



WIREFRASS COURIER

WIREFRASS CHAPTER
SWAINSBORO, GEORGIA

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Issue 12

Editor – Dess D. Smith III, 214 N Racetrack Street, Swainsboro, GA 30401

Compatriots,

Our twelfth **Wiregrass Chapter** meeting for 2021 was held on December 9, 2021, at Mont Royal Clubhouse in Swainsboro at 6:30. The program this month was presented by Compatriot Dr. John Derden”.

1st QUARTER, 2022 SAR EVENTS:

January 6, 2022: Brier Creek Chapter meeting, Thursday night at the American Legion at 7:00.

January 11, 2022: Fall Line Chapter meeting, Tuesday night at the Chamber of Commerce at 7:00.

January 13, 2022: Wiregrass Chapter meeting, Thursday night at the New China Restaurant at 6:30.

January 20, 2022: Little River Chapter meeting, Thursday night at the Thomson Library at 7:00.

February 3, 2022: Brier Creek Chapter meeting, Thursday night at the American Legion at 7:00.

February 8, 2022: Fall Line Chapter meeting, at the Chamber of Commerce at 7:00.

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

February 11, 2022: Elijah Clarke event at Elijah Clarke State Park at 11:00.

February 12, 2022: Kettle Creek event at Washington, GA courthouse at 9:00.

February 17, 2022: Little River Chapter meeting at the Thomson Library at 7:00.

March 4, 2022: Brier Creek Education Day at the Battlefield at 9, 11, & 1.

March 4, 2022: 3rd Annual BCRWBA, Inc. Banquet at location TBA, at 6:30.

March 5, 2022: 243rd Anniversary Celebration at the battlefield at 11:00.

March 8, 2022: Fall Line Chapter meeting at the Chamber of Commerce at 7:00.

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

March 17, 2022: Little River Chapter meeting at the Thomson Library at 7:00.

WIREGRASS MEMBERS MAKE NSSAR VETERANS CORPS

Wilder Smith, Jr.	Vietnam War Veterans Corps
Dess Smith III	Southwest Asia Veterans Corps
Albert Smith	Vietnam War Veterans Corps
George King	Vietnam War Veterans Corps
Tommy Grier	Vietnam War Veterans Corps
John Tapley, Jr.	Vietnam War Veterans Corps
Ruskin Powell	Military Service Veterans Corps
Alton Reynolds	Military Service Veterans Corps
Mason Smith	Military Service Veterans Corps
Emory Fennell	Military Service Veterans Corps
Jim Daughtry	Military Service Veterans Corps

If you served in the military, I need your discharge documents: DD-214 or DD-256 or NGB Form 22. These documents will show your enlistment and discharge dates, your service stations and your discharge rank. You can take a photo and text them or scan them into your computer and e-mail them to me: saussure@bellsouth.net. If you need help in obtaining your discharge record, please call me at 478-299-1039.

"Wiregrass Chapter Sponsors "Wreath across America"

"After several weeks of planning, the Wiregrass Chapter, sponsored the "Wreaths across America" event in the "Pine Brook Nature Park" at the corner of U.S. Hiway 80 east and GA Hiway 57 North. This event was held on Saturday, December 18, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. The welcome and invocation was presented by Wiregrass Chapter Chaplain Emory Fennell. Next 5 wreaths were presented at the 4 war memorials and at the memorial for 1st responders. The assembly then said the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. President Wilder Smith, Jr. then Honored the Veterans. Next Master of Ceremonies Emory Fennell called out each of the 13 service members that were killed this past August in Afghanistan. A wreath was placed at the U.S. Flag representing each of the service members along the iron fence. Governor David Emanuel-Adam Brinson DAR Chapter member Jane Durden then gave a response to the event. Next, Artillery Commander Steve Burke commanded a 3 round volley by our 50 cal.flintlocks, 75 cal. muskets and 6-pounder Naval Cannon. Then Richard Claxton played taps on his bugle to end the ceremony. We would like to thank DAR member Jane Durden for her assistance and for her preparing the programs that were handed out. Also participating in the event were representations of the American Legion, VFW, Sons of the American Legion, Swainsboro Mayor Charles Schwabe, City Councilman and Wiregrass Chapter member Julian Sconyers, Swainsboro Fire Department, Swainsboro Police Department, Emanuel County Sheriffs Department, and the Swainsboro recreation Department. Appreciation is extended to Wiregrass Chapter Chairman Johnny Tapley for spearheading this project and providing the wreaths. We also thank the VFW/American Legion and Governor David Emanuel - Adam Brinson Chapter NSDAR for their assistance with this program."

Photo #1: 13 Wreaths placed at the 13 flags representing the 13 service members killed in Afghanistan in August 2021.

Photo #2: 4 Wreaths placed at the memorial's for Korean War, WWII, WWI and War between the States.

Photo #3: 1 Wreath placed at the 1st Responders memorial.

Photo #4: Wiregrass members Al Smith and Wilder Smith, Jr., Little River member Alton McCloud and Wiregrass Member Steve Burke. Not pictured were Johnny Tapley, Emory Fennell and Julian Sconyers.

Photo #5: Wreaths across America participants.







"East Fall Line Region SAR participates in Thomson Christmas Parade"

"Members of the East Fall Line Region, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution traveled to Thomson, GA to participate in Thomson's Annual Christmas Parade on Sunday, December 12, 2021. The parade started in downtown Thomson at 02:00 p.m. and traveled about 1 mile. Four members of the EFLR marched the entire parade length, and upon Commander Steve Burke's command, stopped prepared to fire, took aim and fired their 50 cal. Rifle, 69 cal. Musket and 75 cal. Muskets. They did this at least 10 times along the parade route. The Christmas Parade was sponsored by the Merchants Association of Thomson."

Photo #1: L to R: Steve Burke - Wiregrass Chapter, Swainsboro and Alton McCloud, Woody Woodard, Thomas Miller - Little River Chapter, Thomson

Photo #2: Firing their 50 cal. Pennsylvania/Kentucky Rifle, 69 cal. Charleville Musket and their 75 cal. Brown Bess Muskets.





"Derden presents Christmas's with the Washingtons"

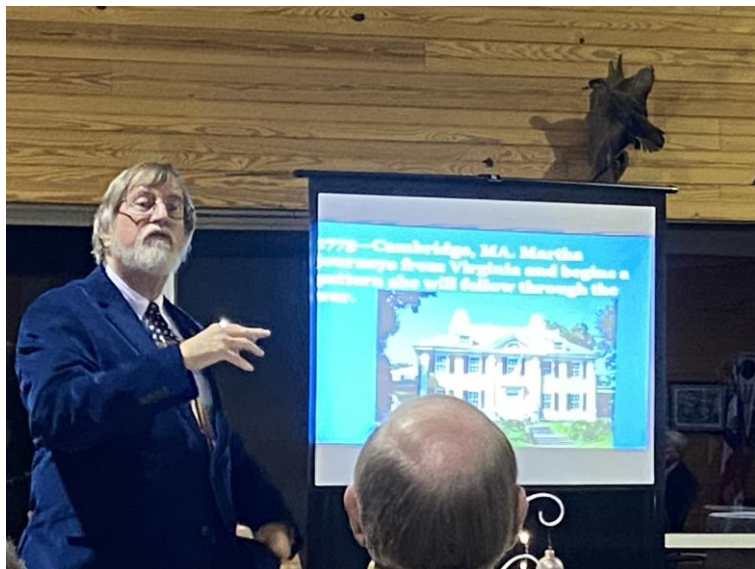
"With President Wilder Smith, Jr. presiding, the Wiregrass Chapter, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution held its monthly meeting, Thursday night, December 9, 2021 at the "Mont Royal Clubhouse", Swainsboro, at 6:30. We had 34 in attendance to enjoy a great meal catered by Annette McCray of Metter, GA. After the Pledge to the U.S. Flag and the SAR Pledge, Chaplin Emory Fennell said the blessing before we enjoyed a great buffet meal. Next President Wilder presented the "Fred D Womack Outstanding Wiregrass Chapter member award" for 2021 to Compatriot Alton Reynolds while the late Fred Womack's wife, Judy, pinned the medal to Alton, while Alton's wife Jodi looked on. President Wilder then introduced our speaker for the evening, Compatriot Dr. John Derden. John's program was on "Christmas's with the Washington's".

Photo #1: pictured with President Wilder and Judy Womack are members who have received the Fred D. Womack Outstanding Wiregrass chapter member Award in the past.

Photo #2: L to R, President Wilder Smith, Jr. presenting the 2021 Fred D Womack Wiregrass Chapter Outstanding member Award to Alton Reynolds and Alton's wife Jodi looking on.

Photo #3: Compatriot Dr. John Derden presenting his program "Christmas's with the Washingtons".





"East Fall Line Region compatriots attend Fort Morris Event"

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

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

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





"Smith Presents Guilford Courthouse Battle Program"

"The Wiregrass Chapter, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution held its monthly meeting, Thursday night, November 11, 2021 at the New China Restaurant at 6:30. With President Wilder Smith presiding, we had 20 members and guests present. President Wilder presented to the Chapter our Certificate from the Georgia Society for our participation in the 2020 Wreaths Across America. We had traveled to Sylvania on December 18, 2020 to the Sylvania City Cemetery and participated in the American Legion's event. This year we will again travel to Sylvania for their Wreaths across America event at 11:00 on Saturday, December 18th and then come back to Swainsboro for our Wreaths across America event at 3:00. President Wilder then introduced Compatriot Dess Smith for his presentation on the Revolutionary War Battle at Guilford Courthouse. Compatriot Dess had a short introduction about the battle and then showed a 30 minute video titled "Another Such Victory", The Battle of Guilford Courthouse. The title is referring to what General Cornwallis said after his victory, that Another Such Victory would be the end to the British Army because of how many soldiers he lost.

Photo #1: Dess Smith III presenting his program.

Photo #2: President Wilder Smith, Jr. receiving the Wreaths across America Certificate for December 18, 2020, last year.





"Wiregrass Presents 38th U.S. Flag Certificate to the Swainsboro Golf & Country Club."

"Wiregrass Chapter, Georgia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution presented to Swainsboro Golf & Country Club our 38th U.S. Flag Certificate on Monday, November 8, 2021. The "Certificate of Commendation" was given by President Wilder Smith, Jr. to President of the Club Cason Devane and Sec/Treas Joan Nasworthy, of Swainsboro Golf & Country Club in recognition of exemplary Patriotism in the display of the Flag of the United States of America in the correct way. Recognizing people, businesses, organizations and the government with a U. S. Flag Certificate is a project of the Sons of the American Revolution. The Wiregrass Chapter began presenting these certificates in June 2014 and this project is an on going project of the Wiregrass Chapter, the GASSAR, and the NSSAR and we will be honoring others with this certificate."

I have attached a photo of Cason Devane & Joan Nasworthy receiving the U.S. Flag Certificate from Wiregrass Chapter President Wilder Smith, Jr. of the Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution.



"Brier Creek Revolutionary War Battlefield Association, Inc Signs agreement with Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division"

"The Brier Creek Revolutionary War Battlefield Association, Inc (BCRWBA). and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division (WRD) have signed an "historic" agreement to work together to preserve the Brier Creek Revolutionary War Battlefield located on the Tuckahoe Wildlife Management Area.

The Wildlife Resources Division will continue to be responsible for managing the Wildlife Management Areas for public access for outdoor recreation and the conservation of natural and cultural resources on these lands. The BCRWBA mission is to present and interpret the history, scientific and culture of the area as it is reflected in its heritage of significant Revolutionary Period sites and resources by encouraging the permanent preservation of the site of the "**Brier Creek Battle**", its natural history and related resources. Through exhibits, educational programs and interpretation, the value of this heritage and its meaning and orientation to present day life will be presented. It is considered that cultural history related recreational opportunities can be most effectively increased

by the construction and maintenance of the onsite Memorial Site area through cooperative efforts of the GA DNR, WRD and the BCRWBA, Inc.

The BCRWBA, Inc. has made the following commitments relative to the restoration and maintenance of the Brier Creek battlefield memorial and the planned entrance. The association will make initial assessment of current condition and plan its future needs and conduct annual assessments. The association will restore the memorial area, mow and trim at least twice a month. The association will install a lighted flagpole and base surrounded by pavers and replace the National Ensign as needed. The association will install a granite marker engraved with the names of the units engaged in the battle. The association will erect a National Park Service-type panel with a multi-colored map illustrating the current understanding of the course of the battle and placement of units. An appropriate entrance sign is being designed and will be installed by the Association at the junction of Brannen's Bridge Road and the Main Road into the battlefield.

Besides this agreement, the Association has been in touch with the Georgia Department of Transportation about making and erecting battlefield direction signs on all roads that are in the area of the battlefield. The GA DOT called the Association last week to let us know that the signs have been erected in Screven County.

The BCRWBA, Inc. will hold its 3rd Annual Banquet on Friday night, March 4, 2022 at a location to be announced in Screven County, GA. Also, the BCRWBA, Inc. held its 1st Semi-Annual Banquet on Thursday night, September 16, 2021 at the Reynolds Clubhouse in Swainsboro. The 2nd Semi-Annual Banquet will be held in Statesboro on Thursday night, September 15, 2022.

Photo: BCRWBA, Inc. President Stephen Hammond signing the Agreement.



"GASSAR members attend Veterans Day Ceremony in SC"

"Six members of the East Fall Line Region Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution, Ben Creech, Tommy Woody Woodard, Alton McCloud, Bernard Martin, and Steve Burke, participated in a awesome veterans Day ceremony, November 6, 2021 at the Horse Creek Midland Valley Veterans Park in Burnetown, South Carolina. Members of the militia were from the Henry Laurens Chapter, Aiken SCSSAR, Little River Chapter GASSAR Thomson, GA Alton McCloud, Ben Creech, Tommy Chappel, Brier Creek Chapter GASSAR Screven County Bernard Martin, Woody Woodard, and Wiregrass Chapter, GASSAR. Swainsboro Steve Burke. Today's program consisted of opening ceremonies by SC Representative Melissa Oremus, Presentation of colors by Scout troop 351, Pledge of Allegiance led by Ted Walker President Henry Laurens Chapter Aiken SCSSAR, Guest Speaker Dan Wrightsman, Patriotic Music by Mr. Cory Barton, Laying of wreaths, Musket & Flintlock Salute by Sons of the American Revolution Militia, Playing of Taps, closing remarks and Benediction by Pastor Stephen Phillips. Today's ceremony was attended by about 75 folks including South Carolina State Senator Shane Massey, American Legion Post 71 Commander Kevin Joy, American Legion Post 153 Commander Harry Barton and many other Veterans groups from around the CSRA."

Photo #1: 9 GA and SC Sons of the American Revolution militia lined up to fire there 50 Cal. Pennsylvania/Kenturcy flintlocks.



"McDowell Presents program on Presidents that were Military Officers"

"The Wiregrass Chapter, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution held its monthly meeting, Thursday night, October 14, 2021 at the New China Restaurant at 6:30 p.m., With President Wilder Smith, Jr. presiding, we had 18 members and guests in attendance. Chaplain Emory Fennell opened with the blessing of the food. After a great buffet meal, Chaplain Fennell led our Chapter in the U.S. Flag Pledge of Allegiance and the SAR Pledge. President Wilder then introduced our speaker for the evening, Author and Historian Lee McDowell. Lee and his wife traveled over 200 miles from below Jacksonville, FL to attend our meeting and present his program on "U.S. Presidents that were Military Officers". He mentioned and told historical stories on each President that had been a military officer from President George Washington through President George Bush. Lee brought with him several copies of his books that he had authored which all were purchased by members of our Chapter. After the program, Compatriot Alton Reynolds presented President Wilder with the Chapter Flag Streamer that was received for participation in the 240th Anniversary Commemoration of the Second Siege of Augusta on September 18, 2021. Future events were discussed and then Chaplain Emory led us in the SAR Recession and a prayer.

Photo #1: Program presenter Lee McDowell.

Photo #2: President Wilder Smith, Jr., Alton Reynolds





"Dr. John Derden updates the BCRWBA, Inc."

"The Brier Creek Revolutionary War Battlefield Association, Inc. held its first Semi-Annual banquet on Thursday night, September 16, 2021 at the Reynolds Clubhouse in Swainsboro at 6:30. With President Stephen Hammond presiding, we had 47 in attendance. Color Guard Commander Steve Burke gave the command for the Presentation of Colors. Afterward Chairman of the Board Tommy Christopher led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag. President Stephen introduced the guests and then Compatriot Emory Fennell said the invocation and blessing. After an outstanding meal, Compatriot Wilder Smith, Jr. introduced our speaker for the evening, Compatriot Dr. John Derden. John's presentation was on the "Brier Creek Battlefield: Progress and Future Outlook". After John's presentation, everyone moved outside for a 3 round volley of our Pennsylvania/Kentucky .50 cal. rifles, Brown Bess

.75 cal. muskets, Charleville .69 cal. muskets, 6-pounder Naval Cannon and a 8-pounder Field Gun. After the 3 round volley, Compatriot Don Bazemore played taps on his bugle. Wiregrass attendees, Wilder Smith, Jr., Steve Burke, Dess Smith III, Dess Smith IV, Julian Sconyers, John David Bailey, Tommy Christopher, John Derden, Emory Fennell, George King, Jerry Lawson, Alton Reynolds, Colby Smith, and John Tapley. Brier Creek attendees, Don Bazemore, John Fitzner, Byron Hogsette, Bernard Martin, Buddy Parker, Stephen Hammond, and Lee Smith. Other Chapter attendees, Bill Dobbs, Charlie Newcomer, Sonny Pittman, Ted Walker, David Wiley, and Damon Woodson. Special Guests in attendance were Senator Billy Hickman, Senator Max Burns and Mayor Charlie Schwabe."

Photo #1 is: Compatriot Dr. John Derden

Photo #2 is: Color Guard members, Steve Burke,





"Second Siege of Augusta Event held"

"On September 18, 2021, members of the Sons of the American Revolution gathered in Augusta to celebrate the 240th Anniversary of the 2nd Siege of Augusta. This event, sponsored by the Colonel William Few Chapter, GASSAR and the Henry Laurens Chapter, SCSSAR, was organized by Compatriot Sonny Pittman. The event was held at the Kroc Center at 11:00 am with event coordinator Sonny Pittman conducting a welcome. The GASSAR & SCSSAR Combined Color Guard, commanded by Bill Palmer, then advanced the colors for the Presentation of the Colors. After Greetings from several dignitaries, A special SAR Patriot Grave Maker dedication was then held for Captain William Bugg, Sr. by GASSAR President David Jessel and Sonny Pittman. Next was the Presentation of wreaths by many organizations. Next was a break for attendees to have lunch. At 1:30, we gathered again at the Kroc Center for the "Battle Seminar" presented by Historian Steven J. Rauch. After Steven's presentation, everyone moved outside to the large field between the Kroc Center and the "old powder works factory". A 3-round volley was then held by musket and cannon salute and the playing of taps for those that gave their lives for our freedom's today. Next, all militia, continental and British soldiers prepared for the Battle re-enactment. The British, commanded by General Steve Burke, had approximately 10 soldiers and one 6-pounder Naval cannon. The Patriot's were commanded by General Alton Reynolds and had approximately 10 soldiers and one 8-pounder Field Gun. General Steve Burke gave the order to fire and the battle BEGAN. After many shots were fired by both sides along with cannon fire, the Patriots under the command of General Alton Reynolds advanced and overran the British for the victory."

Photo #1: Getting ready for the Second Siege of Augusta re-enactment are from L to R: John Tapley, Jerry Lawson and Dess Smith III.

Photo #2: Commander Bill Palmer with the Georgia Society Award Winning Color Guard.

Photo #3: Historian Steven J. Rauch during his Battle Seminar at the Kroc Center Chapel





The 2nd Battle for Augusta, Georgia
May - June 1781

By
Mr. Steven J. Rauch

"Augusta Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, Holds Event"

"On September 17, 2021, members of the Georgia Society, Sons of the American Revolution traveled to Augusta to celebrate the Constitution Day event that the Augusta Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution held. The event began with a ceremony inside the beautiful St. Paul's Church which included the Presentation of the Colors by the Award Winning Georgia Society Color Guard, commanded by the GASSAR Color Guard Commander Bill Palmer. After this ceremony, everyone moved outside to conduct the Presentation of the Wreaths by the DAR and SAR Chapters. Each Chapter of the East Fall Line Region was represented during the wreath presentation: William Few Alan Smith, Little River Alton McCloud, Fall Line Dess Smith III, Patrick Carr Rangers Steve Burke, Wiregrass Alton Reynolds, Four Rivers Wilder Smith, Jr., Brier Creek Don Bazemore and Mill Creek Thomas Miller. Also, from the Henry Laurens Chapter SCSSAR was Ted Walker. Commander Bill Palmer then called for the flintlock and cannon salute and taps by the Georgia Society SAR Color Guard, East Fall Line Continentals, Brier Creek Militia and the Brier Creek Artillery."

Photo #1: Commander Steve Burke and Compatriot John Tapley firing our 6-Pounder Naval Cannon at the Church.

Photo #2: From L to R: Don Bazemore, Alton McCloud, Woody Woodard, Emory Fennell, Sonny Pittman, Dess Smith III, John Tapley and Steve Burke.

Photo #3: From L to R: Jerry Lawson, Alton Reynolds, Woody Woodard, Alton McCloud and Steve Burke.





"Dr. John Derden updates the BCRWBA, Inc."

"The Brier Creek Revolutionary War Battlefield Association, Inc. held its first Semi-Annual banquet on Thursday night, September 16, 2021 at the Reynolds Clubhouse in Swainsboro at 6:30. With President Stephen Hammond presiding, we had 47 in attendance. Color Guard Commander Steve Burke gave the command for the Presentation of Colors. Afterward Chairman of the Board Tommy Christopher led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag. President Stephen introduced the guests and then Compatriot Emory Fennell said the invocation and blessing. After an outstanding meal, Compatriot Wilder Smith, Jr. introduced our speaker for the evening, Compatriot Dr. John Derden. John's presentation was on the "Brier Creek Battlefield: Progress and Future Outlook". After John's presentation, everyone moved outside for a 3 round volley of our Pennsylvania/Kentucky .50 cal. rifles, Brown Bess .75 cal. muskets, Charleville .69 cal. muskets, 6-pounder Naval Cannon and a 8-pounder Field Gun. After the 3 round volley, Compatriot Don Bazemore played taps on his bugle. Wiregrass attendees, Wilder Smith, Jr., Steve Burke, Dess Smith III, Dess Smith IV, Julian Sconyers, John David Bailey, Tommy Christopher, John Derden, Emory Fennell, George King, Jerry Lawson, Alton Reynolds, Colby Smith, and John Tapley. Brier Creek attendees, Don Bazemore, John Fitzner, Byron Hogsette, Bernard Martin, Buddy Parker, Stephen Hammond, and Lee Smith. Other Chapter attendees, Bill Dobbs, Charlie Newcomer, Sonny Pittman, Ted

Walker, David Wiley, and Damon Woodson. Special Guests in attendance were Senator Billy Hickman, Senator Max Burns and Mayor Charlie Schwabe."

Photo #1 is: Compatriot Dr. John Derden

Photo #2 is: Color Guard members, Steve Burke, Dess Smith III, Wilder Smith, Jr., Alton Reynolds





"Burke Speaks to Kiwanis"

"The Kiwanis Club of Swainsboro held its weekly meeting, Tuesday night, July 6, 2021 at the Rustic Grill at 7:00. With President Dess Smith III presiding, we had 26 in attendance including 4 guests, Steve Burke, Renee Burke, Breana Librizzi and John David Bailey. The carrot cake, donated by Ginny Smith and baked by Petite Garrett, was won by Pepper Fields. The Domino's Pizza donated by Domino's Pizza was won by Pepper Fields. The produce bag from Frank and Deana Patrick's garden was won by Pepper Fields. What a night for Pepper. The program for the evening was hosted by Dess Smith, who introduced local survivalist and

historian Steve Burke. Steve is also a member of the Wiregrass Chapter, National Society, Georgia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. Steve presented a program on the American Soldier from the American Revolution to World War II. He used George Washington as his example and talked about the sacrifices that were made by Washington and those early Patriots. They were always there when needed and the same applies to all American Soldiers. He talked of the testing of the new nation in the War of 1812 and the Mexican War of 1846. He talked of the war of brother against brother, the War between the States in 1861-65. Steve spoke of the Spanish American War in 1898 in Cuba and the global World War I in 1918 with Germany. In 1941-45, the U.S. fought World War II on two fronts, the European front against Germany and Italy and the Pacific front against Japan. He closed with a tribute to the role of women in these wars.

They are from L to R: President Dess Smith III, Compatriot Steve Burke.



"Wiregrass Celebrating 10th Anniversary"

"The Wiregrass Chapter, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution, met Thursday night, June 10, 2021 celebrating the 10th Anniversary of their Chapter Chartering. The Wiregrass Chapter was Chartered June 4, 2011. Our banquet, attended by 64 compatriots and guests, was held at the Reynolds Clubhouse here in Swainsboro. With President Wilder Smith, Jr. presiding, all attendee's enjoyed a great meal, Ribeye steak, baked potato, rolls, salad, chocolate delight and tea or water. Our meal was catered by "Real South Barbeque" of Swainsboro. Our banquet got underway at 6:30 with the invocation given by our Chaplain Emory Fennell. President Wilder then called for Commander Steve Burke for the Presentation of Colors. Commander Burke then fired our 6-pounder Naval cannon one time and Color Guard Commander Alton McCloud marched the color guard in. Dr. John Derden then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and Dess Smith IV led us in the SAR Pledge. President Wilder introduced our special guests, Past Georgia Society President Bob Sapp, Past Georgia Society President Charlie Newcomer, Past Georgia Society President Bill Dobbs and Past National Society President General Mike Tomme. Bill Dobbs brought Greetings from the GASSAR, J. Michael Tomme brought Greetings from the NSSAR and Bill Tankersley brought Greetings from the East Fall Line Region. After the meal, President Wilder Smith, Jr. introduced our speaker, Compatriot Bill Colbert who presented his program on "The White House Communications Agency - The Early Reagan Years". President Wilder then gave us our Wiregrass Chapter history and how our first President, Fred Womack, organized our Chapter in Swainsboro with great help from his wife Judy Womack who is a member of the Governor David Emanuel-Adam Brinson Chapter, DAR. Chaplain Emory Fennell then held a "Tribute to our Deceased Members by calling their names: Frank Barron, Martin Luther Bridges, Buddy Cobb, Homer Sylvester Durden III, Lee McDaniel Grier, Alan Malone, Ron McCrosky, John Duncan McLeod III, William Perry Rountree, Joey Webb and Fred Darwin Womack. The Brier Creek Militia and Artillery then lined up and fired a 3-round volley with their muskets and 6-pounder Naval Cannon, followed by the playing of taps by Compatriot Don Bazemore. The Brier Creek Color Guard then Retrieved the Colors and the SAR Recessional was led by Compatriot Alton Reynolds followed by the Benediction by Chaplain Emory Fennell."

Photo #1: The Banquet @ the Reynolds Clubhouse

Photo #2: Compatriot Bill Colbert presenting his program.

Photo #3: Compatriots firing a 3-round volley honoring 11 deceased Wiregrass members.

Photo #4: Commander Steve Burke firing a 3-round volley with our 6-pounder Naval cannon.







"East Fall Line Region Continentals March in PTF"

"15 members of the East Fall Line Region Continentals, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution dressed out in their Continental Uniforms and Militia Uniforms to march in the 74th and 1/2 Pine Tree Festival Parade in Swainsboro, GA and carried their 75 Cal. Brown Bess muskets and 50 Cal. Pennsylvania/Kentucky rifles. This year for the first time, Compatriot Dan McMichael brought his grandson, Caleb McMichael, to march and play the drums for us to keep cadence. Commander Steve Burke led our group with Compatriot John Tapley driving the pickup that pulled our EFLR Float that carried our 6-pounder Naval Cannon that fired the shot that started the parade. Those riding besides John Tapley were Alton McCloud and Al Smith on the float. The Compatriots marching in front of the pickup were Dan McMichael, Davy Reynolds, Caleb McMichael, Jerry Lawson, and Alton Reynolds. The Compatriots marching behind the pickup were Ben Creech, Dess Smith III, Wilder Smith, Jr., Hoage Reynolds and Bernard Martin. After the one-mile parade, Commander Steve Burke set his Revolutionary War artifacts booth, with 4-8ft tables, up among the vendors and answered questions from approximately 12:00 to 3:45. We estimated that the booth was visited by between 200 - 300 people and viewed by over 2,000 people."







"Wiregrass, Brier Creek & Little River Chapters Attend event"

Photo #1: Alton McCloud, Little River Chapter: Ruskin Powell, Wilder Smith, Jr., & Dess Smith III, Wiregrass Chapter.

Photo #2: Georgia Society Award Winning Color Guard.

Photo #3: Following the event, enjoying a great meal at the Mullet Bay Restaurant, St. Simons Island, GA.

"On Saturday morning, April 10, 2021, Members of the Wiregrass, Brier Creek and Little River Chapters of the East Fall Line Region, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution, traveled to Fort Frederica on St. Simons Island Georgia to participate in the Video for the April 17th Zoom of the Annual Patriot's Day Celebration. This event included the Award Winning Georgia Society Color Guard, Continental and Militia firing of their flintlocks and the firing of Steve Burke's 6-pounder Naval Cannon and Bernard Martin's 6-pounder Mortar. This event might have been the first time cannon's have been fired at Fort Frederica since the American Revolution. Those attending were: Wiregrass members Ruskin Powell, Wilder Smith, Jr., Steve Burke, Dess Smith, and Alton Reynolds; Brier Creek members Bernard Martin, Cameron Quick, Walker Quick; Little River member Alton McCloud."





"SAR holds Education Day at Brier Creek Battlefield"

"The Brier Creek Chapter and the Wiregrass Chapter, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution traveled to the Brier Creek Battlefield in Screven County, GA and set up four battlefield education stations for presentations to the general public on March 5, 2021. There were two education times, 10:00 am and 1:00 pm, for the presentations to take place. Station #1 was presented by SAR Dr. John Darden. His presentation was on what happened before, during and after the Battle at Brier Creek. Station #2 was presented by SAR member Don Thomas and DAR member Pat Thomas. Their presentation was a SAR traveling trunk, Revolutionary War items of interest. Station #3 was presented by Compatriot Allen Mincey. He presented the flintlock rifle. He told everything about this weapon of war, how it was used, how it was maintained and how it was made. Station #4 was presented by Artillery Commander Steve Burke. He had four tables of skins, artifacts and weapons that he held his presentation. At the end of each session, Commander Steve Burke fired his 6-pounder Naval Cannon. This is the second annual presentation that our Chapters have held at the Battlefield and next years 3rd Annual Education Day will be held at the battlefield on March 4, 2022 at 10:00 am and 1:00 pm.

They are from L to R: Alton McCloud (Little River Chapter, Thomson), Woody Woodard (Brier Creek Chapter, Screven County) and Dess Smith III, Wiregrass Chapter, Swainsboro.



"BCRWBA, Inc. Holds 2nd Annual Banquet"

"The Brier Creek Revolutionary War Battlefield Association, Inc held its 2nd Annual Banquet at the Cadillac Ranch in Screven County on Friday night, March 5, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. With President Stephen Hammond presiding, we had 51 in attendance. The banquet opened up with President Stephen Hammond's "Call to Order". President Stephen then called for the Presentation of Colors, presented by the Brier Creek Chapter Color Guard. Chairman of the Board of Directors, Compatriot Tommy Christopher led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. After the welcome from President Stephen, Joseph Vancura, Jr., Senior Vice President of the Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution, brought Greetings. The Invocation and Blessing was presented by the Brier Creek Chapter President Wayne Howard. An outstanding meal was then served by our caterer, "Happy's Restaurant" from Swainsboro. Our speaker for the evening was Dr. John K. Derden, who presented his program on "The American Revolution: Legacies and Challenges". Dr. Derden is a retired history professor from East

Georgia State College, a member of the BCRWBA, Inc. and a member of the Wiregrass Chapter in Swainsboro. The benediction was presented by Compatriot Wayne Howard."

1st Photo is: Dr. John Derden, Wiregrass Member, Swainsboro

2nd Photo is: Brier Creek Chapter Color Guard, L to R: Commander Steve Burke, Dess Smith III, Wilder Smith, Jr. all dual members of the Brier Creek Chapter and Master of Ceremonies, BCRWBA, Inc. President Stephen Hammond



"GASSAR Holds 242nd Anniversary Event"

"Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution Brier Creek and Wiregrass Chapters along with the Governor David Emanuel - Adam Brinson Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolutions held the 242nd Anniversary Celebration of the Battle at Brier Creek on the battlefield, Saturday, March 6, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. The Master of Ceremonies for this event was Compatriot Tommy Christopher. This was Compatriot Tommy's 6th year as the MC. The invocation was given by Brier Creek President Wayne Howard followed by the playing of "Amazing Grace" and "Flowers of the Forest" by bag piper Dave Crampton of the Edward Telfair Chapter of the GASSAR. Compatriot Scotty Scott then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by Compatriot Wilder Smith, Jr. leading us in the National Anthem. MC Tommy Christopher then introduced several special guest who brought greetings from their respective organizations. Compatriot Ruskin Powell of the Wiregrass Chapter introduced this years speaker, Artillery Commander Steve Burke of the Wiregrass Chapter. Compatriot Steve's presentation was titled, "The American Soldier". Steve presented an outstanding program that included soldiers that fought at The Battle at Brier Creek and mentioned some descendants of these soldiers that still live today in Screven and surrounding counties. After Steve finished his presentation, MC Tommy Christopher called on each wreath presenter to present their wreath as he called their names. Their were a total of 56 wreath presenters. Next, MC Tommy asked that the Georgia Society Combined Award Winning Color Guard to Retrieve the Colors. Then Commander Scott Collins of the Flintlock and Cannon detail ordered a 3-round volley alternating Flintlocks and then Cannon firing. Flintlocks used were the 50 Cal. Pennsylvania/Kentucky Rifles and the Brown Bess 75 cal. Muskets. Cannons used were the 6-pounder Mortar and the 6-pounder Naval Cannon. After the volley, the bugler, CW4 Larry Hyatt played "Last Post" and then "Taps". Last Post is a 17th Century bugle call played as a final farewell, symbolizing the fact that the duty of the dead soldier(s) is over and they can rest in peace. Last post was used until Taps was introduced in 1862. During this celebration, and while Last Post was played a militia soldier, Compatriot Allen Mincey, from the Brier Creek Chapter slowly walked away from the celebration into the woods. After Taps were played Color Guard Commander Bill Palmer gave the command to "Retire the Colors". At this time President Wayne Howard said the benediction after which MC Tommy gave the closing remarks and reminded everyone that next years 243rd Celebration's would be on March 4 and 5, 2022."

Photo #1: Brier Creek Artillery Commander Steve Burke presenting his program, "The American Soldier".

Photo #2: The Georgia Society Continentals and Militia firing a 3-round volley to honor those 200 Patriots that were killed and murdered on the Battlefield on March 3, 1779.

Photo #3: Georgia State Senator Max Burns bringing greetings from the Georgia Senate.

Photo #4: Georgia House of Representative Jon Burns bringing greetings from the Georgia House





TREASURER'S & SECRETARY'S REPORT

Treasurer Colby Smith reports that our balance is the highest it's ever been. Thanks to all your renewal's and support. Secretary/Treasurer reports that all members have renewed for 2022 except one member.

DESS SMITH'S REGISTRAR'S REPORT:

Our current membership is **79**. If you have anyone that would like to become a member of our Chapter, please contact me at 478-299-1039 OR e-mail me at saussure@bellsouth.net.

Wiregrass Chapter members approved through December 20, 2021 at National Society are:

JOHNNY EDWIN TAPLEY JR – NATIONAL #215965 – PATRIOT TRAVIS THIGPEN

JOHNNY EDWIN TAPLEY III – NATIONAL #215966 – PATRIOT TRAVIS THIGPEN

JACK LEE RICH – NATIONAL #217014 – PATRIOT BENJAMIN LACY

JACK LEE RICH, JR – NATIONAL #217015 – PATRIOT BENJAMIN LACY

JERRY TIMOTHY RICH – NATIONAL #217016 – PATRIOT BENJAMIN LACY

SPENSER GREET RICH – NATIONAL #217017 – PATRIOT BENJAMIN LACY

SCOTT OGLESBY – NATIONAL #217723 – PATRIOT ABRAHAM S. LANE

WHITMAN HARRIS JOHNSON - NATIONAL #217557 -PATRIOT COLESBY SMITH

ISAAC RIVER ROBERTS – NATIONAL #217560 – PATRIOT COLESBY SMITH

JOSHUA SEABORN ROBERTS – NATIONAL #217559 – PATRIOT COLESBY SMITH

ANTHONY WAYNE WATERS – NATIONAL #217960 – WILLIAM CALE

CHRISTOPHER ALLEN WATERS – NATIONAL #217961 – WILLIAM CALE

LUCAS OWEN WATERS – NATIONAL #217962 – WILLIAM CALE

JERRY GLYNN LAWSON, JR --- NATIONAL #219634 – JOSEPH SUMNER

CHRISTIAN HENRY BELLAMY – NATIONAL #220862 – COLESBY SMITH

JOHN DAVID BAILEY – NATIONAL #221046 – ADAM BRINSON

ADAM BRINSON BAILEY – NATIONAL #221048 – ADAM BRINSON

ROBERT HEATH BAILEY – NATIONAL #221047 – ADAM BRINSON

BURLEY EURIAS PAGE – NATIONAL #221044 – JOSHUA WATSON

BRANDON BURLEY PAGE – NATIONAL 220985 – JOSHUA WATSON

WILDER GREY JOHNSON – AT NATIONAL

CHRISTOPHER KOHOUT -- AT NATIONAL

DYLAN KOHOUT – AT NATIONAL

DANIELL KOHOUT – AT NATIONAL

RONAN KOHOUT – AT NATIONAL

DAVY REYNOLDS – AT NATIONAL

MATT REYNOLDS – AT NATIONAL

NICHOLAS REYNOLDS – AT NATIONAL

ROBERT REYNOLDS – AT NATIONAL

HOAGE REYNOLDS – AT NATIONAL

JIMMY LEONARD – AT NATIONAL

MICHEAL LEONARD – AT NATIONAL

JACOB LEONARD – AT NATIONAL

JIM DEKLE – AT NATIONAL

LARRY DEKLE – AT NATIONAL

WESTON REID PAGE – AT NATIONAL

At the present I am working on applications for the Terry Gay family, Dwight Watt, Ryan Andrew Garnto, Tim Goodman, Rus Black, and Mitch Hall. Also about 36 more that I need information.

Carlie Smith has had 2 supplementals approved in December 2020 and David Portwood has had 1 supplemental approved in December 2020.

WE HAVE 2 MEMORIALS THAT HAVE BEEN APPROVED

Dr. Henry Wilder Smith, Sr., M.D., died 2002

Dr. DeSaussure Dugas Smith, Sr. M.D., died 1953

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND OUR BOM MEETING EVERY FRIDAY MORNING AT 8:00 at Leeanna's across the street from Domino's Restaurant. WE HAVE A GREAT TIME SHARING A MEAL TOGETHER AND FELLOWSHIP.

In SAR Friendship & Service,

Dess