



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

October - December 2024

## The President's Dispatch



"It's the end of the world as we know it, and I feel fine."

OK, maybe it's not the end of the world, but it's nearing the end of the 2024 term. And to say that it's been a whirlwind would be an understatement.

Continued on page 2

## Lafayette's Coming To Georgia This Year!



Multiple events are planned for Georgia this year. Don't miss out!!

### Lafayette at the US Capital and the Fairfield University Symposium

(12/10/2024) We celebrated the Bicentennial of Lafayette's address to the US Congress

in 1824. This commemorated the very first time that a foreign dignitary addressed our Congress. This event took place exactly 200 years to the day, in the exact room where it happened.

If you were not able to be at the US Capital to see this event in person, please do not fret as we have the C-Span recording that can be accessed here or



2003, 2006, 2021

**HERE** (once at the site, scroll down a tad to the white rectangle with "Lafayette's" image.



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

## The President's Dispatch (Cont.)

The fourth quarter started with Fall Leadership in Louisville, where many Georgia Society Compatriots gathered for fellowship and to conduct the business of the National Society. Much work is done at Leadership meetings, as the Committees and Trustees meet to plan for our organization's future. The Fall meeting always has the potential to be contentious due to the presentation of the budget, but Treasurer General (Georgia's own) Allen Greenly put together a plan that is a good first step in pulling us out of our current financial situation. I attended no fewer than seven Committee meetings, plus two Executive Committees and the Trustees meeting, as well as participating in the Color Guard and serving as the Master of Ceremonies for the Saturday Banquet. I would encourage anyone who is interested in learning more about how the National Society works to join us at Spring Leadership on Feb 27-Mar 1.

Much like at Leadership, the Georgia Society took up the issue of our budget at the Fall Board of Managers meeting. Treasurer Scott Collins did his usual admirable job of keeping us in good financial shape, especially considering the massive increase we faced with our insurance renewal earlier this year.

As we closed out the year, the focus was on dues collection and the retention of our members. This is always a bit of a touchy subject, as no one likes asking for money, but it is sometimes a necessary evil. As I reviewed the year-end Chapter reports, I'm happy to see that most Chapters were successful in their efforts. The target to qualify for the Distinguished Chapter Award is 90%, and several reached that number or higher. The reconciliation process will begin soon, so any dues not submitted to the State should be sent as soon as possible (if you're reading this in The Hornet's Nest, it's probably already too late, but we can still process a reinstatement after the reconciliation process is complete).

I hope you will plan to join us at the Annual Meeting in Peachtree Corners, GA, at the end of January. We will be joined by President General Darryl Addington and First Lady Mary, as well as at least two other General Officers of the Society. We will recognize the winners of several of our Youth Awards Contests, and we will remember those Compatriots who passed on in the previous year. We will conduct our usual business during the Board of Managers Meeting, and we will elect the Officers who will serve during the 2025 term. We are at a new hotel this year, so I'm sure there will be some bumps in the road, but Conference Planning Chair Wayne Brown ensures me that we are on track for another outstanding event.

Thank you for all you do to support the Georgia Society, its members, and the National Society SAR.

*Edward P. Rigel, Jr.*

Georgia Society SAR President

## Lafayette's Coming To Georgia This Year! Cont.

If you were not able to be at our Lafayette Symposium at Fairfield University on September 7th, and/or you were not able to see the C-Span airing on December 7th...again, don't worry. You can view the symposium in its entirety (broken into three parts) by clicking one of the links below...

### [Part one](#)



### [Part two](#)



### [Part three](#)



**ENJOY!!!!** Thank you and vive Lafayette !!



**CHUCK Schwam**  
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
 BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE CHAIR  
 AMERICAN FRIENDS OF LAFAYETTE  
 240-676-5010  
 CHUCK@LAFAYETTE200.ORG



## Calendar of Events

### 135th NSSAR National Congress

July 12 - 18, 2025

**Mohegan Sun Resort in  
Uncasville, Connecticut.**

**1 Mohegan Sun Boulevard  
Uncasville, CT 06382**

**Hotel reservations:**

[https://book.passkey.com/  
go/NSSAR25](https://book.passkey.com/go/NSSAR25)

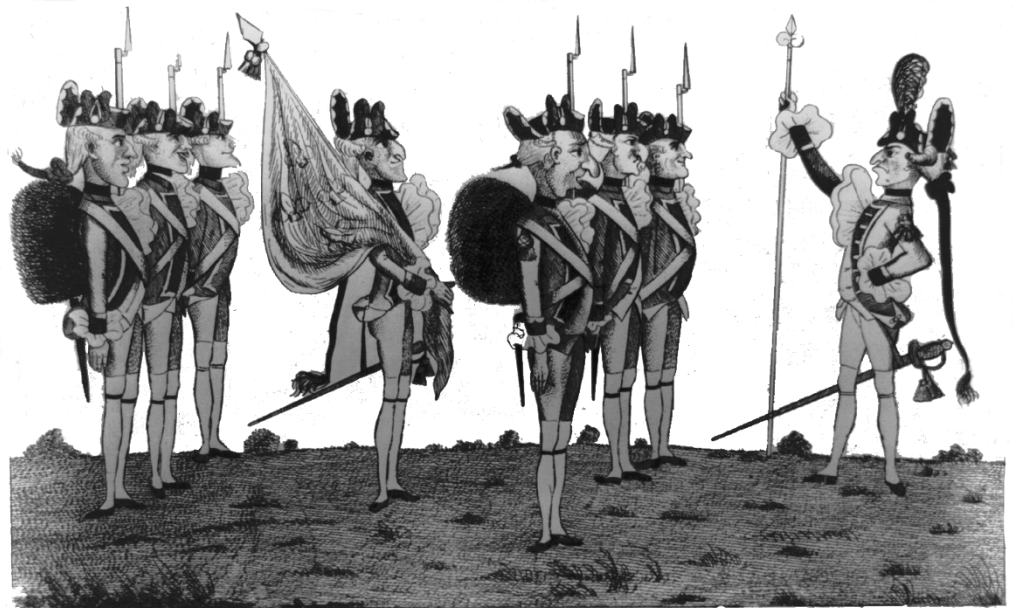
**Resort Information at:**

[https://ctssar.wixsite.com/  
ctcongress2025](https://ctssar.wixsite.com/ctcongress2025)

**Home of the Mohegan  
Tribe and the first Native  
American to die in the  
American Revolution,  
Samuel Ashbow, who was  
killed at the battle of  
Bunker Hill.**

Event	Location	Date	Status
Liberty Tree Dedication "In Memory of Joseph Vancura, Jr."	Mount Gilead Methodist Church, 889 Arnold Mill Road, Woodstock, GA	Jan 04, 2025 10:00 am	State
Ten Crucial Days	Princeton Battlefield State Park 500 Mercer St., Princeton, NJ	Jan 05, 2025	National
Grave Marking Patriot Stephen Day	Grovetown City Hall 103 Old Wrightsboro Rd. Grovetown, GA	<b>(POSTPONED)</b>	State <b>(POSTPONED)</b>
Battle of Cowpens	Cowpens, NPS	Jan 17, 2025 8:00 am	National
Battle of Cowan's Ford	Hopewell Presbyterian Church, 10500 Beatties Ford Road, Huntersville, NC	Jan 25, 2025 7:30 am	National
Georgia Society SAR State Conference	Hilton Atlanta NE 5993 Peachtree Industrial Blvd Peachtree Corners, GA	Jan 31 12:00 pm - Feb 1 3:00 pm, 2025	State
Heroes of the Hornets Nest	Elijah Clark St. Park	Feb 07, 2025 12:00 pm	State
Battle of Kettle Creek	Washington, GA & War Hill	Feb 08, 2025	National
Crossing of the Dan	South Boston, VA	Feb 15, 2025 10:00am	National
George Washington Birthday	Multiple	Feb 22, 2025	National
Battle of Moore's Creek	Moore's Creek Battlefield 200 Moore's Creek Dr., Currie, NC	Feb 22, 2025 10:00 am	National
National Society SAR - Spring Leadership	Louisville, KY	Feb 27 8:00 am - Mar 1 5:00 pm, 2025	National
Brier Creek -Education & Commemoration	Brier Creek Battlefield,	Mar 7, 8:00am & Mar 8, 8:00am, 2025	State & National
Battle of Guilford Courthouse	Greensboro, NC	Mar 15, 2025 8:00 am	National
Last Naval Battle	Merritt Island, FL	Mar 15, 2025 10:00	National
Liberty Tree Planting	Mars Hill Cemetery, 2850 Mars Hill Church Road NW, Acworth, GA	Mar 15, 2025 11:00 am	National
Georgia State Society NSDAR - 127th State Conference	Augusta Marriott, Augusta, GA	Mar 19, 8:00 am - Mar 23, 5:00 pm, 2025	State
Battle of Thomas Creek	Seaton Creek Historic Preserve Park, Jacksonville, FL	Mar 29, 2025 10:00 am	National
Patriots Day - Frederica Naval Action	Saint Simons Island, GA	Apr 19, 2025 10:00am	National
Georgia Society BOM	Barnesville, GA	Apr 26, 2025 10:00am	State
Midway Church Service & Grave Marking (5)	Midway Cemetery Midway, GA	Apr 27, 2025 8:00am	State
Memorial Day Wknd	Various	May 24 - 26, 2025	National
Flag Day - Flag Retirement Ceremony	Ingram Funeral Home Cumming, GA	Jun 14, 2025 10:00am	National
Flag Day	Various	Jun 14, 2025	National

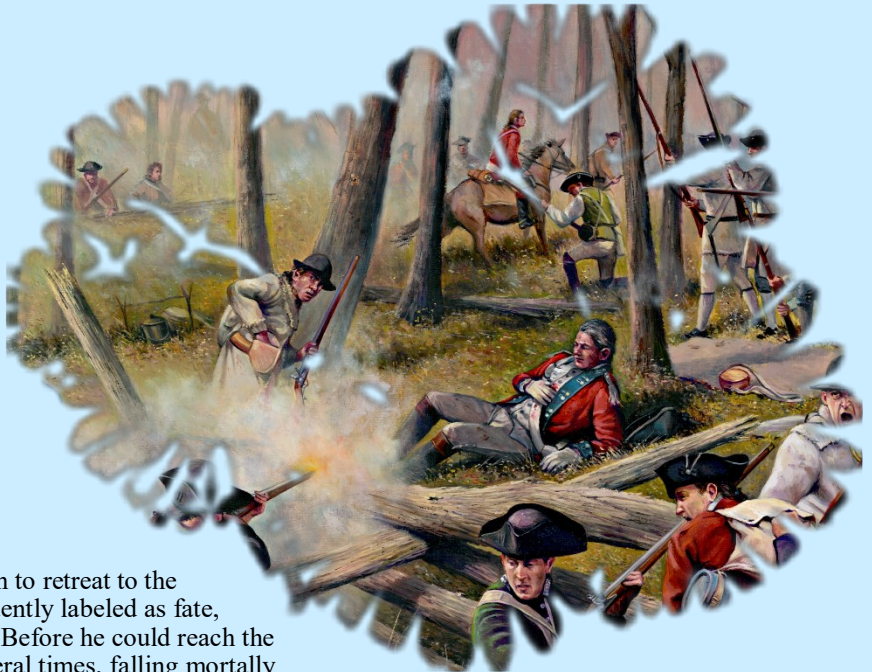
**British Political  
Cartoon: 1780 - Count  
de Rochambeau -  
French general of the  
land forces in  
America reviewing  
the French troops**



*COUNT DE ROCHAMBEAU  
General of the Land Forces in America Reviewing the French Troops*



**Kettle Creek Part. 7**  
Painting by Jeff Trexler



After the successful ambush, Boyd ordered his men to retreat to the camp by Kettle Creek. In one of those events frequently labeled as fate, Boyd fell to the ground, dying from a musket ball. Before he could reach the relative safety of his main force, Boyd was hit several times, falling mortally wounded on the field of battle.

As Pickens attacked in the center, his flanking columns under John Dooly and Elijah Clarke emerged from swampy ground on the left and right to join the assault on the Tory's main line. Boyd's regiment was now led by Major William Augustus Spurgeon Jr. the role despite only being third-in-command. Spurgeon's nominal superior, Lt. Col. John Moore, was either unwilling or unable to exercise the responsibility of command.

As the enemy line began to collapse, Col. Clarke noticed a ridge on the creek's south side that the Tories could potentially use as a rallying point on which to reform. Despite having his horse shot out from under him, Clarke took a portion of his company across the creek. As Clarke advanced up one side of the ridge, a portion of the Tory regiment under Spurgeon advanced up the other side, attempting to contest Clarke for control of the position.

*To Be Continued*

## 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 Jul -Sep 2011, Education Secretary Terry Manning offered this insight into the early formation of the Georgia Society.*

### “Pages from GASSAR History: 1921-1939”

While my wife and I were researching old records of the Georgia Society in Louisville in September, the following items caught our eye that may be of interest to several of our chapters:

**Formation** - The report of the Registrar General in April 1921 noted that, “Through the efforts of President General Preston, a new Society, with 16

members, was organized in [Atlanta] Georgia and a charter to that effect delivered.”

**First Chapter Charter** - In Volume 19 (1924-1925), issue 1, “The Minute Man” (official bulletin of NSSAR) reported under Georgia Society news that, “The new local S.A.R. Chapter, in process of organization at Dalton, will be able to announce a perfected organization and personnel of officers in the next issue of THE MINUTE MAN, it is hoped.” This initial effort apparently proved futile, as in Volume 22 (1927-1928), issue 2, the Georgia Society reported that, “The first local chapter to which the Georgia Society has given a charter has been formed at Milledgeville. The little group of thirteen compatriots located here have applied for and received a charter and are holding this number, symbolical of the Thirteen Original Colonies, as their “lucky” number.”

**More New Chapters** – In Volume 31, issue 3, of January 1937, the by now “SAR Magazine” mentioned that, “The renewal of activities in the Georgia Society continues to progress with most encouraging results. More than half a hundred new applications since the Portland Congress give evidence of the energetic work of Colonel James D. Watson, President, and his associates. Colonel Watson is planning the formation of chapters wherever the membership quota permits, and the latest to be formally launched is at Athens, which has formally organized under auspicious circumstances. Others are planned for Dalton, Stevens, Valdosta and Bainbridge, and Charter members for these are now being enrolled.” It further noted, “WINDER CHAPTER – This newly organized Chapter of the Georgia Society participated in the Armistice Day exercises at Winder by turning out with the Georgia State Flag and American Flag for the civic parade on November 11th.”

**Athens Charter** – The SAR Magazine gave this report of the Athens Chapter in Volume 31, issue 4, of April 1937, “Following the meeting at Atlanta, President General Kendall accompanied Col. Watson, State President...to Athens, where the Charter of this Chapter, and a number of Membership Certificates were presented to the Chapter President, Robert R. Gunn, at a most enthusiastic meeting.”

**State Flag** - In July 1937, the magazine gave this interesting news, “The Georgia Society also paid its compliments to the National Society at the recent annual Congress held at Buffalo, New York, by presenting through Colonel Watson, the Georgia State flag, and this with the Virginia flag which was also presented, completes the collection of flags of the original thirteen states, now owned with other state flags, by the National Society.”

**1938** – The October 1938 issue of the magazine reported that the Atlanta Chapter had doubled its membership during the past year, that the society had presented 37 R.O.T.C. medals in May, and it was endeavoring to establish the last resting place of William Few, Georgia Signer of the Constitution, believed to be in an unmarked vault in Beacon, New York.

**LaGrange Organized** – In January 1939, we read that the first formal meeting for purposes of organizing a chapter in LaGrange was held on October 11. The chapter was to be known as “La Grange Chapter No. 5.”

### Report From The



**Georgia Society SAR Education Committee**

Terry Manning

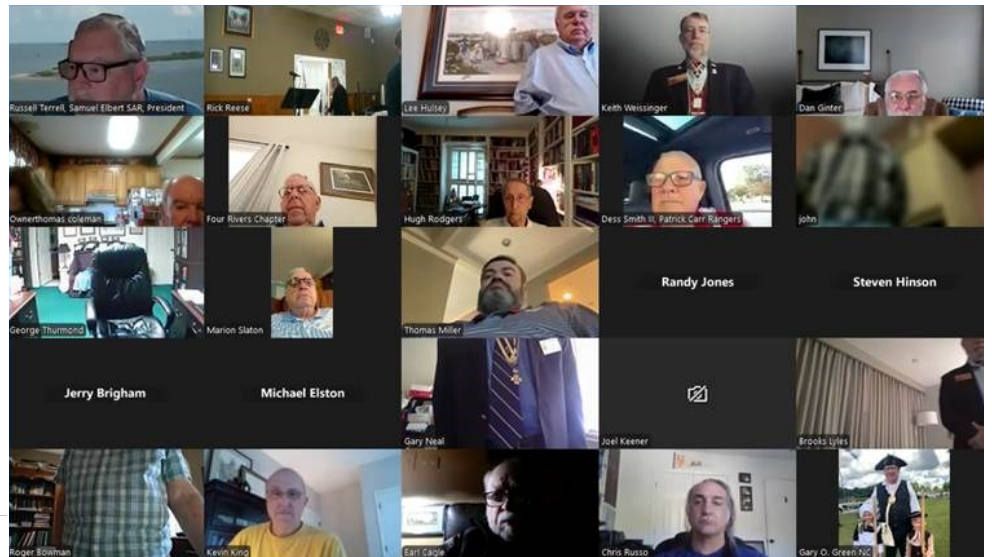


The video of the GASSAR Fall BOM meeting held on October 26, 2024 may be viewed by clicking on the YouTube link below:

<https://youtu.be/cfQeHjjGf4M>

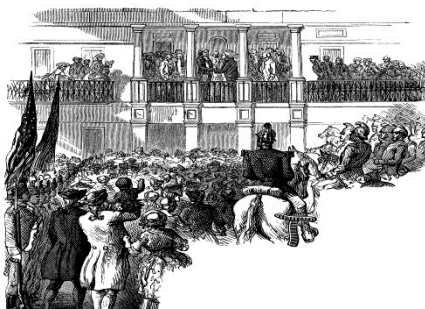


### BOM



### FALL LEADERSHIP

The Georgia Delegation doing what they do best !





**VICTORY AT YORKTOWN**



Above: The 243rd Anniversary of Battle of Yorktown.

Left: Parade of the Society, Washington's Family Descendants.

Below Left: Atlanta Chapter Past President Gregory Smith, right, stands with National NSSAR Color Guard Commander Scott Collins at the Grace Episcopal Church Cemetery after the 243rd Anniversary of Battle of Yorktown Victory Wreath-Laying Ceremony.



Below Right: The Collective Color Guard at the Wreath Laying Ceremony at the grave of Declaration of Independence signer, Thomas Nelson, Jr., at Grace Episcopal Church, Yorktown, VA.





## VETERANS DAY

Right: Neel Flannagan and Ted Walker of the Henry Laurens Chapter SCSSAR, and Ben Creech, Tommy Chappell, and Alton McCloud of the Little River Chapter GASSAR. They provided a color guard for the Veterans Day event at Wrens Baptist Church sponsored by the John Franklin Wren Chapter NSDAR in Wrens, GA.



## OCONEE VETERANS PARK



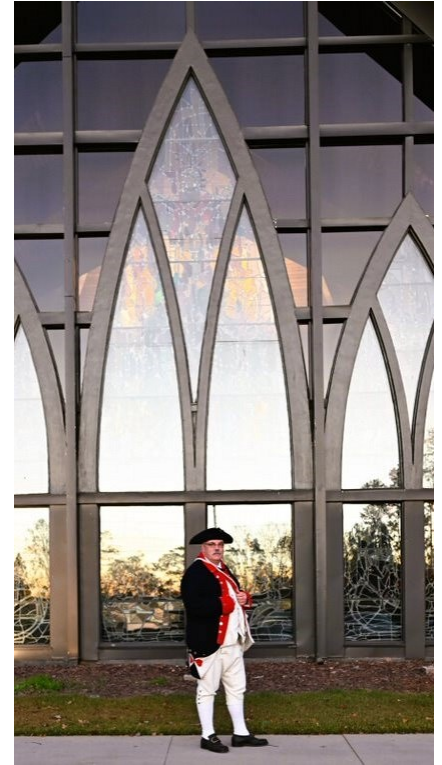


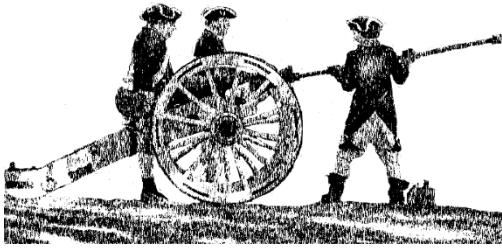


### SNELLVILLE CELEBRATION



# GAINESVILLE FIRST METHODIST THE BELIEVERS CONCERT BAND VETERANS CELEBRATION





**COME AND TAKE IT !**







After the “Smoke and Awe” of the Come and Take it Artillery Salute, and having packed away all the big guns, the Skunk Brigade relaxes at the local Sunbury establishment known for its seafood.



"SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE AND APPRECIATION" – SWAINSBORO





# WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA



Above and Left: December 8 Kickoff at the state capital.



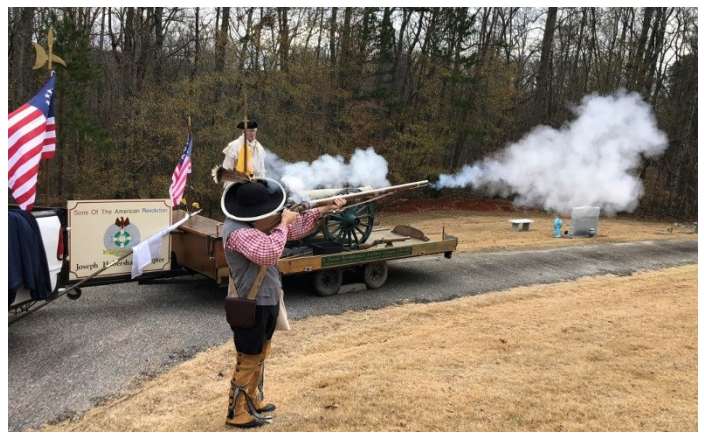
Right: Lyman Hall Compatriot Sid Hughes helping out at Alta Vista Cemetery in Hall County.



Left and Below: President Alton McCloud (L) and Secretary Gary Smith (A) attended Wreaths Across America at Bellevue Memorial Gardens and Cemetery in Grovetown.







Above and Right: Leslie Watkins, Ed Hendricks, Mike Watkins, David Louden participated in WAA in Habersham County.



Left: Recent Grave Marking Ceremony for Nathan Bowles provided a new location to leave a wreath at the Apple Valley Baptist Church in Jackson County.

Center Right: While at the Grave Marking in November, another service member who served was also found in the cemetery. He survived one of the most brutal transfer and imprisonment of POWs by the Japanese and lived to tell of it. Thank you for your service and sacrifice SSGT Potts.



Right: Not all service members in the Apple Valley Cemetery made it to the end of the war. Pvt. Joe Fred Smith, a name that could represent so many average, American boys sent off to defend their country, did not survive his assignment to North Africa in 1943. God bless you, and all those who gave all, that we may be a nation of free men.



Compatriots - Gary Hoyt requested that I lay a wreath on Luther Story's gravestone, a medal of Honor recipient, and I was honored to do so during the Wreaths Across America ceremony today, December 14. I have been a member of the of their Wreaths Across America program at Andersonville for 4 years and it is a moving and humbling experience.

Thanks to Gary for the excellent work he does to honor our troops!

I'm sure many of you participated in these ceremonies across Georgia today, which is very much appreciated! Please forward your news items and photos to Emil Decker for the Hornets Nest. Gary had this to say in an email about Luther Story, a true American hero.

*"It was an amazing crowd that gathered for Luther Story's homecoming. Governor Brian Kemp -- and what seemed like half the Georgia State Patrol -- escorted the cortege. His military escort was commanded by a two star army general who also served as the military speaker. The VA does not permit visitors at graveside during the actual burial."*

More and more veterans are returning home as a result of advanced DNA identification techniques. I have attended every returning Georgia veteran's funeral, save one. The most recent returnee was PFC Luther E. "Buck" Bagley, a Merrill's Marauder who was killed in action on July 25, 1944. His wife, Eleanor, turned 100 about a week after his funeral. I got to meet her and their son, "Woody," during the reception and funeral. His military escort was made up exclusively of Army Rangers.

Luther Story was a Korean War Medal of Honor Recipient. He served as a Private First Class in the United States Army in Company A, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2d Infantry Division. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for action on September 1, 1950 near Agok, Korea. In April 2023, the Department of Defense announced that Story's remains had been positively identified. He was buried in Andersonville National Cemetery in Section I, Grave 2400 on Memorial Day 2023.



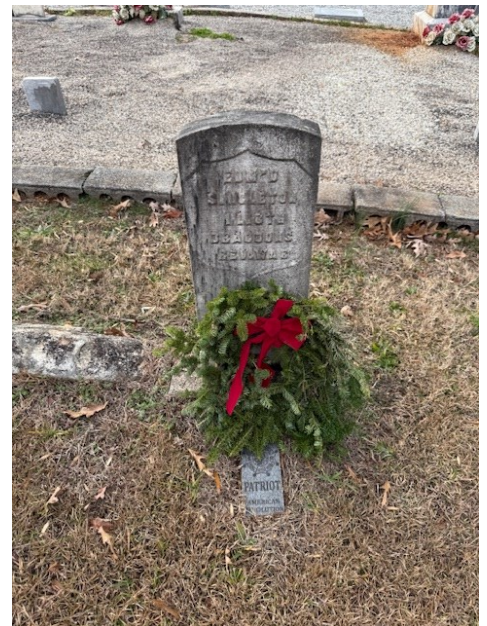
Left: John Trussell at the Andersonville National Cemetery gravesite of Luther Story, Medal of Honor recipient from the Korean War.

Right: As part of the tradition, BRMC participated in the opening ceremony of Wreaths Across America in Blairsville with 5 chapter members (Sid Turner, Stephen Weaver, Ted Claudette, Jared Ogden, and Richard Hoibraten participating. Following the ceremony, Turner, Caudette, and Weaver placed wreaths on the graves of known Revolutionary War Veterans



buried in the Northeast Georgia-Western North Carolina region. Plus, Chapter President Weaver, accompanied by Old Unicoi Trail Chapter NSDAR Regent Barbara Weaver, placed a wreath on the grave of a true champion of veterans, Ron Hill, who passed not too long ago.

Below: Robert Forsyth Color Guard with assistance from the scouts, raised the flag at the Sugar Hill Cemetery Ceremony for Wreaths Across America.



Above: Following the WAA Sugar Hill Cemetery Ceremony, wreaths were carried to Patriot graves in Forsyth and Dawson Counties by members of the Robert Forsyth Chapter. .

# National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution



## PROCLAMATION 2024 Wreaths Across America

WHEREAS, the organization Wreaths Across America coordinates wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as at more than 4,600 additional locations in all 50 states, at sea and abroad; and,

WHEREAS, the mission of Wreaths Across America is to remember the fallen, honor those who serve and teach our children the value of freedom; and

WHEREAS, Wreaths Across America has chosen "LIVE WITH PURPOSE" as its 2024 theme to encourage youth to get involved in their own communities to serve in even small ways that can make a big impact; and,

WHEREAS, one of the patriotic, historical, and education purposes of the Sons of the American Revolution is "to perpetuate the memory of those individuals who, by their services or sacrifices during the war of the American Revolution, achieved the independence of the American people;" and,

WHEREAS, the Sons of the American Revolution seeks to foster cooperative arrangements with patriotic organizations such as Wreaths Across America in pursuit of our common goals to honor, respect, and support veterans, and to inspire our communities to "a more profound reverence for the principles of the government founded by our forefathers;" and,

WHEREAS, Saturday, December 14, 2024, has been designated by the Wreaths Across America organization as the date for these wreath laying ceremonies to occur;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Darryl S. Addington, President General of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, encourage all Compatriots to join with Wreaths Across America and other patriotic, community, and veteran's organizations, on Saturday, December 14, 2024 to participate in wreath-laying ceremonies and activities in their communities and to help youth LIVE WITH PURPOSE.



Darryl S. Addington  
President General, 2024-2025



Above: One of the graves in Old Roswell belongs to WWI veteran Henry E Green, who was killed in action in France on Nov 7 1918, at the age of 23. That was just 4 days before the end of the war on November 11th, 1918. He was in the 118th Field Artillery Battalion.



Above: Mount Vernon Chapter President John Galt (Col. US Army Ret) honoring his fellow soldier. John Galt served in Vietnam and is a member of the Atlanta Vietnam Veterans Business Association.

Right: Peggy Galt (left) and ladies from the Martha Stuart Bulloch DAR placed wreaths from Wreaths Across America on Roswell Veterans Graves at the Old Roswell Cemetery.



**Below, you will find the submission guidelines for the 250th Anniversary license plate student design as outlined in SB369.**

If any of you have students in homeschools, private, or charter schools, please forward this to the respective contact so that your children and their classmates can participate in this design. I have talked with and sent this information to

The State of Georgia **will only disseminate this to the public schools in Georgia**, so the rest is up to us.

**YOUR HELP IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!!!**

If you have any questions, please email me here or call me at 706-831-6600. Richard L. Herron, 1st Vice President/Registrar, Brier Creek Chapter.

**Superintendents and Principals,**

**Please share this information with your art, design, and social studies teachers along with parents and families if you choose.**

As you may know, **Senate Bill 369** – passed during the 2024 legislative session – calls for the Georgia Departments of Revenue and Education to establish a selection process for the design of a license plate which commemorates the United States of America's semiquincentennial.

In accordance with this legislation, GaDOE and DOR are launching a student license plate design contest to commemorate the semiquincentennial – **the 250th anniversary of the 1776 Declaration of Independence**, which will be celebrated on July 4, 2026.

The final license plate will be selected from designs **submitted by students in grades six through eight in Georgia schools**. Any student in sixth, seventh, or eighth grade in a Georgia public, private, charter or homeschool may submit an entry. Entries should be submitted by the student's parent/guardian or by their teacher with parent/guardian permission.

Click here:

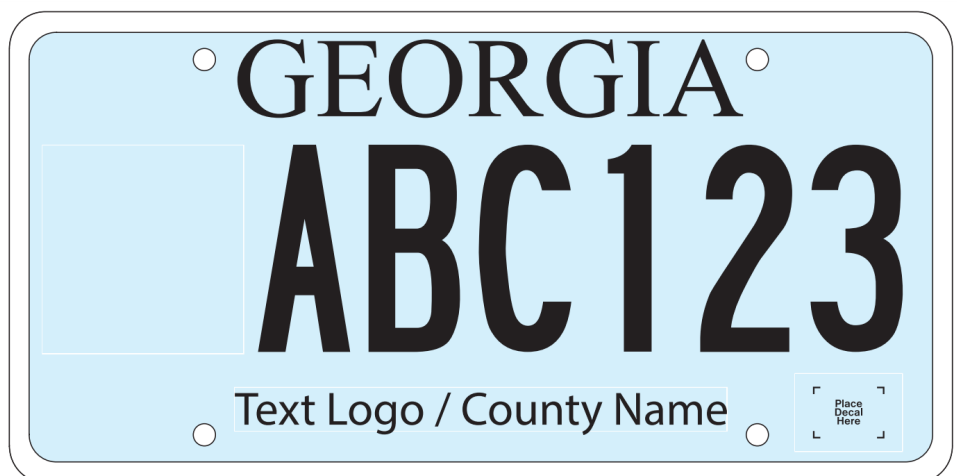
<https://lor2.gadoe.org/gadoe/file/bc4a1daf-c39b-4204-a69d-a10c4ebb0e4b/1/GaDOE%20DOR%20License%20Plate%20Contest%20Guidelines.pdf>

for detailed submission guidelines along with the application. Any questions may be directed to

[licenseplatecontest@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:licenseplatecontest@doe.k12.ga.us).

**The contest closes January 31, 2025 at 5 p.m.**

**Time is short  
Gentlemen, get this  
out to all your  
schools asap!!**



Background Area - 11.4375" (W) x 5.4375" (H)

# GRAVE MARKING CEREMONIES

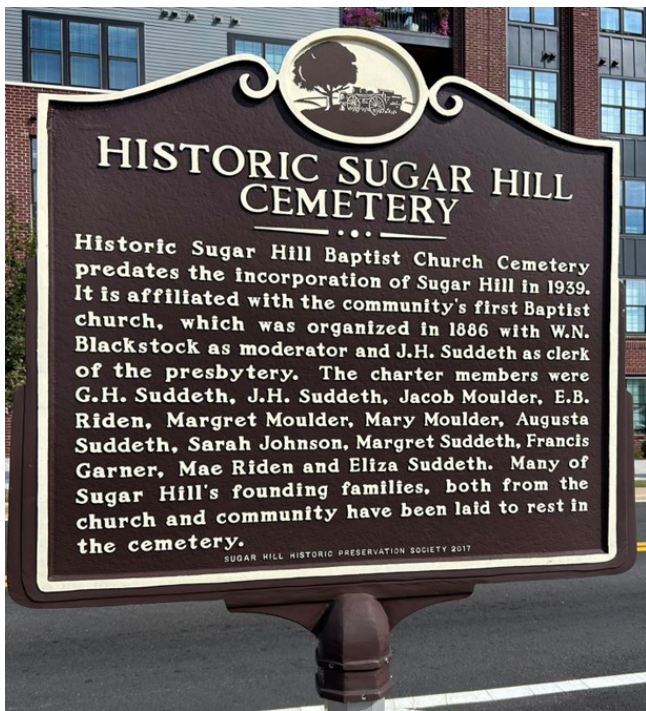


**ENOCH BENSON & ISAAC HORTON**

Patriot Benson was a native of Culpepper County, Virginia, where he enlisted and served in the Virginia Line. He later lived in the Greenville District, SC. In 1818, he moved to Gwinnett County, Georgia. He drew land in the 1827 Georgia Land Lottery as a Revolutionary War Soldier and resident of Gwinnett County. In 1840, he was drawing a pension for his services. The cemetery located nails in the soil with a metal detector at the site of his marking.



Patriot Horton was a soldier in the Continental Line and drew land in the 1832 Georgia Cherokee Land Lottery as a Revolutionary War Soldier and resident of Barker's District in Gwinnett County. In 1840, he was drawing a pension for his services. Isaac is buried in the Sugar Hill Baptist Church Cemetery.







# GABRIEL SMITH JR.



Patriot Gabriel Smith Jr. enlisted 1780, in Montgomery County, NC. Militia with Capt Thomas Child's Company. He later received a pension for his services and drew land in the 1825 Georgia Lottery as a Revolutionary War Soldier and resident of Franklin County. He rests in the Poplar Springs Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery.





# NATHANIEL BOWLES

*Patriot Nathan Valentine Bowles served in the Continental line, and received land in the 1825 Jackson Co, GA Land Lottery, 2 Draws for Revolutionary Service.*







**CONTENTMENT  
PLANTATION  
JOHN CALDER  
JAMES GILLIGANT, SR.  
CAPT JAMES NEPHEW  
JOHN COOPER**

*CAPT JAMES NEPHEW  
a patriot of Liberty and  
McIntosh Counties,  
served in the Col John  
Baker's Regiment,  
Liberty Co., GA Militia.*

*Patriot John Calder served as a Pvt. in the  
Georgia Militia under Colonel Elijah  
Clarke. In 1782, he enlisted in the South  
Carolina Lighthouse Dragons in Captains  
Harvey and Johnson's Companies  
commanded by Colonel Samuel  
Hammond. He was severely wounded in  
the Battle of Eutaw Springs and later was  
in General Andrew Pickens' Indian  
Expedition. He fought in the Battle of Little  
Terrapin, received a pension for services  
and is buried in Calder Cemetery*



JAMES GIGNELLIAT, Sr., (pronounced "Gin Lat") was a native of St. John's Parish, Berkeley County, SC. He served as an officer in the South Carolina Army or Militia from the Beaufort District. After the war, he settled on an inland rice plantation called Contentment." He served as the Commissioner of the Peace in the Beaufort District, South Carolina and later was a delegate to the National Convention from McIntosh County, Georgia.



JOHN COOPER served as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Georgia Troops, and later a Commissioner of the Peace. Tradition has him wounded twice during the Battle of Bull Town Swamp as he led the calvary charge in Savannah after Pulaski's fall.









## JOHN IREDELL TATE

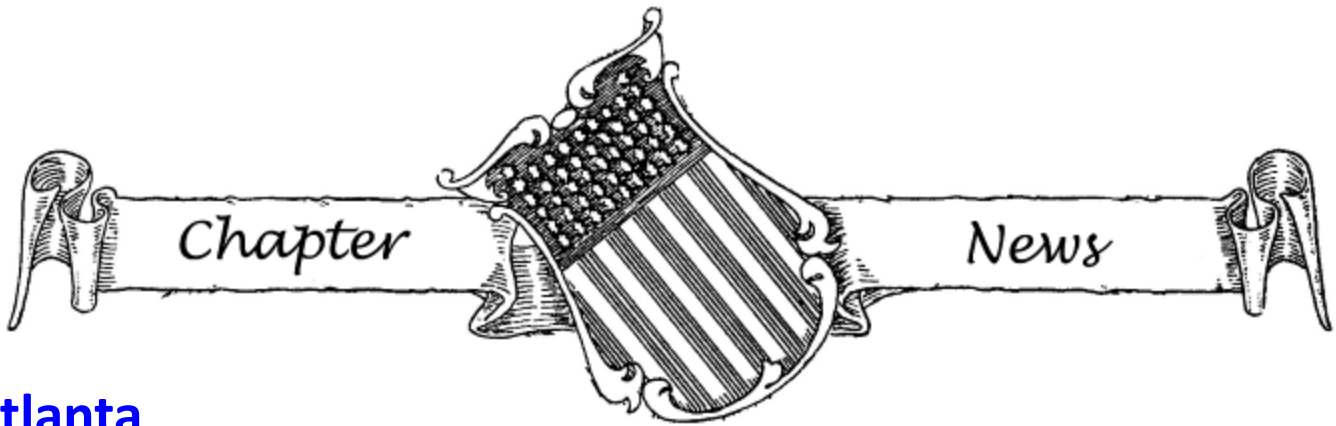
John Iredell Tate, originally a native of Londonderry, Ireland, he came to America in 1763. He enlisted in Shippensburg, Pennsylvania and served as a private under Colonel Dunlap. After the war, he lived in Maryland, Pittsburgh, and Burke County, NC. In 1796, he moved to Franklin County, Georgia where he drew land in the 1825 and 1827 Georgia Land lotteries. He later received a pension for his services.











## Atlanta

Right: Atlanta Chapter Members George Wysong III, left, Past President Gregory Smith, right, and Atlanta Chapter DAR member Elizabeth Wysong, center, along with George's wife Brenda Wysong, attended the 243rd Anniversary of Battle of Yorktown Victory Wreath-Laying Ceremony Saturday, October 19th 2024 at Grace Episcopal Church in Yorktown, Virginia. The Yorktown Victory Monument is a monument erected in Colonial National Historical Park in Yorktown, Virginia, commemorating the 1781 victory at Yorktown and the alliance with France & Spain that brought about the end of the war.



Below Left: Spain was well represented Spanish Army, Navy, Air Force members as well as a descendent of Spanish Patriots of the American Revolution.

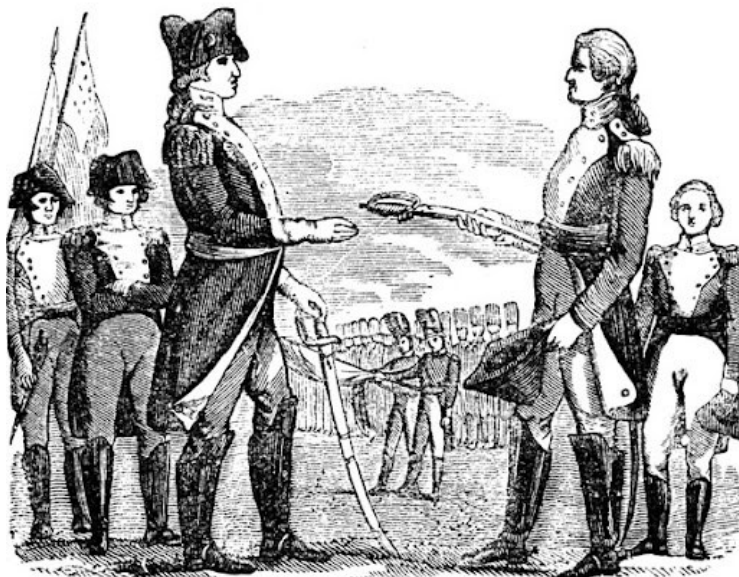
Below Right: After this National SAR Event, George Wysong III and his sister Elizabeth Wysong, both members of the National Society of the Washington Family Descendants, marched with other NSWFD members and their spouses' in the Yorktown Day Parade.





Left: Past President Gregory Smith represented the Atlanta Chapter & the New Mexico Society, Sons of the American Revolution during the Grave Marking Ceremony for Revolutionary War Patriots Enoch Benson & Isaac Horton at the Sugar Hill Historic Cemetery, Saturday, November 2, 2023 in Sugar Hill, GA.

Elizabeth Wysong and Jane Bronner represented the Atlanta Chapter NSDAR by presenting a wreath to honor the Patriots.



## Blue Ridge Mountains

Right: First Methodist Church, Gainesville Veterans Day Concert.

Below: Members John Mays and Devon Turner (not shown) were awarded the Henry Knox Achievement Medal. Henry Knox was Washington's Chief of Artillery. Early in the war, he retrieved cannons the British had abandoned at Fort Ticonderoga, New York. In a remarkable journey, he transported cannons with a total weight of 120,000 pounds over snow and ice over 300 miles.





Above: Tommy Westbrook was awarded the distinguished Service Medal for his efforts as editor of The Mountaineer, the chapter newsletter.

Below: Ray Covington, Superintendent of the Georgia Mountain Research and Education Center received a Good Citizenship Medal.



Center: Barbara Weaver, Regent of the Old Unicoi Trail Chapter National Society Daughters of the American Revolution was awarded the Martha Washington Medal for support of SAR activities.

Below: President of Texas Border Rescue, Mark Medina, spoke of his organization's work, saving lives. Border Cartels are ruthless. The news only reports a fraction the deviant acts the cartels inflict. He explained that for the cartels, it is all about money. Human life and suffering are necessary incidentals. During illegal crossings, cartel guides (coyotes) abandon crossers who are unable to complete the harrowing journey. Those left behind are stripped of valuable provisions such as water, food, and clothing, which might increase their survival rate. The purpose of the Texas Border Rescue is to search for and save those abandoned. He reported from personal observation that it is not unusual for coyotes to steal the possessions of the healthy crossers and rape the women and girls. Boys and girls, are frequently kidnapped from their parents and then sold to sex traffickers in the US.







Left: The Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter awarded John Mays, III the Annual Sockdolager Award. The award is presented each December to a chapter member who, in the judgment of the chapter president, contributed significantly to the betterment of the chapter. The award is a lighthearted way to express appreciation for the efforts of that member during the year.

The Sockdolager Award was first awarded in pre-covid years in recognition of President George Washington's visit to Savannah in 1791. While in Savannah, Washington was lavishly entertained at a ball attended by Savannah's leading citizens. The Chatham Artillery military unit was tasked with providing liquid refreshments. The punch was considered a roaring success, enlivening the spirits of all in attendance.

Unfortunately, the recipe for the punch was lost to time, or more likely, it was never recorded. Restaurants in Savannah continue to serve Chatham Artillery Punch. Each restaurant claims to use the original recipe; however, each recipe is different. The Chatham Artillery Punch, prepared by the Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter, SAR, combines the recipes used in the various Savannah restaurants.

## Brier Creek

Right: The Brier Creek Militia, consisting of Pres. Steve Burke, Wiregrass Chapter, Vice Pres.

Lee Herron, Brier Creek Chapter and Sgt-at-Arms Don Bazemore, traveled to Savannah, Georgia to participate in the Siege of Savannah Anniversary Event, Oct. 9. Attendance was around 200 not including 12 Georgia Society SAR Militia Members."



Below: President Wayne Howard presented the Chapters 8th U.S. Flag Certificate to the Principal of the Screven County Middle School.





Left: The Brier Creek Artillery traveled to Contentment Bluff Plantation Cemetery at Shellman Bluff.

Below: Fort Morris, "Come and Take It" event on Saturday, November 23.. The Artillery group is made up of members of the Brier Creek Chapter and the Wiregrass Chapter.



## Button Gwinnett



Left: "Westward Migration on the Old National Trail" was presented by Compatriot Eldon Evans during the October Meeting.

Below: Tom Jacques, Jack Martin and Ray Kyle were at the Elisha Winn House Fair doing presentations of the Button Gwinnett SAR Traveling Trunk.



Left: Snellville Veterans Celebration

Below : Chillin' at the Oconee Veteran's Park on Veterans Day.



On Saturday, October 19, 2024, the following Button Gwinnett Compatriots, and spouses attended the Wreath Laying Ceremony at the grave of Declaration of Independence signer, Thomas Nelson, Jr., at Grace Episcopal Church, Yorktown, VA:

1. Randy Tindall (Civilian)
2. Emily Tindall (Philadelphia Winn DAR)
3. Noah Tindall (Continental) - Color Guard, presented Georgia Society C.A.R. wreath
4. Debbie Kyle (William Day DAR) - presented chapter wreath
5. Ray Kyle (Continental) - Color Guard/Musket Escort, presented chapter wreath
6. Don McCarty (Continental) - Color Guard, presented Georgia Society Patriots and Compatriots Grave Marking Committee wreath
7. David McCarty (Civilian)
8. Maryland McCarty (Philadelphia Winn DAR)
9. Jack Martin (Continental) - Color Guard
10. Mary Martin (Philadelphia Winn DAR) - presented chapter wreath
11. Marty Bush (Continental) - Color Guard
12. Debbie Bush (William Day DAR)



Right and Below: Eli & Wayne Stancel were in uniform for the Fort Daniel Faire which has been their tradition for several years – to help educate the Elisha Winn Society C.A.R. and other faire attendees.



Below: Marine Corps Private Matthew Russell Walters, a recent graduate from 13 weeks basic training at Parris Island, SC was inducted into the Button Gwinnett Chapter SAR, while home on leave.



Right: L-R James Walters, Jeannie Walters, Matthew Walters, Tina Harris and Button Gwinnett Chapter President Ray Kyle. James and Jeannie Walters are the grandparents of Matthew Walters and Tina Harris is the great-grandmother of Matthew Walters.



Below: The SAR Gold 250th Anniversary Medal was presented to Button Gwinnett Chapter Color Guard Commander Bill Palmer



Below: Pink bows on a skunk cap? You bet!



Above and Below: President Ray Kyle received his SAR Supplemental Certificate for Patriot Fletcher Sullivan as well as SAR National Congress in July 2024 awards The Chapter - President General's Education Outreach Certificate & Streamer, The President General's Cup Certificate, 3rd Place - Chapters of 91+ members. Other Streamers received included: The Gathering at Sycamore Shoals, The Battle of Yorktown and TNSSAR Compatriot Grave Markings.





Left: Harold Ford was presented with the Liberty Medal, Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster which was received at the SAR National Congress in July 2024.



Right: Presenter Jim Freeman gave a presentation on "The United States Constitution". Jim Freeman served during the Korean War Era in the U.S. Air Force, in the U.S. Naval Air Reserve, North Carolina National Guard, completing 22 years military service in the U.S. Army and Army Reserve in 1976. His service included two combat tours in Vietnam.

Right: Button Gwinnett Chapter SAR Charter Member James Edward Walters, was inducted into the Georgia Military Veterans Hall of Fame on November 2, 2024.



Right: Compatriot William "Bill" Benson Wood was inducted into the Button Gwinnett Chapter Sons of the American Revolution by Georgia SAR Senior Vice President William Floyd.

Left: Compatriot Joshua Steven White was flown home by his father Compatriot Steve White as a surprise for his mother Kris Fitch White. President Ray Kyle had the honor of presenting Josh to the Button Gwinnet Chapter during the December Meeting.



Right: Button Gwinnett President Ray Kyle Presented the SAR Chapter Medal for Distinguished Service to Immediate Past President Thomas Leo Jacques.

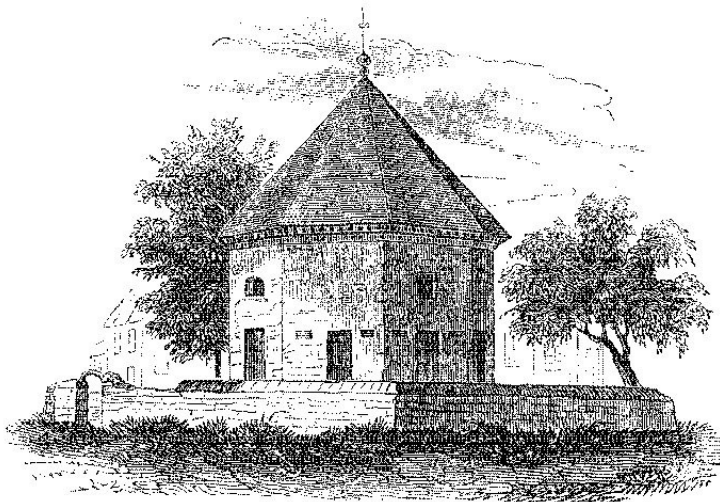


Left: **5 Year** - Donald Henry McCarty, Jr., David Christopher McCarty, Mark Harold Smith, Raymond Francis Kyle, Sr., Sean Philip Fritchey, Thomas Eugene Hopkins, Jr., Edward Warren Haire & Thomas Mark Smith



Left: **10 Year** - Ralph Charles Galpin, Bennie Eugene Koon, Stewart Albert Woodard, Rigsby Barclay Barnes, Jr., Kenneth Warren Keown & John Coker Goodwin, III

Below: **25 Years** - Frank William Quinn & Eric Paul Osborne.





Left: The SAR Lydia Darragh Medal was presented to Deborah Burns.

Below: SAR Medal of Appreciation (Oak Leaf Cluster)– was presented to Maryland McCarty, Mary Martin and Lynn Baxter Jacques by President Ray Kyle (Picture L-R)



Above: Button Gwinnett SAR 2025 Chapter Officers were installed by Georgia SAR Senior Vice President William N. Floyd, Jr. Pictured L-R – Eldon Evans – Historian, Don Schmidt – Sergeant at Arms, Harold Ford – Registrar, David Sikes – Genealogist, Marty Bush – 2nd VP, Jack Marting - 1st VP, Don McCarty – Treasurer, Harry Kitchings – Chaplain, Tom Jacques – Immediate Past President, Ray Kyle – President, Bill Floyd – Georgia SAR Senior VP

## Capt. John Collins

Right: South Georgia climate brings out the skunks and their mates. President William Edelen and his wife Janet at Contentment Cemetery in Townsend.

Below: Bill renders honors at the Sugar Hill Grave Marking Ceremony for Enoch Benson and Isaac Horton.



Left: Captain John Collins members at the Gabriel Smith Grave Marking Ceremony



# WOODCRAFT'S TURN FOR TROOPS

SUBMITTED BY JANET EDELEN & BRENDA BAKER KING



Kennesaw Mountain Chapter, NSDAR members Janet Edelen and Brenda King and Captain John Collins Chapter, NSSAR members Bill Edelen and Dan King spent a portion of the day Sunday, November 10, 2024, turning pens for the troops to honor our active servicemen and veterans.

Woodcraft's Turn for Troops event in 2023 produced 13,692 wooden pens for United States active service members and veterans, pushing the program's 20-year total to over a quarter million.

"Woodcraft is thrilled to have so many dedicated volunteers and employees who have helped achieve this huge milestone for our military men and women," Beth Coffey, vice president of sales and marketing, said in a statement. More information is available at

[woodcraft.com](http://woodcraft.com).



# Coweta Falls

Center: On December 4, 2024 members of the Coweta Falls Chapter decorated a Christmas tree on Broadway in Columbus, GA as part of the Uptown Tree Trail. They were assisted by members of the Oglethorpe Chapter, DAR; George Walton Chapter, DAR; and the Lucy Spell Raiford Society, C.A.R.

We included on the tree bulbs with QR codes on them. The public can scan the codes to learn more about the SAR, DAR, CAR, and the 250th. The trees will be on display until the first of January 2025



# Fall Line

Below Right: In attendance at the November meeting was Georgia Society President Ed Rigel Jr. who talked with us about the status of the State Society.

Below: Compatriot Randy Jones, President of the Mill Creek Chapter in Statesboro then presented the "Iroquois Constitution" as the evening's program.



Right: Members of the Skunk Brigade, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution, traveled to Sandersville, GA to participate in the Kaolin Festival Parade for the first time. Those attending were Fall Line Region Vice President Dess Smith III, Sgt - at - Arms Southern District Don Bazemore.



Below: Past South Carolina State President Ted Walker, Wiregrass Chapter President Steve Burke, and Little River Chapter President Alton McCloud."



## Four Rivers Patriots

Below: Mike Lisenby, a retired lawyer, accompanied by his wife Nancy, spoke to us on the "Formation of the Colonies, 1600's/1700's".



# Little River

Georgia Society President Edward P. Rigel Jr. of the Robert Forsyth Chapter SAR in Cumming, GA inducted our officers for the new year and presented his program on "Scots in the American Revolution". Chapter Officers L to R: Bobby Felder, Sergeant At Arms; Bill Colbert, Chaplain; Bob Gibson, Historian; Mack Shealy, Treasurer; Jim Blanchard, 1st VP and Chancellor; Alton McCloud, President; (Ed Rigel Jr, State President), William Tankersley, Registrar/Editor; Gary Smith Sr., Secretary; Lewis Smith, 2nd VP.



Right: The Little River Chapter militia gave us a good flintlock volley after our new officers were sworn in. From left to right they are: Tommy Chappell, Jimmy Chappell, and Don Thomas. Nice fire and smoke. I wonder what the charge was?



Below: William Tankersley and Gary Smith presented Law Enforcement Medals to Grovetown Chief of Police Jamey Kitchens and Mayor Gary Jones (a 37-year law enforcement veteran). They also presented a Life Saving Medal to David Carlin. All recipients were very surprised and honored.



Center: Sadly, we lost Chapter Compatriot W. Wiley Johnson on Nov. 14 after a long battle with leukemia. Wiley was a retired US Air Force LTC and commercial airline pilot. A native of Thomson GA, he was a former mayor of Summerville, SC.



Left: Chapter 2nd VP Lewis Smith gave the keynote address at the Wrens First Baptist Church Veterans Day event. A U.S. Navy Veteran, Lewis gave a talk on an experience of his while serving titled “A Burial in the South China Sea.”

Below Left: On Dec 6 at the Thomson – McDuffie County 1st responders banquet held at the Thomson Depot, 2nd VP Lewis Smith, President Alton McCloud, and Compatriot Bobby Anthony presented the Fire Safety Commendation medal to Zachary Sapp, and the EMS Commendation to Brooke Gray. Sapp and Gray are employed by the Thomson-McDuffie Fire and EMS. Pictured from left to right are: Chief Stephen Sewell, Sapp, Smith, McCloud, Anthony, and Gray.

Below Right: On Dec 10, Chaplain Bill Colbert was presented with the NSDAR Hannah White Arnett Bronze Medal of Distinction for extraordinary cooperation and outstanding services to the NSDAR. Congratulations, Bill.



Left: Patricia Colbert, member of the College Hill Chapter NSDAR, with husband Bill, at the DAR meeting where he received the medal.

# Lyman Hall

Left: Mike Watkins welcomes newly inducted Compatriot Ronald Patton at the Oct. meeting.



Below: Chuck Olson; Georgia Society's State Chancellor was the Program Speaker, who entertained and educated the assembled with the creation and development of Georgia's Colonial era Court System



Below: Professor Carter Wood can teach anything. He recently presented twelve sessions on "The Cold War" 1945-1991 to the Brenau University Learning and Leisure Institute.



Below: Early Monday morning at Mundy Mill Elementary for Veterans Day. Presented to over 850 students and guests.



Left: Dual member J.C. Hustis was at Oconee Veterans Park later that day, and at Snellville as well.

Below: The evening ushered in the Believer's Concert Band's Veterans Day performance.



Left: The "Frozen Foursome" at the Christmas parade in Monroe.

# Marshes of Glynn

Right: Potential Member Blain Jenkins brought us a presentation on Lt. Col.

John McIntosh for our October meeting. Blain was in period dress and did his speech in a Scottish accent.

Below: McIntosh County Sheriff Stephen Jessup was presented a SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal for his service to the citizens of McIntosh County. His wife, Nora Howell Jessup was with him.



Getting ready for the Patriot Grave markings for 4 patriots in Townsend, GA required a fair amount of cleanup work.

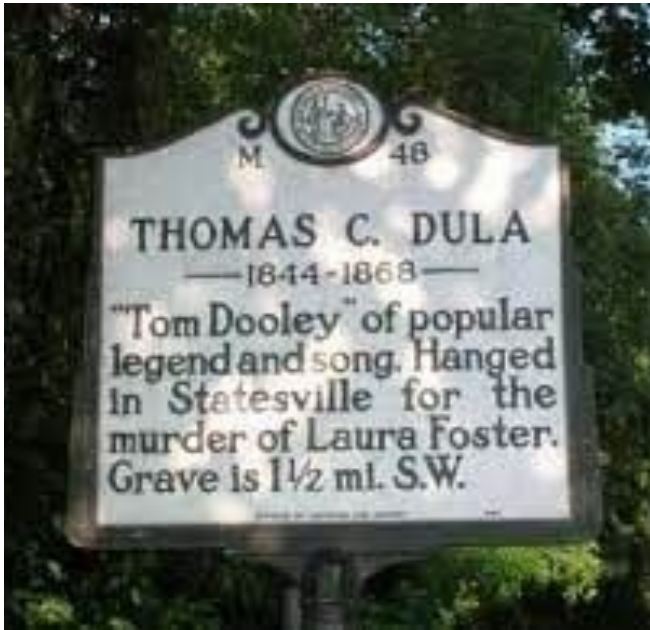




# Mill Creek

Center: The Mill Creek Chapter held its October meeting, where Hu Daughtry presented his program on "The Ballard of Tom Dula/Dooly".

Below: [Editor's Note:] Years ago, I was travelling the backroads of North Carolina, taking interest in the many state historic markers along the way. Also being a Folk song enthusiast as well as a fan of US history, This one caught my attention right away.



Below: After the invocation and Pledges to the U.S. Flag and the SAR, President Randy introduced prior member Frank Parker who is reinstating his membership. Welcome back Frank! (L - R) Randy, President Ed Rigel Jr., and Frank.



# Mount Vernon

Left: Past SAR President General Larry Guzy was the October Speaker, who spoke about 'The First Continental Congress.



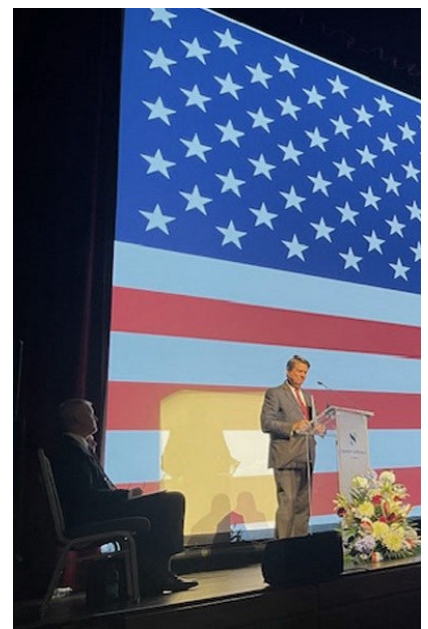
Below: Special Guest Ellen M. Davidson is from the Joseph Habersham Chapter of the DAR - Atlanta, GA. In the interest of sharing ideas and programs with the DAR and the C.A.R., the Mount Vernon Chapter invites fellow organization members to attend our Chapter meetings.



Right: Good food, good friends, good times at the Mt. Vernon meeting.



Below Left, Center and Right: Shep Hammack (in uniform), William Floyd, John Galt (in military uniform) and Chuck Olson (in military uniform) honored our soldiers by attended the Veterans Day ceremony in Sandy Springs Georgia. The ceremony began at Byers Theatre at the Sandy Springs Performing Arts Center, then moved to Veterans Park, where our chapter sponsored a Trident Maple "Liberty Tree" late last year. Sandy Springs Mayor Rusty Paul gave the Veterans Day message to the attendees.



Chuck Rann attended the Roswell Veterans Day ceremony at Roswell Park. Roswell Mayor Kurt Wilson gave an excellent speech about Veterans.



Below: The Mount Vernon Chapter welcomed 4 new members at the November meeting. Tom Loftis, Matt & Parker Ranlett, and Mac Trotter received their SAR membership paperwork from Louisville, and were inducted into the SAR by President John Galt.

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!



**TOM LOFTIS**

**MATT RANLETT**

**PARKER RANLETT**

**MAC TROTTER**



Above: Chapter President John Galt and past President William N. Floyd Attended Grave Marking Saturday - November 2nd



Center: Warren & Susan McPhillips took stockings (with personal items) to the Atlanta VA hospital in Decatur Georgia.

"Susan McPhillips is a member of the The United Daughters of the Confederacy, who's organization gathered Christmas stockings for Veterans at the Atlanta VA hospital on Friday November 22 in Decatur Georgia.

Pictured here is Santa's helper, Warren McPhillips."



Vietnam Veteran and Chapter President Galt, along with Veterans Committee Chairman Hamilton McDonald sponsored our chapter drive to collect personal items for Veterans this quarter. Members brought in items to the November meeting that included: 37 cans, boxes, or packages of food items; 6 pkgs or 46 pair of socks; 3 pkgs or 12 T-shirts; 10 men's briefs; 2 stocking caps; 3 pkgs or 6 safety razors; 75 personal hygiene items (toothpaste, tooth brushes, dental floss, deodorant, shaving cream, etc.); 16 wash cloths and 1 hair brush. "Thank You for Your Service" cards were also collected and included with the items.



Left, Right, and Below: Mount Vernon member, and C.A.R. Liaison as well as past National President C.A.R. Kevin Baker, spoke about 'The Uniforms of the Revolutionary War' at the December Meeting.





Left: Mount Vernon chapter Scouting Chairman Chuck Olson presented NSSAR Eagle Scout Certificates to four Eagle Scouts from Troop 372 in Buckhead. The Eagle Scouts are (L to R): Gracie Urban, Katie Fair, Elyse Chen, and Addison Baer.

## Ocmulgee

Right: Ocmulgee Chapter members, left, John Trussell, Chuck Garnett, Jack Trussell and DAR member Billie Trussell marched behind the lead car in the Milledgeville Christmas Parade. In the lead car was Shae Cowart Council, a sprinter who won two gold medals in the 2000 Paralympic Games in Sydney, Australia.

Below: Joel Stair, President of the John Milledge Chapter , served as Santa Claus. His father, Terry Stair, past President of the John Milledge Chapter, served as the parade Santa for many years before he recently passed away.



Above: John Trussell, Chuck Garnett, Jack Trussell marched in the parade.



# Piedmont

Below: Piedmont Chapter members Craig Benton, Rick Reese III, and Ron Redner presented the colors at the Roswell Veterans Day event.



Below: Craig Benton looks on as a member of the Honor Guard during the Roswell Veterans Day event.



Below: The Piedmont Chapter held our monthly meeting on December 14, 2024 celebrating the Christmas holiday

season featuring special musical entertainment from our guest speakers Santa Claus, Mrs. Claus, and Jingle Jeannie, as they presented a "Red, White, and Blue Christmas".



# Robert Forsyth

Below Left: Compatriot Emil Decker presented his medical practices in the 18th Century to the Patriots of Liberty DAR at their Sept. meeting. C.A.R. members were in attendance, and got some "hands-on" opportunities.

Below Right: Emil is the Sr. Librarian for the GA Society, Children of the American Revolution, and is working with their Librarian, Jansen, in promoting reading literature surrounding the Revolution.



Left: J.C. Hustis in one of three appearances on Veterans Day.

Below: Compatriot Decker presents a wreath at Contentment Plantation Cemetery Grave Marking Event.

Below: President Christopher Russo receives a Certificate for Cosponsoring the Sugar Hill Grave Marking Event. Robert Forsyth was a cosponsor of many Grave Markings this year.



Right: GASSAR President Ed Rigel, Jr. presented a Flag Certificate to the Georgia Building Authority. The GBA provides maintenance and building management services for state facilities on Capitol Hill and is responsible for, among other things, the proper display of the US Flag inside the Capitol Building. The attached picture shows President Rigel and Callie DuBose, representing the GBA.

Below: Weaver Law Group received a Flag Certificate for the proper display of the American Flag. They were among the first in our area to fly their flag at half staff after President Carter passed away. Office Manager Lacey Oglie received the certificate with pleasure at being recognized.



Below: J.C. Hustis a Robert Forsyth Chapter member marched in the St Augustine Fla Christmas Parade. He marched with the local DAR Chapter. It was a 2 mile parade winding through Historic St. Augustine.



Above: Back in town in time to help out with Wreaths Across America at a blustery Shadowlawn.





Above: Probably the best turnout for the Robert Forsyth Militia was at the Sugar Hill Grave Marking for Enoch Benson and Isaac Horton. Four of us in the firing line! (and two in the Color Guard).



Left: Sugar Hill Grave Marking was bittersweet as Compatriot Thomas Slaughter (second from left front row), our Sgt-At-Arms would pass away soon after.

## William Few

Right: The Brier Creek Artillery traveled to Augusta, GA to bring their program to the William Few Chapter on December 2. The Artillery group is made up of members of the Brier Creek and the Wiregrass Chapter, with Steve Burke, Lee Herron and Bernard Martin presenting. Each one of these Compatriots has built a 6 -pounder Cannon and fires it regularly at events all over Georgia. Each has trained and certified through the "National Civil War Artillery Association".



# Wiregrass

Right: Compatriot Hu Daughtry of the Mill Creek Chapter, gave his presentation on "The Ballad of Tom Dula/Dooley" at the Oct. meeting.

Below: Dess Smith presented the Flag Certificate to 2nd Vice President Gary Mason and his wife Terrisa in recognition of exemplary Patriotism in the display of the Flag of the United States of America in the correct way.



Right: Ransom Schwerzler, who is the director for the Meadow Gardens in Augusta gave a wonderful November presentation on "George Walton and the Meadow Gardens".



Below: "The Veterans at the Library" were busy attending all the Emanuel County School System - Veterans Day Events. At 12:00 Thursday, 7th, 31 Veterans enjoyed a luncheon at the Twin City Elementary School where we were entertained by the TCE singing group.

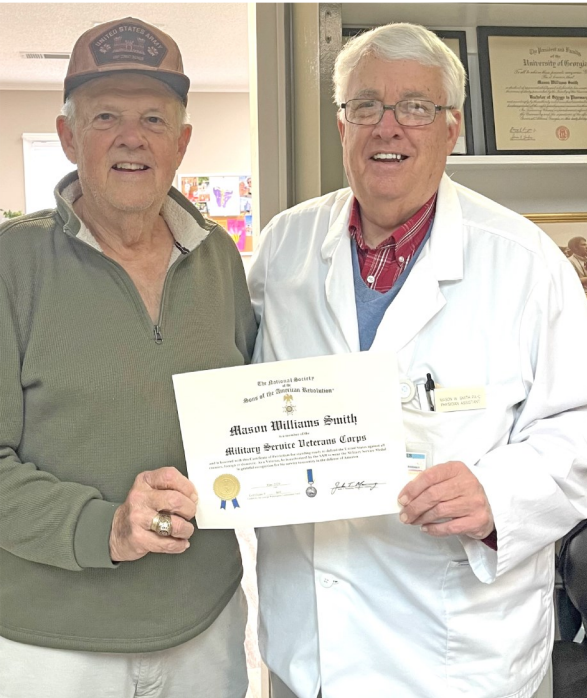
At 1:30 we arrived at the ECI auditorium where we listened to the ECI High School band play and a program presented by the students. On Friday the 8th, 25 Veterans arrived at Swainsboro High School for an outstanding luncheon and watched the famous Swainsboro High School Color Guard post the colors. Then on Monday morning, Nov. 11th, 45 veterans arrived at the Swainsboro Elementary School for a great luncheon and listened to a student program. At 12:30, 45 Veterans went to the Swainsboro Middle School where the veterans were treated to 20 pretend wax figures. When we stepped on a star on the floor in front of each wax figure (student) it would come alive and recite what soldier they represented, a little about the soldier, what war they fought in and when they died. Emmanuel County students impressed our veterans and we are proud of the respect they have for our history."





Left: Compatriot Steve Burke traveled to Edmond Burke Academy in Waynesboro, GA to present his "Traveling Trunk". Steve is a survivalist and travels all over the south educating students and adults on what it was like living in revolutionary war days. Steve was asked by Mrs. Angie Gay Brantley to present his program to 4 classes, Two 5th grades and two 6th grades for a total of 61 students.

Below: Wiregrass Chapter traveled to Twin City, GA to present their program to Amanda Reynolds 4 classes totaling 86 students at Emanuel County Institute on December. President Steve Burke, 1st Vice President Alton Reynolds and 2nd Vice President Gary Mason presented.



Above: Registrar Dess Smith III had the pleasure of awarding his brother Mason Williams Smith, Sr. the National Society's Sons of the American Revolution Military Service Veterans Corps Certificate.



Right: The Late Fred D. Womack was the founder of our Wiregrass Chapter. Out of Fred's desire for increased knowledge of the American Revolution and a desire to make a difference in his community, the idea to charter a SAR Chapter in Swainsboro evolved. To carry Compatriot Fred's legacy, our Board of managers decided a great way to honor Fred was to name our Annual Award for our most outstanding chapter member after him. President Steve asked Richard Gary Mason to come forward with his wife Teresa to pin his medal and Judy Womack presented Gary with the certificate named after her late husband Fred.



# LADIES AUXILIARY

The Georgia Society Ladies Auxiliary is open to wives, mothers, daughters, grand-daughters, sisters, aunts, nieces, and other women related by marriage or bloodline to members in good standing in the SAR or deceased members who were in good standing.



The cost to join the Ladies Auxiliary is \$25 for a lifetime membership. The application may be found at [https://www.nlasar.org/galaux/images/galaux\\_app.pdf](https://www.nlasar.org/galaux/images/galaux_app.pdf) and may be sent to President Brandy Rigel at [brandyleigh16@gmail.com](mailto:brandyleigh16@gmail.com).

The Ladies Auxiliary is seeking officers for the 2025 term. Anyone interested in serving is encouraged to contact Nominating Committee Member Malone Moore at [rwmkm1@gmail.com](mailto:rwmkm1@gmail.com).



## 2024-2025 Georgia Society C.A.R. State Project



### Children of the American Revolution

Below Left: One foggy day, and Master Tindell greets the attendees of the Sequoyah Chapter, NSDAR at Fort Oglethorpe, where a bench to the Indigenous Peoples was placed.



Just a sample of the types of trash we litter our shoreline with...vacation residue and plastic straws galore!



Below and Right: Fort Daniels Faire, where history comes alive for the C.A.R. members who attend.



Right: Patriots of Liberty Society helped place wreaths at the Maxwell Cemetery in Alpharetta. Other sites throughout Georgia were attended by C.A.R. members, where wreaths were distributed.



Right and Below: C.A.R. Members dedicated a C.A.R. stone marking the grave of Patriot John Tate.



DAR Sequoya Chapter, NSDAR Bench Dedications, Remembering and Honoring the Indigenous People of Georgia, Sunday November 3, 2024, Mt. Oglethorpe, Georgia.







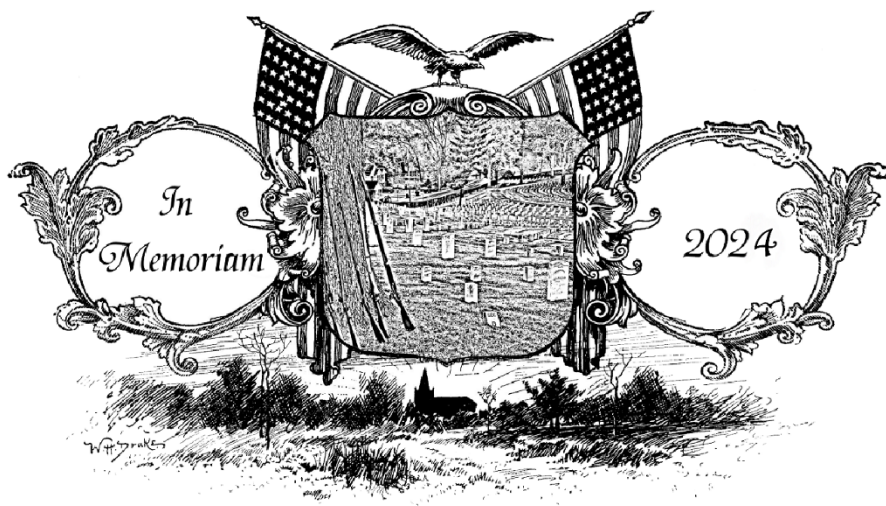
Below: Marker Dedication Honoring the founding of the City of Moultrie, named for Major General William Moultrie, Revolutionary Patriot.





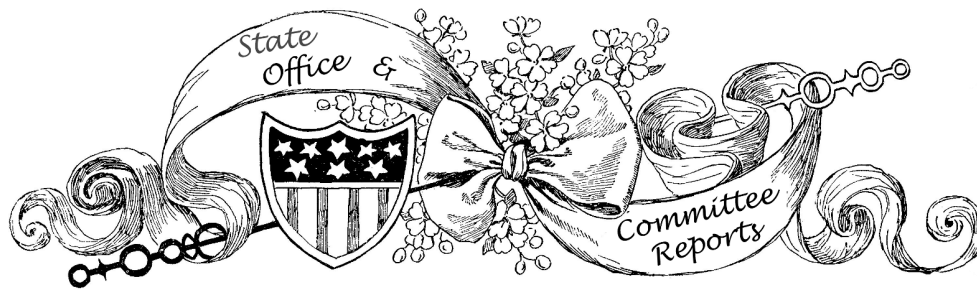


Left: Ladies and youth of the Colonel William Candler Chapter, NSDAR braved the weather to honor those who served during the Wreaths Across America wreath laying at Alta Vista Cemetery in Gainesville, GA.



Compatriot	Nat'l No.	Chapter	Deceased
Glenn Franklin KIRK, Jr.	215339	Piedmont	02 Oct 2024
Brent Wrenn TAYLOR	141135	Marshes of Glynn	03 Oct 2024
Steven Francis BASS	155531	Piedmont	22 Oct 2024
Patrick G BLANCHARD	167640	William Few	04 Nov 2024
Hugh Irmon RODGERS	131530	Coweta Falls	07 Nov 2024
William Wiley JOHNSON,	215437	Little River	14 Nov 2024
James Attaway KENNEDY, Jr.	165008	Cherokee	19 Nov 2024
Joe Lewis ANDERSON, Sr.	221059	Atlanta	04 Dec 2024
Thomas Milton SLAUGHTER,	199999	Robert Forsyth	20 Dec 2024
Robert Lamar BUSH,	198715	Edward Telfair	21 Dec 2024
James Earl CARTER *	134672	Button Gwinnett	29 Dec 2024

\* (39th President of the United States of America)



**Georgia Society New Members Since Monday, October 1, 2024**

<b>Registered</b>	<b>New Member</b>	<b>Patriot</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>
<b>Altamaha</b>			
25 Oct 2024	Braden Alexander WILLIS	Isaac BARTHOLOMEW	Harry Colson LEWIS
<b>Athens</b>			
10 Oct 2024	Dennis Michael GRIFFETH	John GRIFFITH	Kenneth Scott COLLINS
18 Oct 2024	Starlyn John AUSTIN	John AUSTIN	Kenneth Scott COLLINS
<b>Atlanta</b>			
25 Oct 2024	John J HAVICK	James MCMICKEN	Joseph Harrell BLACKMON
25 Oct 2024	Michael Thomas ABRAHAM	Benjamin BRIDGE	Joseph Harrell BLACKMON
01 Nov 2024	Edward Merritt BRETNALL, Jr.	John WARD	Joseph Harrell BLACKMON
22 Nov 2024	Timothy Cole HALE	Thomas EDWARDS	Joseph Harrell BLACKMON
<b>Blue Ridge Mtns</b>			
08 Nov 2024	Thaddy Ovila GAUDETTE	Etienne PARENT	Jack Powell DUGGER
22 Nov 2024	Henry Ransom BATTEN	William BROADWELL	Jack Powell DUGGER
<b>Brier Creek</b>			
25 Oct 2024	Harold James PARKER, Jr.	James LAMBERT	Richard Lee HERRON
06 Dec 2024	Robert Erwin GOOD, Jr.	William HAMILTON	Richard Lee HERRON
<b>Button Gwinnett</b>			
25 Oct 2024	William Benson WOOD	Enoch BENSON	Harold Douglas FORD
08 Nov 2024	Matthew Russell WALTERS	Cornelius KEITH	Harold Douglas FORD
<b>Casimir Pulaski</b>			
08 Nov 2024	Dwain Ellis WORD	Charles WORD	Chad Andrew WORD
08 Nov 2024	Jordan Ellis WORD	Charles WORD	Chad Andrew WORD
<b>Coweta Falls</b>			
18 Oct 2024	Edward Hamilton LINCH III	Nathaniel LINCH	Lewis Orr POWELL IV
08 Nov 2024	Stephen Russell HESLER	Samuel WIKOFF	Joseph Daniel McMICHAEL
<b>Dalton</b>			
18 Oct 2024	JAMES LOWELL SHARRETT	Conrad SCHERERTZ	Elmer Bryan ACREE
<b>Edward Telfair</b>			
25 Oct 2024	David Buckey PEARRE	Thomas HOWARD	Roger Warren COURSEY
<b>Jos. Habersham</b>			
18 Oct 2024	William Whaley HINES Jr	Peter FAYSSOUX	Lynwood Gary CASH

Registered	New Member	Patriot	Sponsor
<b>Little River</b>			
10 Oct 2024	Rhys Dunford Dowie PRITCHARD	John MCMULLAN	William Joseph TANKERSLEY
10 Oct 2024	Horace Jackson REESE	John MCMULLAN	William Joseph TANKERSLEY
08 Nov 2024	Raymond Hollis SMITH	David SMITH	Gary Lee SMITH, Sr.
<b>Marquis de Lafayette</b>			
25 Oct 2024	Robert Thorne THORNE	Daniel BYINGTON	Kai Einar Thomsen
<b>Marshes of Glynn</b>			
10 Oct 2024	Blake Riley FRANCIS	Christopher MERCER	James Steven HINSON, Sr.
15 Nov 2024	John Franklin SCHULZE, Jr.	Charles BULLOCK	James Steven HINSON, Sr.
15 Nov 2024	Conner Stoddard JONES	Charles BULLOCK	James Steven HINSON, Sr.
15 Nov 2024	Daniel Stoddard JONES	Charles BULLOCK	James Steven HINSON, Sr.
<b>Mount Vernon</b>			
10 Oct 2024	Parker Sean RANLETT	Ezra CHAFFEE	Eugenius Sheppard HAMMACK
10 Oct 2024	Matthew Steven RANLETT	Ezra CHAFFEE	Eugenius Sheppard HAMMACK
18 Oct 2024	McKie Massenburg TROTTER, II	George TROTTER	John Starke GALT
<b>Rome</b>			
10 Oct 2024	Evander Gene SMITH	Job SOSEBEE	Mark Wilbur EASTERWOOD
10 Oct 2024	Billy Christopher HUNT	William WINN	Robert Earl BROOKS, Jr.
10 Oct 2024	Billy Joe HUNT	William WINN	Robert Earl BROOKS, Jr.
10 Oct 2024	Ryker Asa SMITH	Job SOSEBEE	Mark Wilbur EASTERWOOD
10 Oct 2024	Howard Aramis SMITH	Job SOSEBEE	Mark Wilbur EASTERWOOD
18 Oct 2024	Lynn Earle WHATLEY	Ornan WHATLEY	Scott Whatley MORRIS
08 Nov 2024	Redding Allen SHAW	John SHAW	Mark Wilbur EASTERWOOD
08 Nov 2024	Julius Clarence SHAW	John SHAW	Mark Wilbur EASTERWOOD
<b>Thigpen Trail</b>			
25 Oct 2024	Jeffrey Lee SEWELL	Samuel SEWALL	Thomas Ralph COLEMAN, Jr.
<b>William Few</b>			
18 Oct 2024	Keith Randall WATSON	John NUNN	Erick Dale MONTGOMERY
01 Nov 2024	Jesse Thomas THOMAS, V	James WHITE	Delbert Alan SMITH
01 Nov 2024	Jesse Thomas THOMAS, IV	James WHITE	Delbert Alan SMITH

**Total: 43**

**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 Saving
					
<b>Athens</b>	Courtney Gale Jason Guest		Michael McElhannon		
<b>Blue Ridge Mountains</b>	Erin Arp John George Treavor Stanfield Tyler Strickland Russell Walker	Dominick Barbanera Michael Miller Benjamin Queen	Holly Evans Terry Foreman Eddie Hopkins Deborah Stancil	Ernie Pruitt Doug Pruitt	
<b>Casimir Pulaski</b>	Jodie Crews Chris Dobbs Michael Hutcheson	Kalaiah Brookshire Allen English	Chris Hancock		
<b>Coweta Falls</b>	Stoney Mathis				
<b>Fall Line</b>					Michael Daniel Shayne Hart Stacey Everett Ricky Hayes
<b>Four Rivers Patriots</b>	Wallace Thompson	John Ward			
<b>Little River</b>	James Blanchard James Chappell Gary Jones Jamey Kitchens	Zachary Sapp	Brooke Gray		David Carlin
<b>Ocmulgee</b>	Cullen Talton				
<b>Piedmont</b>	Brianna Francis Gary Johnson Kayla Duncan Nina Thorne Ana Baudry	Louis Bruno Craig DeLay Antwain Hughes Maurice Gates Daniel Pintos			

## Public Relations / Publicity - John Trussell



Please put these tentative dates on your calendar for the Lafayette tour across Georgia.

**Savannah**, March 21-22, 2025;

**Augusta**- March 23;

**Warrenton** -March 24;

**Sparta**- March 25;

**Milledgeville** March 26;

**Jones County**-March 27,

**Macon** -March 28, in junction with the Cherry Blossom Festival;

**Roberta**- March 29, morning and the Indian Agency, **Marion County**- March 29, afternoon.

Georgia SAR Color Guard and Militia will be requested in each location and will be coordinated with Color Guard Commander Scott Collins.

We will have a Lafayette actor at each location, arriving by horse drawn carriage. A parade, presentation of colors, musket salutes, speeches, and music will occur at all locations. All tour receptions will be offered at no charge to our Color Guard and militia members. [In Savannah, the luncheon at the Pirates House will be offered to Color Guard and militia members at a 50% discount and the prior reception will be complementary.]

Milledgeville is shaping up to be our highlight location since it was Capital of Georgia during Lafayette's 1825 visit. We are planning several special events there and are hopeful that Governor Brian Kemp will be able to attend. Thanks to our local Chairman, Dr Jeffery Wells, a SAR member, for setting up and coordinating our events in Milledgeville as outlined below.

### **Milledgeville Lafayette celebration Events:**

Lafayette Panel Displays-Tentatively placed at GMC Atrium or GCSU Library October-December\*

Visit to the Milledgeville City Council Inviting City Council to Participate-November City Council meeting (TBD)\*\*

Historical Display at Georgia's Old Capital Heritage Center-TBD\*\*\*

Dr. Lawrence Krumenaker Public Lecture at Milledgeville's Mary Vinson Library-March 18, 2025\*\*\*\*

### **Lafayette Celebration Program-March 26, 2025 (All times tentative)**

**8:30 AM-9:15 AM:** Lafayette Parade from Oconee River to the steps of The Old Capital Building

Description: Dignitaries and SAR personnel portraying Revolutionary War soldiers will meet Lafayette as he arrives at the Oconee River Landing at the Oconee River Greenway. Afterwards, Lafayette and dignitaries will ride by carriage from the Oconee River Landing at the Greenway to the Western steps of The Old Capital Building escorted by Cadet Command of the GMC 146th Corp of Cadets. The parade will also include marching units from the GMC Marching Band, the Baldwin High School Marching Band, local and state SAR units, local and state DAR docents, and members of the Masonic Lodge. The parade will turn off East Greene Street into the grounds of GMC. All units will break left at the OCB and move into place on the grounds of Historic Grant Parade Grounds in front of the eastern steps of the OCB while the carriages carrying Lafayette and dignitaries will break right and disembark on the western steps of The Old Capital Building to be met by members of the National and Georgia AFL, the presidents of GMC and GCSU, and other local dignitaries. Marching bands will be playing period music if possible. (Colonel Larry McLendon, Chair)

**9:30AM-10:45 AM:** Lafayette Pass and Review Parade at The Old Capital Building

Description: From the eastern steps of the Old Capital Building, Lafayette will address the members of the community, students, faculty, staff, and dignitaries, as well as participate in the Pass and Review of the members of the GMC 146th Corp of Cadets. Other speakers will include Mayor Mary-Parham Copeland, who will read the City Proclamation proclaiming it Lafayette Day in Milledgeville, the President of Georgia Military College and the Governor of Georgia (if present). (Dr. Jeff Wells, Chair)

**11:15 AM-12:15 PM:** Lafayette Ceremony at The Masonic Lodge in Downtown Milledgeville

Description: The members of The Milledgeville Masonic Lodge will host a special ceremony in honor of General Lafayette to commemorate his visit to the Lodge in 1825. On display will be the very chair that General Lafayette sat in during his first visit to Milledgeville. Members will put the Lodge at ease while Lafayette, Masons, and guests participate in the ceremony. (Ed Moore, Chair)

**12:30 PM-2:00 PM:** Lafayette Luncheon Hosted by the Nancy Hart Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution

Description: Members of the Nancy Hart Chapter of the DAR will host a luncheon for General Lafayette, AFL guests, local and state dignitaries, local veterans, and various other invitees at (location TBD). Lunch and dessert will be provided. (Maggie Shivers, Chairwoman)

**2:30 PM-3:15 PM:** Lafayette Visits the Grave of Abner Hammond and Thomas Petters Carnes

Description: General Lafayette will visit Historic Memory Hill Cemetery in downtown Milledgeville accompanied by guests, members of the SAR and DAR, members of the AFL, and other dignitaries to visit and pay respects at the grave of Abner Hammond who served as a lieutenant and later Captain in the South Carolina Troops during the Revolutionary War and also fought at the Siege of Augusta in 1781. He also served as Secretary of State of Georgia from 1811-1823. General Lafayette will also visit and pay respects at the grave of Thomas Peters Carnes who served as a colonel in the Maryland Line during the Revolutionary War and afterwards as a judge, member of Congress, and surveyor who helped map the boundary between Tennessee and Georgia. Wreaths will be placed

at the graves of both patriots by General Lafayette. (Sherill Jones, Chairwoman).

#### **6:30 PM-9:00 PM: Lafayette Ball at The Old Capital Building**

Description: General Lafayette will be the guest of honor at the 200th Anniversary Lafayette Ball in the legislative chambers of The Old Capital Building on the grounds of Georgia Military College. The ball will include a cash bar, pre-dinner hors d'oeuvres, and a plated meal. Tickets will have to be purchased in advance. The ball will be a black-tie affair, but guests may also come in period clothing from the era. A jazz ensemble and dancers from GCSU will provide entertainment along with a classical pianist from GMC. The evening will include an address by General Lafayette, as well as toasts to his honor and memory by various participants. Cash bar and hors d'oeuvres will be served from 6:30-7:15 and dinner/ceremony begins at 7:15 PM.

Our Savannah events are facing serious issues due to conflict with the St Patrick's day activities, but we are trying to work around those concerns and will let you know our plans soon. The Lafayette events in all other locations are nearing completion and are progressing well.

In other news, I am sending GASSAR news items to SAR Magazine and Colorguardsman magazine on a regular basis, so please send your news items and photos to me ASAP after they happen. Events older than 90 days cannot be used.



### [Bylaws - Ed Rigel Sr.](#)

**General Subject Matter:** Bring the GA SAR into compliance with its Bylaws regarding preparation of the Society's Annual Budget.

**Reason:** It was brought to the Bylaws Committee Chairman's attention by the Finance Committee Chairman that there is a discrepancy between instructions in the GA SAR Bylaws and what is being practiced by the Society.

**Currently Bylaws Article VI Financial Matters Section 3** -- Budget "The Finance Committee shall prepare an Annual Budget for the next calendar year of the Society ....".

In practice, and in contradiction to the Bylaws, the GA SAR Treasurer prepares, reports

on and presents the next year's Budget.

The proposed amendments will shift the designated responsibility from the Finance Committee to the Treasurer.

**Bylaws Article No. V Committees, Section 4 Standing Committees, Finance Committee** revised as follows:

**Finance Committee** - This committee shall consist of at least three members in good standing: a chairman appointed by the President and a maximum of two other members appointed by the chairman with the approval of the Executive Committee. The Treasurer serves as an ex-officio member of the committee, but without vote. The committee shall provide oversight over financial management of the State Society finances except for the Endowment Trust Fund. It will review any regular quarterly reports of the Treasurer and the Audit Committee and use reported data to assess compliance with budget restrictions; ensure restricted funds are managed, transferred, and/or collected as required; assess the investment of the excess unreserved fund balance; evaluate the method and cost of Internal Revenue Service reporting; maintain guidelines in the Source Book for financial management; **assist the Treasurer** in budget preparation; and evaluate the appropriateness of the annual membership fee. The committee will make status reports on areas reviewed, make recommendations to the Executive Committee and Board of Managers in regard to any improvements deemed necessary, and report follow-up on prior recommendations of the Finance Committee and the Audit Committee.

**Article No. VI, Section 3**, revised as follows: **The Treasurer, with assistance from** the Finance Committee shall prepare an Annual Budget for the next calendar year of the Society in which are listed the categories and amounts of anticipated income and expenses of the State Society and shall submit it to the Executive Committee for its consideration, comments or recommendations. It shall then be submitted to the Board of Managers for approval and adoption at its Fall Meeting. The Finance Committee may make transfers between or adjustments to line items but not exceeding 10 percent of the amount originally approved for said line item. The Executive Committee may approve such adjustments of more than 10 percent but not exceeding 25 percent. The Board of Managers may make any changes to the budget.





### America 250 - Ed Rigel Jr.

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 since the last report:**

Vernon Bassham (Marquis de Lafayette): Silver  
 Bloise Hill (Marquis de Lafayette): Silver  
 Bill Palmer (Button Gwinnett): Gold  
 Clark Perrin (Marquis de Lafayette): Silver  
 Mark Pottiger (Marquis de Lafayette): Silver  
 Kai Thomsen (Marquis de Lafayette): Silver

**Websites:**

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

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



### Georgia Fellows Board - K. Scott Collins

**New Georgia Fellows for 2024:**

Noah Tindall– Button Gwinnett  
 Dess Smith - Wiregrass  
 Edwin Hendricks, Jr. – Joseph Habersham  
 Ronald Sikes – Button Gwinnett  
 Tom Jacques – Button Gwinnett  
 Lee Herron – Brier Creek  
 Steven Ford – Marshes of Glynn

**Total from new Georgia Fellows - \$1,750.00**

Several other compatriots (Skunk Brigade and Brier Creek Artillery members) have indicated that they wish to become Georgia Fellows and they should be added by the next report.

**Fund Activity:**

Two requests were received for the \$200.00 stipend for uniforms. Fund Balance: \$ 13,023.99 as of 25 October 2024



### ROTC/JROTC - David Jessel

Only one chapter nominated a Chapter OC to the GASSAR State Competition.

**1ST – Marquis de Lafayette Chapter – Cadet/Captain Julie Watkiss MCJROTC East Coweta High School.**

Cadet/Captain Julia Watkiss will be recognized at the Georgia Society SAR 2025 Annual Meeting on Saturday February 1, 2025. The winner is awarded a cash award of \$550.00. The GASSAR Outstanding Cadet (OC) represents the Georgia Society in the National Competition. The top five OC's in the NSSAR Contest receive cash awards with the winner receiving \$6,000.00 and up to \$1,500.00 in travel expenses to the NSSAR 135TH National Congress in Uncasville, Connecticut to receive the award from the NSSAR President General.

14 Silver ROTC Medals for eleven Georgia Universities will be presentation in 2025 to outstanding cadets/midshipmen selected by the ROTC Program.

**Next year the Chapters must work with the SMI of JROTC Unit to ensure greater participation.**



## Flag Respect - Craig Benton

### Contests

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. The first time a state society receives the U. S. Flag Retirement Award, it will be presented a streamer and a certificate. Each additional time a state society receives the U. S. Flag

Retirement Award, it will receive a certificate and white star to attach to the streamer. If 100% of the chapters in your state, as well as the state society, present at least one U. S. Flag Retirement certificate each, then the state society will receive the U. S. Flag Retirement Award and a Certificate of Excellence.

### Background Statistic Percentage of Chapters currently reporting:

- » Admiral Furlong Award: 51% 18/35 (*Award Criteria of 50% IS met*)
- » Flag Retirement Award: 26% 9/35 (*Award Criteria of 50% is not met*)



## Knight Essay - Stacey McCarver

Nine essay entries were sponsored by the following Georgia Society Chapters:

- Athens
- Captain John Collins
- Cherokee
- Lyman Hall
- Marquis de Lafayette
- Marshes of Glynn
- Ocmulgee
- Piedmont
- Robert Forsyth

Judging of the essay for the GASSAR contest was completed on December 31, 2024. First and second place winners will be announced at the February 1, 2025, Chapter and Youth Awards Luncheon. I will be contacting the Chapter Essay Chairs for the first and second place winners to invite the winners to the Youth Awards Banquet.

In the words of one of our judges, *"I have been a judge for probably 10-15 years. This was strongest field I ever remember. Actually heartwarming words from the next generation."* I echo these words. My thanks to each of the chapters that went the extra mile to sponsor youth who will be our future.

If there are chapters who did not participate this year, but are interested in participating in the future, please reach out to me for more information. It is not complicated or costly to sponsor a leader of tomorrow.



## Historian - John Trussell

President Rigel and Compatriots- I ask for your assistance in collecting GASSAR material which will become our permanent record that is housed in the Atlanta History Center. Please bring any brochures or pamphlets regarding any SAR activities in your area to the Winter SAR BOM and deliver them to me so we can include the materials in our archive file. You may also email me brochures and I can print them to add to our history file. Our general goals are below-

- Collect material that represents the various activities and initiatives that GASSAR participated in
- Create a chronological file of material collected.
- Review and update the GASSAR History document at <https://gasocietyvsar.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Georgia-Society-History.pdf>
- Communicate with various chapters to encourage document submissions.
- Attend quarterly BOM meetings.
- Submit 2024 documentation to Leah Lefkowitz, Manuscript Archivist, Atlanta History Center
- Solicit proclamations, flyers, brochures, and related materials from Georgia Society

Chapters for inclusion with other materials for archival in January 2024. Thanks for your help and if you have any questions, please contact me.



## Graves - Don McCarty

### **VETTED – GASSAR Chapter Revolutionary War Patriot Grave Ceremonies for Calendar Year 2024**

During 2024, the Graves Committee vetted the following Revolutionary War Patriots for Grave Marking future events. **Some have been scheduled and some of their ceremonies performed.**

**Patriot James Tate**, NSSAR Patriot ID: P-301943. Based on research, this Patriot was buried on now industrial property located at 3508 Old Dixie Hwy SE, Dalton, Whitfield Co., GA. This was requested by Bryan Acree of the Dalton Chapter SAR. Scheduling has not been determined as of this date, as an alternate grave marking location will likely be utilized.

**Patriot John Taliaferro**, NSSAR Patriot ID: P-301599, Patriot David Clay, NSSAR Patriot ID: P-134407, and Patriot John Hatcher, NSSAR Patriot ID: P-177426. During the vetting of these three (3) Patriot's graves located in Wilkerson County, GA, the Graves Committee located and vetted another Patriot, Robert Etheridge, NSSAR Patriot ID: P-327878. It is likely upon scheduling this event that all four (4) Patriots will be honored for an SAR grave marking at a single event at Mount Nebo Church Cemetery in McIntyre, Wilkinson Co., GA. This was requested by Bill Schultz of the Button Gwinnett Chapter SAR. Scheduling has not been determined as of this date, as permissions must be secured.

**Patriot John Cash**, NSSAR Patriot ID: P-130073. This Patriot died 13 Aug 1836 in Henry Co., GA. This was requested by Don McCarty of the Button Gwinnett Chapter and Bruce Maney of the Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter. Scheduling has not been determined as of this date, since a suitable location and permissions must be secured for this event.

**Patriot Edward Williams**, NSSAR Patriot ID: P-320654. This Patriot died after 1840 and is buried in Chechero Baptist Church Cemetery, Clayton, Rabun Co., GA, and a stone with the initials "E. W." is carved on it. There has been work done by the Graves Chairman, Don McCarty, in the South Carolina State Archives during 2023 to obtain the military records found in the South Carolina Militia Audited Accounts. A number of descendants have been identified of this Patriot by Lyn Cash, Past President of the Habersham Chapter SAR. Several Georgia Society SAR Chapters have expressed interest in co-sponsoring the SAR grave marking for this Patriot. Scheduling has not been determined as of this date.

**Patriot Stephen Day**, NSSAR Patriot ID: P-145426. This was requested by D. Alan Smith of William Few Chapter SAR. Based on The Revolutionary Records of the State of Georgia, Vol 2, by Allen D. Candler, 1908, The Franklin - Turner Company Publisher, Atlanta, Georgia, page 757, Patriot Stephen Day received a Land Warrant of 200 acres in Richmond County for his Revolutionary War service as a soldier. Stephen Day was born in 1742 in Lancaster Co., PA and died on 5 Dec 1825 in Columbia County, GA. He is buried in the Stephen Day Family Cemetery in Grovetown, Columbia Co., GA.

**Patriot Gabriel Smith, Sr.**, NSSAR Patriot ID: P-291955. This was requested by Jim Swinson of the Casimir Pulaski

Chapter SAR. Patriot Gabriel Smith was born 12 Dec 1764 in Anson Co., NC and he enlisted in Montgomery Co., NC, in August 1780, and served under Capt. Thomas Childs while engaged at the Battle of Bettis Bridge on Drowning Creek. In the 1840 U.S. Census for Carroll Co., GA., District 754, page 9, Gabriel Smith Sr. was enumerated in age bracket 70-80, which corroborated his age to be 75, based on his 1832 Franklin County pension statement that he was age 67 at that date. Listed after Gabriel Smith Sr. on the census page was Gabriel Smith Jr., who many members of the DAR and SAR have proven lineage. Gabriel Smith, Sr. died before 13 Aug 1841 in Carroll Co., GA.

**Enoch Benson**, NSSAR Patriot ID: P-113496 and **Isaac Brissell Horton**, NSSAR Patriot ID: P-185099. These two Patriots were requested by Don McCarty, Eldon Evans and Bruce Maney of the Button Gwinnett Chapter Graves Committee. These Patriots were well-documented for their service and their grave locations are known. Enoch Benson's grave is located in Kile Homeplace Cemetery, Sugar Hill, Gwinnett Co., GA, while Isaac Benson's grave is located in the Old Level Cemetery, Sugar Hill, Gwinnett Co., GA.

**Nathaniel Valentine Bowles**, NSSAR Patriot ID: P-118682. This Patriot was requested by Carter J. Wood, President of Lyman Hall Chapter SAR. This Patriot's grave is in the Apple Valley Baptist Church Cemetery, Commerce, Jackson County, GA. During the Patriot Graves Committee review, it was determined that Patriot Bowles was living in the McGinnis District of Jackson Co., GA and received land in the 1832 Georgia Land Lottery in Cherokee Co., GA and was listed as a Revolutionary War Soldier. Further, the Committee determined that the Veteran's Administration Headstone had incorrectly stated the death date as 1834. Our records review determined that the Patriot Bowles was born 21 Jan 1762 in Virginia, married Milly Dawson 11 Dec 1787 in Virginia, and died before May 1833 in Georgia.

**John Calder**, NSSAR Patriot ID: P-127236, **James Gignilliat**, NSSAR Patriot ID: P-165877, **Lt Col. John Cooper**, NSSAR Patriot ID: P-138554, and **Capt. James Nephew**, NSSAR ID: P-255407. These Patriots were requested by Steven Hinson, President of the Marshes of Glynn Chapter SAR. All 4 Patriots were well documented by the PRS and DAR sources and are buried in the Contentment Bluff Plantation Cemetery, in Townsend, McIntosh Co., GA.

**George Snelling**, NSSAR Patriot ID: P-292618. This was requested by Russell Terrell, President of the Samuel Elbert Chapter SAR. Unfortunately, the Patriot Graves Committee could NOT approve this person due to lack of direct evidence for his Revolutionary War service. There have been no SAR members approved for George Snelling. George Snelling's NSDAR # 106485 has 11 approved NSDAR members. One NSDAR member marked George Snelling's grave in Elbert County, GA and obtained a Veteran's Administration Headstone using evidence from the pre-1940s. In the DAR online records, they indicate that new NSDAR applicants will have to show proof of service for George Snelling. After some 40+ hours of research, the Patriot has

Graves Committee could not locate proof of service that would satisfy the NSSAR Manual for Patriot Grave Markings. The Samuel Elbert Chapter SAR has withdrawn its current plans for a grave marking for George Snelling.

**John Iredell Tate**, NSSAR Patriot ID: P-301951. This was requested by Emil Decker of the Robert Forsyth Chapter SAR, who had been contacted by Regent of the Sequoyah Chapter, Georgia State NSDAR to invite the Georgia Society SAR to participate. The NSDAR Historian General had reviewed the documentation for this Patriot and approved this grave marking event by letter dated September 16, 2024. The Georgia Society SAR Graves Committee concurred with this approval for the SAR Grave Marking.

**Thomas Bruford/Buford**, NSSAR Patriot ID P-125075. This was requested by Anita Bianconi, Commander of the Georgia Brigade of the Descendants of Washington's Army at Valley Forge (DVF). She has invited Georgia Society SAR to participate with DVF as they would like to have a joint Patriot Grave Marking for this Patriot who was at Valley Forge with George Washington's Army. Coordination is now underway with the Lyman Hall Chapter SAR to be the primary sponsor, since the Patriot is buried the church cemetery of the Lanier Point Church. This Patriot's grave was reinterred to the current location due to the construction of Lake Lanier. Scheduling of the SAR Grave Marking is expected for late Spring of 2025.

#### **TO VET – GASSAR Chapter Revolutionary War Patriot Grave Ceremonies for Calendar Year 2024**

Through December 31, 2024, the Graves Committee has had no additional requests for Patriots to Vet for Grave Markings. There have been discussions with both SAR and NSDAR members regarding planning for future Patriot grave markings and we await their documentation for official requests.

#### **PATRIOT GRAVE MARKINGS PLANNED – GASSAR Chapter Patriot Grave Ceremonies for Calendar Year 2025**

The William Few Chapter SAR is sponsoring a SAR Grave Marking for **Patriot Stephen Day**, NSSAR Patriot ID: P-145426. This event will be held at the Grovetown City Hall, located at 103 Old Wrightsboro Road, Grovetown, Columbia Co., GA 30813.

At the Georgia Society SAR Annual Conference on January 31, 2025, the Georgia Society SAR plans to honor thirteen (13) Georgia Society SAR Chapters for sponsoring/co-sponsoring those sixteen (16) Revolutionary War Patriots graves that were marked and provided documentation for updating the Patriot Research System (PRS).

#### **Chancellor - Chuck Olson**



I am happy to report that this past Quarter, as was the previous one, devoid of legal issues.

If re-elected to serve as State Chancellor for 2025, it is my intention to form an informal Legal Advisory Committee to be composed of all the Georgia Chapter Chancellors. The committee would serve the same purpose as the Legal Advisory Committee at the National Level. If the committee proves to be useful after the first year, I would propose that it become a standing committee of the Georgia Society.

#### **Liberty Tree - Ron Redner**



The 116th Liberty Tree was just recently planted, so we only have 134 more to go to reach our NSSAR goal of 250 Liberty Trees dedications, at least one in every state across the our nation before July 4, 2026!

Liberty Trees have been planted in 17 states so far out of 50. The states that have planted Liberty Trees are: **AK, CT, GA, IA, IL, MI, MO, NC, NE, NH, NM, OH, PA, TN, VT, WI, WV**

The Liberty Tree planned for January 4, honoring Past President Joe Vancura, Georgia Society, will be sponsored by the Mount Vernon Chapter.

#### **Editor - Emil Decker**



There is not much to report, other than it has been a busy year, lots of events, grave markings, and excellent photos from the usual suspects. I am sorry that I cannot print everything, but we surely would run out of webspace if I did.

Special articles are in short supply, and I believe make for a better publication, so if you have an idea, write it down. Send it in. Heck, I even accept stuff from some of the most..... Well, better not go there. (snicker). [Keep it professional.]

In short, it is you and your submissions that makes this newsletter what it is. Send often, and timely, before you forget. Remember, as editor, I merely slap it together. God Bless, and I pray the coming year is a good one. See you at the Annual Conference.

# ***The Kettle Creek Battlefield Association***

Annual Banquet celebrating the

## ***"The Battle of Kettle Creek"***

**Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

Washington Wilkes Country Club  
300 Country Club Dr.  
Washington, GA 30673

Speaker: John T. Trussell

***"Marquis de Lafayette American Tour  
1824-1825"***

Reception 5:00 P.M.

Dinner at 6:30 P.M.

Dinner Cost: \$45.00 per individual

Please make your checks payable to the  
Kettle Creek Battlefield Association

Mail to: Kettle Creek Battlefield Association  
**P O Box 729**  
Washington, GA 30673

Please include your email address

Dinner reservation must be received by January 31, 2025

For questions contact: Walker Chewning

Cell: 678-409-4644

**NOTE: Those wishing to sit as a group or family please designate**

## 246<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Kettle Creek Revolutionary Days

A National Society SAR Historic Sites & Celebrations Event  
Sponsored by the Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution

[www.GaSocietySAR.org](http://www.GaSocietySAR.org)

**Friday – February 7, 2025**

### **Elijah Clark State Park – 2959 McCormack Highway, Lincolnton, GA 30817**

10:00 AM – Kick off at the restored cabin and Elijah Clark Museum with a variety of demonstrations on colonial lifestyle, colonial attire, a Traveling Trunk display, period dulcimer music, and cannon and musket demonstrations. Authors of new period books will be on hand for book signings. SAR Color Guard members will bring pomp and circumstance to the occasion.

12:00 P.M. - A free indoor chili cookout and dessert buffet at noon will be served compliments of the Elijah Clark State Park, Lincoln County Historical Society, Atlanta and William Few Chapters Georgia Society SAR; Elijah Clarke Chapter NSDAR. Noted local historian Mr. Des DeVos is the featured speaker.

1:00 PM – Please arrive for Wreath Presentation Check-in.

1:30 P.M. – Heroes of the Hornets' Nest Wreath Ceremony at Elijah Clarke's grave. Regional color guard and militia units will combine to bring pomp and circumstance to the occasion.

**Please use the Friday Wreath Registration form.**

This is separate from the Saturday registration.

Park entry fees will be waived for attendees. [www.GaStateParks.org/ElijahClark](http://www.GaStateParks.org/ElijahClark)

### **Kettle Creek Battlefield, War Hill Road, Washington, GA 30673**

Take a self-guided walking tour of the Kettle Creek Battlefield site and enjoy the marked trails and interpretive signs. The ceremony at the site is scheduled for **Saturday** at 2:30 PM.

### **Washington, GA 30673**

If you have available time, consider visiting the Washington Historical Museum and the Robert Toombs House to enjoy 18th century history and Battlefield Relics. For more information visit –

[www.washingtonwilkes.org](http://www.washingtonwilkes.org)

The **Kettle Creek Battlefield Association, Inc. (KCBA)**, Georgia Society SAR and Kettle Creek NSDAR will host a dinner and Revolutionary War program in honor of the Kettle Creek Patriots. **Reservations are required and are to be made directly with KCBA.**

5:00 P.M. – Reception & Cash Bar

6:00 P.M. - Dinner

Please see the Friday Dinner Invitation. The event is hosted at the Washington Wilkes Country Club, 300 Country Club Drive, Washington, GA 30673. Dinner Reservation due by January 331, 2023 – KCBA, PO Box 729, Washington, GA 30673 - \$XX.00 per individual

(Last year this was \$35.00 but have not seen this year's price at the time of this update.)

KCBA's website is – [www.kettlecreekbattlefield.com](http://www.kettlecreekbattlefield.com) (Do not use the .org site)

## ***Saturday Morning – February 8th, 2025***

### ***A National Society SAR Historic Sites & Celebrations Committee Event***     **Washington Square** **in Historic Downtown Washington, GA 30673**

**9:50 A.M.** – The Georgia Society SAR Elijah Clarke Militia Honor Guard with Musket Salutes will raise the 1776 Colors of the Revolutionary War on the Wilkes County Courthouse Flagpole.

**9:50 A.M. –12 Noon** – Come experience Revolutionary Living History including demonstrations and performers. Located just off the square in the Court Street Livery (16 W Court Street, Washington, GA) Look for the SAR Living History building signs.

**10:10 A.M.** – The Georgia Society SAR combined Color Guard & Militia will gather at the Revolutionary War monument on the Washington City Square to Salute and Honor the ***Wilkes County Militia – (the Heroes of the Hornets' Nest)*** and all Revolutionary War Patriots.

**10:30 A.M.** – Color Guard and parade participants gather behind the Courthouse for the assembly of the Revolutionary War Parade — ALL the public (Children & Grownups) are welcome to participate in the event as our National Colors and re-enactors lead us around Washington Square. **Parade STARTS at 10:45 A.M.**

**10:45 A.M.** – The parade will start and will march two complete times around Washington Square and will end behind the courthouse at Fort Washington Park.

**11:15 A.M.** – Georgia Society SAR Elijah Clarke Militia and other re-enactors with black-powder muskets will present a dramatic portrayal of the Battle of Kettle Creek in Fort Washington Park behind the Wilkes County Courthouse.

**12:00 P.M.** – The Georgia Society SAR Color Guard--Elijah Clarke Militia and others, will present arms and fire a thunderous musket salute as the Revolutionary War Colors are lowered and our Present-day National Colors are raised on the Wilkes County Courthouse Flag pole.

### ***A National Society SAR Historic Sites & Celebrations Event continues*** **Kettle Creek Battlefield, War Hill Road, Washington, GA 30673**

**2:30 P.M.** – Pageantry at the Kettle Creek Battlefield includes, Continental Army, Georgia Militia, Musket volley salutes, Wreath Presentations, SAR/DAR/CAR, Hereditary Organizations, Local, State & National officials, High School JROTC, students and public, place wreaths to honor the Heroes of the Hornets' Nest -- the Wilkes County Militia for their 1779 Victory at Kettle Creek.

**Please see "Wreath Registration Form for Saturday" and send to Ed Rigel, Jr.**

**Please use the SATURDAY Wreath Registration form.**

This is separate from the Friday registration.

In the event of inclement weather this event will be held in the Washington-Wilkes Recreation Department Gym. Check for updates:

<https://gasocietysar.org/event/national-commemoration-of-the-battle-of-kettle-creek-events-in-washington-ga/>

## **FRIDAY Wreath Registration**

Organization:

Name of Presenter: \_

Office or Title of Presenter: \_

Email Address:

Phone:

**Submit request to participate in the Wreath Presentation no later than January 31, 2025, to assure listing in the Ceremony Program.**

**William J. "Bill" Tankersley, email: [wjtank@comcast.net](mailto:wjtank@comcast.net)**

Email preferred

Or by regular mail to William J. Tankersley, 2645 Louisville Road, Appling, GA 30802

## **SATURDAY Wreath Registration**

Kettle Creek Battlefield Memorial Ceremony SATURDAY, February 8, 2025 at 2:30pm - **War Hill Road - Washington, Wilkes County, Georgia**

*All Societies and Chapters of the C.A.R., DAR, SAR, other hereditary Societies and patriotic or historical organizations are invited to attend. Descendants and the public are especially welcome.*

**Submit request to participate in the Wreath Presentation no later than February 3, 2025, to assure listing in the Ceremony Program**

Organization:

Office or Title of Presenter:

Email Address:

Phone:

Due to rocky soil conditions and winds we do **NOT** use wreath stands at War Hill.



## The Annual Commemoration of the SAR National Color Guard Battle of Thomas Creek : Saturday 10:00 AM, March 29, 2025 in Jacksonville, Florida\*

Please join the Florida Society SAR, DAR and C.A.R. as we commemorate the 248th anniversary of the Battle of Thomas Creek (the Southernmost Battle of the American Revolutionary War). The ceremony will be held at Seaton Creek Historic Preserve Park at 10:00 AM. If placing a wreath and/or participating in the color guard, please arrive no later than 9:30AM to register your wreath. The park is located off I-95 at Exit 366 then head west 2.5 miles on Pecan Park Rd. to 2145 Gold Star Family Parkway /Arnold Rd. that accesses the Jacksonville National Cemetery and Lem Turner Road US#1).



We will have a social and orientation meeting Friday evening at 5:30PM on March 28th at the Long Horn Steak House, 1366 Airport Rd, Jacksonville, FL 32218 Both the Hampton Inn and the Marriott, SpringHill Suites are in this same complex, as well as a number of other hotels in the area. Organizations and participants will be announced during the ceremony. We are again honored to have our intriguing Compatriotic speaker Dr. Roger Smith of Colonial Research Associates, Inc. and our Patriotic Choral Group "Let Freedom Sing" plus various Patriotic and Civic Organizations. We are especially honored this year to have our friend and our South Atlantic District, NSSAR Vice President General from GA Scott Collins, who will be bringing greetings from our National Society SAR. We are also honored to have our FLSSAR President James Gaskins bringing greeting and Florida DAR State Regent Elect Kim Zeman, for State Regent Cindy Addison. To assure your organization's recognition and to receive a flag streamer, please complete the following by February 15, 2025 and forward to:

David H. Ramseur (FLSSAR President 2011-12)  
3733 River Hall Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32217  
(904)-502-4819; [DavidRamseur12@gmail.com](mailto:DavidRamseur12@gmail.com)

Society Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter or Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Will present Wreath: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Wreath Dedicated to: \_\_\_\_\_

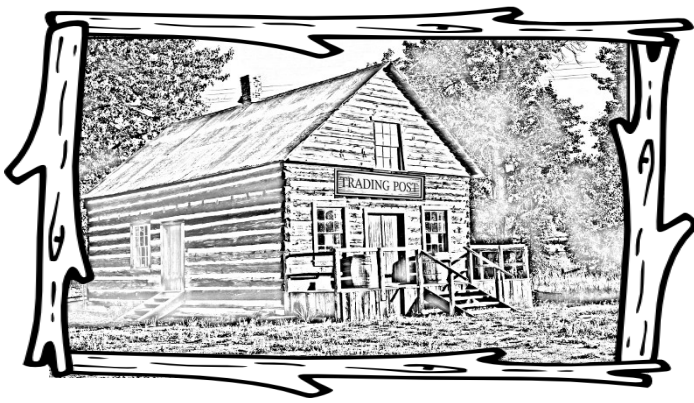
Presenter (s) Name (s): and Title \_\_\_\_\_

Will bring SAR flag for the Color Guard? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Number of members from your group: \_\_\_\_\_ In Uniform /Militia/ Colonial Dress \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone# \_\_\_\_\_

\*Bad weather site: Motel Mtg. Room, 1351 Airport Rd., Jacksonville, FL|



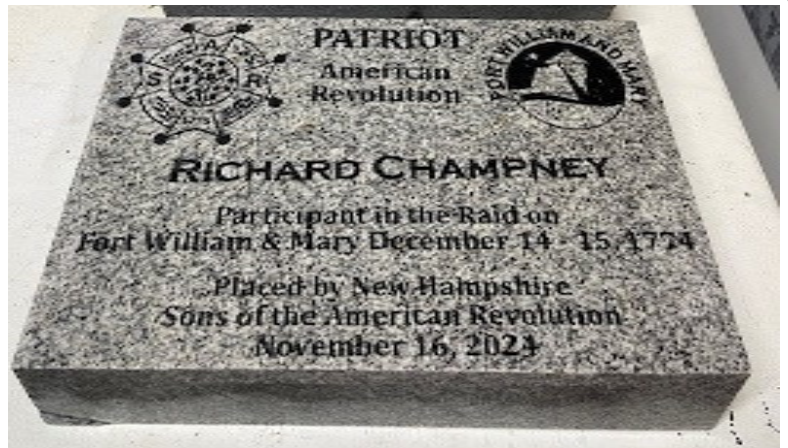
## The Trading Post

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.

Who was the first U.S. President to get a pay raise? ? ?

See answer on next page.

Need a Liberty Tree, Patriot or Compatriot Grave Marker? Custom stones at competitive prices. Contact: [SticksnStones@weegrr.com](mailto:SticksnStones@weegrr.com)



## Who was the first U.S. President to get a raise? ?

During his second term, Ulysses S. Grant got the first raise Congress ever approved for the president. George Washington's salary in 1789 was set at \$25,000, and it remained at that level for 84 years until Grant's raise in 1873. Congress doubled Grant's salary to \$50,000 in what critics at the time called the "Salary Grab Act." The current salary for the U.S. president is \$400,000 plus another roughly \$170,000 in various expense, travel, and entertainment accounts.



## CONTACT LINKS

NSSAR: <https://www.sar.org/>

GASSAR: <https://gasocietysar.org/>

GASSAR Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/georgiasocietysar>

The Hornet's Nest Editor: [eldecker@weegrr.com](mailto:eldecker@weegrr.com)

Brier Creek: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/941261733805197/posts/1053301895934513/>

Captain John Collins: <https://www.johncollinssar.org/>

Little River: <https://www.facebook.com/LRCGASSAR/>

Mount Vernon: <https://www.mountvernonsar.org/>

Piedmont: <https://piedmontchapter.org/>

Robert Forsyth: <https://www.robertforsythsar.org/> or <https://www.facebook.com/robertforsythsar/>

Is your Chapter link not here? Did you send it to the editor? Ah-Ha! Time to fix that before the next issue. See Editor's link above.

**TITLE:** The desponding hero of the Coldstream - a military madrigal

**SUMMARY:** Print shows dejected members of the Coldstream Guards sitting around a banquet table bemoaning a possible assignment in America. Includes five stanzas of verse.

**CREATED/PUBLISHED:**

London : Published by Tommy Coldstream, Pennyfrance, [178-]

