsible for the listings, and it is not an avenue for communications between the parties. The editor reserves the right to reject any ad deemed unworthy of this publication.



Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter Fund Raiser.

Quilt "Freedom in Flight", 50" X 57" dimensions. Barbara Weaver, Vice Regent, Old Unicoi Trail Chapter, NSDAR has crafted the quilt for a BRM Chapter fund raising effort. Drawing to be held at the May 14th Chapter meeting. We propose a raffle of 200 tickets, at \$5 each, or 5 for \$20. Our sincere thanks to Barbara for her creative gifts and service to this Chapter.

See any Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter member for the latest on the purchase / raffle options.

We plan to have a table set up at the State Conference.

SAR 250th Anniversary

Liberty Tree Programs

The SAR has TWO great programs available for you to Commemorate our 250th Anniversary through the planting of Liberty Trees. The **LEEP** program, developed and started here in Georgia, plants trees native to the area, similar to what colonists would have gathered around in this locale. Its program focuses on the value of trees to the colonies, and is a perfect program to work with environmental groups, schools and parks. Permanent markers are placed with the tree. To find more info on this program: https://america250sar.org/_static/d08b0304309d7113b528e0c70093a4c8/leep-manual-4-rev.pdf?dl=1

The other program is the NEW National Sons of the American Revolution Program recently adopted:

Partner with the DAR, C.A.R. 250 Liberty Trees for the 250th Meets SAR 5-Year Historical Program Goals 475 Counties in 40 States are named for a Patriot (64 Counties in Georgia named after an American Revolution Hero.)

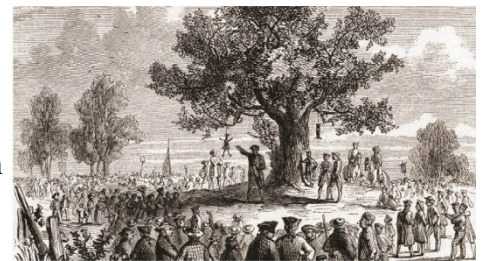
Plant a Princeton American Elm Tree

Purchase Liberty Trees (6 ft Elm Trees) From www.FastGrowingTrees.com



Princeton Elm Trees \$99 each with Free Shipping Add \$15 for 1 year Insurance

Purchase Sign 9"x12" / Aluminum (.040) from www.buildesign.com Full Color with UV Protection \$30 each with Free Shipping





Compatriots, we still have a few "George Washington in Savannah 1791" prints left, so they will be available at the Annual SAR Conference at the Sonesta. These limited edition prints are signed and numbered by the artist, Jeff Trexler.

The medium prints are 18 x 22 in size, and sell for \$100 each. The small prints, 8x12, sell for \$30. All proceeds go to GASSAR. Once sold out they will only increase in value! We also have four Kettle Creek prints that were prepaid and not picked up. If you bought one please pick it up. If you have any questions, **Contact Compatriot John Trussell, jtrusswr@gmail.com or call 478-957-7411**

Chapters looking to expand or start a Patriots Chest/Traveling Trunk. **Post your needs here.** Someone may have multiple items or can get you connected to the proper source.



The GSU museum class is putting together a Brier Creek display to be put up this spring and continue to next spring. They are looking for items to place in the display. The items will, therefore, be on loan for twelve months. I, John Derden, will let them use my Charleville and an iron kettle. Other items they need include a Brown Bess, bullet mold, gunpowder flask or horn, and any camp equipment. Also, they want a British uniform and a Continental uniform. I think a militia outfit would be wise most of the Patriot forces at Brief Creek were militia. Whatever is loaned will be safeguarded and returned. **Contact Compatriot Dr John Derden, 912-667-5956** if you can help.

Need a Liberty Tree, Patriot or Compatriot Grave Marker? Custom stones at competitive prices. SAR discounts. Contact: SticksnStones@weegrr.com

