Newsletter of THE GEORGIA SOCIETY Sons of the American Revolution



January—March, 2014 Hornet's Nest

The President's Dispatch



President Roger W. Coursey

Compatriots,

The

What an honor it has been to serve as you President, and represent you and the Georgia Society in so many places over that past two and a half months. It has really been a busy time, and I have been able to participate in a number of events and visit a few chapters.

As some of you may remember, we had one unfilled Regional Vice President's position at the Annual Meeting. Within a led the service and brought a great message. couple of days, I was able to find a volunteer Following the Worship Service, I was for the position of East Regional Vice honored to present our GASSAR wreath and President. Homer "Chip" Durden stepped up bring greetings at the Heroes of the Hornet's to the plate and answered the call. He was Nest Commemoration at the Elijah Clark quickly approved by the Executive State Park. Committee and then appointed by me to fill the vacant position.

Annual Meeting sits in the calendar, the new Certificates of Appreciation to individuals of The Committee approved this, and forwarded president has to immediately jump into the the community and others who supported the it to the Executive Committee for approval. fire and answer the call for the Celebration of GASSAR in making this years celebration a All those in the Color Guard may remember the Battle of Kettle Creek. Of course, with real success. We also are in the process of Darlene Neuhause is the one who made our the assumption, that I would be elected as sending Certificates of Appreciation to the Colonial uniforms. President, for several weeks prior to Kettle Wilkes County HS Band. I believe this will

Creek, I was making preparations to fulfill pay off in huge dividends for us for future the duties as head of the lead organization for celebrations. The letter sent to The Newsthe three day weekend. On Friday night, I Reporter in Washington, GA was published had the pleasure of representing the GASSAR at the annual KCBA Banquet. I presented a couple of medals that were not able to be 2014 Past President James Stallings presented at our Annual Meeting. The 235th Anniversary Celebration of the Battle of Celebration of the General Daniel Stewart Kettle Creek was a resounding success. There were over 90+ out of area and locals who took part in the battlefield tours provided their celebration. by military historians Maj Steven J Rauch (ret) and Lt Col Allen Burton (ret). The Saturday morning parade around the square had over 140 participants including the Greenville HS AFJROTC and the Wilkes County HS Band. The Chamber of Commerce and newspaper estimates are that 300+ folks were in attendance to watch. This is an apparent record according to the news and city folks. The living history was also an enormous success, which this year included the Atlanta Chapter's "Georgia's Sacred Soils" display. There were well over 70 wreaths presented on Saturday afternoon at War Hill, and the ceremony drew a crowd of about 310-325 observers.

Sunday morning brought a good crowd to our Eight Annual Colonial Worship Service at the Phillips Mill Baptist Church. Our new State Chaplain, Compatriot Emory Fennell

This year to try and promote good will and garner support in years to come, I sent recommendation for the Martha Washington Fortunately, or unfortunately, the way our twelve Letters of Appreciation and 24

by the newspaper.

Being unable to attend, on 14 February represented me at the 100th Anniversary Chapter of the NSDAR. They were presented a certificate from the GASSAR honoring

On 21 February 2014, Southeast Regional Vice President, Jeffrey Allmond, Sr represented me at the 65th Annual State Conference of the Georgia State Society of the National Society of the Children of the American Revolution in Savannah, GA. And in Athens, GA, Northeast Regional Vice President, Carter Wood represented me at the Athens Chapter Washington Birthday Celebration.

On 22 February 2014, I brought greeting for the GASSAR at the Washington Birthday Banquet and installed the new officers for the Ocmulgee Chapter in Macon, GA.

From 27 February to 1 March 2014, I was in Louisville, KY for the NSSAR Spring Trustees/Leadership Meeting. On Thursday night, we attended the Traditional Georgia Society Thursday Night Supper. I attended several Committee meetings including the Nominating Committee meeting, of which I was fortunate enough to be a member this year. Larry Guzy and I attended the Medals and Awards Committee meeting, and I had asked Larry to make a presentation where the Georgia Society asked that the NSSAR Medals and Awards Committee approve a Medal to be presented to Darlene Neuhause.

(Continued on Page 6)

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 Hornet's Nest



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Publisher

GASSAR Roger W. Coursey 259 Stagecoach Avenue Guyton, GA 31312-5333 912-728-3286 captrog2000@yahoo.com

Editor

William A. Greenly 6044 Ivey Meadow Lane Cumming, GA 30040-6675 404-788-8824 wagreenly@gmail.com

Photographer

Rick Reese RickReese68@att.net

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GEORGIA SOCIETY OFFICERS

PRESIDENT Roger W. Coursey 259 Stagecoach Avenue Guyton, GA 31312-5333 912-728-3286 captrog2000@yahoo.com

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT William "Bill" Hay 1489 Ridge Creek Way Columbus, GA 31904-1359 704-323-1400 Bill0626@knology.net

SECRETARY George H. Wheeless 63 New Court Carrollton, GA 30116-5557 770-836-1162 secretaryga@comcast.net

TREASURER Wayne L. Brown 2062 Double Creek Drive Powder Springs, GA 30127 404-694-4609 engineerscorner@gmail.com

REGISTRAR

Robert A. Sapp 2649 Club Valley Drive Marietta, GA 30068-3519 770-971-0189 2rasapp@bellsouth.net

EDITOR

William A. Greenly 6440 Ivey Meadow Lane Cumming, GA 30040-6675 404-788-8824 wagreenly@gmail.com

RECORDING SECRETARY Dr. Edward P. Rigel, Sr. 1504 Berkeley Court Gainesville, GA 30501-1260 770-534-7043 compatriotrigel@charter.net

CHAPLAIN Emory D. Fennell P.O. Box 903 Swainsboro, GA 30401 478-237-5697 efennell@nctiv.com

GENEALOGIST

Milus Bruce Maney 2603 Abilene Trail Snellville, GA 30078-3413 770-972-1751 MilusBruce@aol.com

CHANCELLOR

Chris E. Chapman 1561 Aiken Chafin Lane McDonough, GA 30252 404-787-4021 chap1993@gmail.com

HISTORIAN

N. Walker Chewning 706 Chesterfield Drive Lawrenceville, GA 30044-5626 770-972-7890 wcjc1@aol.com

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

Jackson (Jay) Guest 1240 Crabapple Circle Watkinsville, GA 30677-4125 706-769-9269 jugdgejg@yahoo.com

National Trustee

Edward P. Rigel, Sr. 1504 Berkeley Court Gainesville, GA 30501-1260 770-534-7043 compatriotrigel@charter.net

Alternate National Trustee Hon. Robert A. Sapp 2649 Club Valley Drive Marietta, GA 30068-3519 770-971-0189 2rasapp@bellsouth.net

Regional Vice Presidents

Northeast Region Carter J. Wood 3627 Blackrock Lane Hoschton, GA 30548 678-895-1580 CarterJWood@yahoo.com

Northwest Region Curtis Eugene McWaters 6339 McCollum Lane Acworth, GA 30102-1559 770-974-4708 cmcwaters@hotmail.com Southeast Region Jeffrey Allen Allmond, Sr. 192Wayfair Lane Hinesville, GA 31313 912-368-5589 JEAllmond@comcast.net

Southwest Region David Neal Spooner 5368 Ash Road Iron City, GA 39859-3408 229-774-2227 dnspooner@windstream.net

Central Region Robert P. Cruthirds 129 Julee Emilyn Dr. Bonaire, GA 31005-9104 478-922-0416 rpcruthirds@cox.net West Region LCDR David G. Jessel 10 College Street Newnan, GA 30263-2006 770-254-8579 ptljessel@charter.net

East Region Homer S. "Chip" Durden 641 W. Moring Street Swainsboro, GA 30401-3178 478-237-2635

Metro Region

James W. Lynch 2734 Varlet Ct., SW Snellville, GA 30039-4448 770-978-8362 jimwlync@bellsouth.net

Georgia Society Committee Chairman

Americanism

William "Bill" Hay 1489 Ridge Creek Way Columbus, GA 31904-1359 704-323-1400 Bill0626@knology.net

Audit

Bobby D. Shaw 2900 Barbara Lane Marietta, GA 30062-1433 770-971-3416 bdseds@bellsouth.net

By-Laws

Edward P. Rigel, Sr. 1504 Berkeley Court Gainesville, GA 30501-1260 770-534-7043 campatriotrigel@charter.net

C.A.R. Liaison

Robert W. Moore 2870 Roswell Lane Columbus, GA 31906-1256 706-561-8088 rwmkm@hotmail.com

Color Guard

Edward P. Rigel, Sr. 1504 Berkeley Court Gainesville, GA 30501-1260 770-534-7043 campatriotrigel@charter.net

Commemorative Events

William A. Greenly 6440 Ivey Meadow Lane Cumming, GA 30040 404-788-8824 wagreenly@gmail.com

Contest Oversight

William "Bill" Hay 1489 Ridge Creek Way Columbus, GA 31904-1359 704-323-1400 Bill0626@knology.net

DAR Liaison

Carl D. Bhame 7240 Wynhill Drive Atlanta, GA 30328-1318 770-394-1282 cbhame@bellsouth.net

Eagle Scout

William R. Coffeen 3799 Westwick Ct., NW Kennesaw, GA 30152-3193 770-419-2549 billcoffeen@gmail.com

> Education Vacant

Endowment Trust Fund

Roger W. Coursey 259 Stagecoach Avenue Guyton, GA 31312-5333 912-728-3286 captrog2000@yahoo.com

Executive Committee

Roger W. Coursey 259 Stagecoach Avenue Guyton, GA 31312-5333 912-728-3286 captrog2000@yahoo.com

Finance

H. Wilder Smith, Jr. 210 North Racetrack Street Swainsboro, GA 30401 hwsmithjr@bellsouth.net

Flag Respect

Paul I. Prescott 111 Timber Ridge Court Woodstock, GA 30188-2262 770-360-5766 prescotp@bellsouth.net

Fund Raising

Col. Robert F. Towns 1261 Tanglebrook Drive Athens, GA 30606-5773 706-548-7291 rftowns@mindspring.com

Historic Sites & Celebrations

Thomas M. Owen 401 S. Alexander Ave. Washington, GA 30673-1786 towen50@hotmail.com 706-678-5024

IT Committee Chair & Webmaster

Edward P. Rigel, Sr. 1504 Berkeley Court Gainesville, GA 30501-1260 770-534-7043 campatriotrigel@charter.net

Knight Essay

Allen Gibbs 3721 Hickory Ridge Court Marietta, GA 30066 404-281-3098 tgibbs@bellsouth.net

Library

Hugh Rodgers 4315 Cheshire Bridge Road Columbus, GA 31909-3917 706-561-2832 h_sirodgers@knology.net

Medals and Awards

George H. Wheeless, II 63 New Court Carrollton, GA 30116-5557 770-836-1162 secretaryga@comcast.net

Membership

J. Michael Tomme, Sr. 1008 Landmark Drive McDonough, GA 30252-3973 678-432-1161 mtomme@bellsouth.net

Nominating

Larry T. Guzy 4531 Paper Mill Road Marietta, GA 30067-4025 770-955-1303 Larry@adjustmentservices.com

Patriot Medal

J. Michael Tomme, Sr. 1008 Landmark Drive McDonough, GA 30252-3973 678-432-1161 mtomme@bellsouth.net

Public Safety

Paul I. Prescott 111 Timber Ridge Court Woodstock, GA 30188-2262 770-360-5766 prescotp@bellsouth.net

Publicity

William A. Greenly 6440 Ivey Meadow Lane Cumming, GA 30040 404-788-8824 wagreenly@gmail.com

Rev. War Patriot's and

Compatriots Graves Donald Burdick 166 Hart State Park Road Hartwell, GA 30643-4128 706-376-6660 dnburdick@comcast.net

ROTC

LCDR. David G. Jessel 10 College Street Newnan, GA 30263-2006 770-254-8579 ptljessel@charter.net

Rumbaugh Oration

George H. Wheeless, II 63 New Court Carrollton, GA 30116-5557 770-836-1162 secretaryga@comcast.net

Source Book

Edward P. Rigel, Sr. 1504 Berkeley Court Gainesville, GA 30501-1260 770-534-7043 campatriotrigel@charter.net

Veterans

William Kabel 4305 Sprucebough Dr. Marietta, GA 30062 770-565-1902 flytier44@comcast.net

Ladies Auxiliary

Camille Baxter 4690 Kilmersdon Lane Johns Creek, GA 30024-3334 770-8864908

January — March, 2014



George H. Wheeless

Message from the Georgia Society Secretary

Current Membership

As of January 1, 2014, the total membership for the Georgia Society is as follows:

REGULAR:	1,544
JUNIOR:	36
JUNIOR LIFE:	04
EMERITUS:	05
LIFE:	37
DUAL (Between States):	19
	======
TOTAL:	1,645

#Delegates to the National Congress:

The Georgia Society is allotted 34 delegates to the 2014 National Congress in Greenville, SC. Anyone attending this Congress and desiring to be a delegate MUST submit their request to me by letter or e-mail.

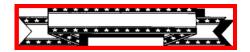
Email to: <u>secretaryga@comcast.net</u> or mail to me a 63 New Court, Carrollton, GA 30116. Delegate slots will be filled based on established protocol of the Georgia Society (see below). Compatriots not in any of these categories will be selected on a first come, first served basis,

Our protocol for selection of delegates is:

- 1. State President
- 2. National Trustee
- 3. Alternate National Trustee
- 4. Senior Vice President
- 5. Secretary
- 6. Treasurer
- 7. Registrar
- 8. National Trustee Nominee
- 9. Alternate National Trustee Nominee
- 10.Former Vice Presidents General
- 11. Former State Presidents
- 12. Regional Vice Presidents
- 13. Chapter Presidents
- 14. Other elected State Officers

NOTE: Many compatriots have sent requests well before any notice has been posted. As I indicated to all of them, they MUST send me their request once the NOTIFICATION goes out. I did not keep any names of those making premature requests.

NOTIFICATION is being made through <u>BOM@gassar.org</u>; the *Hornet's Nest*, and an announcement at the BOM on 26 Apr 2014.



January — March, 2014

of the

State Society



Message From the Georgia *Society* Chaplain

Emory D. Fennell

Greetings Compatriots, in the wonderful name of our Lord. There is excitement in the Jesus Christ.

praying in the snow of 1780 during the month running for National office...Hon. Col Robert of May. During these trying times, they even F. Towns, Athens Chapter, for Historian resorted to eating their own shoe leather, General (unopposed); Hon Larry Guzy, Capt because they were starving for lack of food. John Collins Chapter, for Registrar General Discouragement was also rampant among all (unopposed); Hon Edward Rigel, Sr, Lyman of the troops. Aren't you glad that in the Hall Chapter, for Surgeon General; and Hon midst of all those hardships, they never gave J. Michael Tomme, Sr, Marquis de Lafayette up.

Victory goes to the faithful and steadfast. You have got to know that God's special blessings and protection were on this great Tomme is elected as our next Treasurer venture that our grandfathers and grandmothers set out on from the various countries across the seas. They left all of their comforts and securities, as well as their families, to be able to come to this country to worship God as they saw fit, without any condemnation from their various established governments and churches, and to live their your service to the Georgia Society. lives in FREEDOM. I wonder do we still have people with those kind of convictions today.

Please continue to remember our obligation to our forefathers who gave us all of America. that we enjoy in a free nation. Always stand when you have an opportunity to preserve Roger W. Coursey what they established for us. Proverbs 3:5-6 In His Service. Emory D. Fennell, Chaplain Georgia Society, SAR

(Continued from page 1)

She is retiring due to health reasons. I also participated with the NSSAR Color Guard presenting colors for the Friday and Saturday night banquets. Also during the Trustees meeting, I presented a check from GASSAR for \$1,000 for the CAAH.

On 13 Mar 2014, I attended and brought greeting to both the Atlanta Chapter and also the Button Gwinnett Chapter at their regular monthly meetings. I also presented the program "Ebenezer in the Revolution" to both chapters.

On 14 Mar 2014, I represented the GASSAR at the 116th Georgia State Society DAR Conference Opening Night Ceremonies and Banquet. I brought greetings for the GASSAR and presented the State Regent, the NSSAR Spring Trustee/Leadership Virginia Linglebach, with two checks of \$250 each, one for the State Regents Project and the other for Meadow Garden.

greetings to the Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter during their regular meeting.

So as you can see, the first couple of months have been very busy indeed. One last thought that I want to leave you with, is for Louisville, KY, 01 March 2014, was more vou to consider attending the NSSAR Annual air as we anticipate the remembrance of the Conference in Greenville, SC in July. It is Death, Burial, and Resurrection of our Savior very important that the Georgia Society have as many of our members attend as possible. Think about our forefathers as they knelt This year we have four of our members Chapter, for Treasurer General (with opposition). We need to garner as many votes as we can to insure that Compatriot General. I have been told that GASSAR has never had over two members as General Officers at any one time in the past. So this will be a historic year for us. Help us make it Other items of possible interest from the an incredible year by attending Congress and Leadership Meeting: helping to elect Compatriot Tomme.

Thank you for your confidence in me and Remember all our service men and women who serve this great country of ours. May God Bless each of you, the Sons of the American Revolution, and the United States

President



Message From the Georgia Society National **Trustee**

Ed Rigel, Sr.

The GA Society was well represented at meeting. Attending from the GA Society were: President Roger Coursey, Immediate Past President James Stallings, National On 18 Mar 2014, I attended and brought Trustee Ed Rigel, Sr., Registrar General Mike Tomme, Historian General Bobby Towns, David Jessel, Charlie Newcomer, Tom Owen, George Thurmond and Paul Prescott.

The National Trustee meeting held in report and little action.

- Georgia Society was recognized for its \$1000 contribution to the Center for Advancing America's Heritage.
- NSSAR Budget Deficit will be in the \$160K range in 2014. New membership software to cost \$70K more than anticipated. Move to the new building to cost \$50K. 2014 deficit large because some expenses, specifically IT, were deferred from 2013 to 2014.
- 500+ new members in the first two months of the year. NSSAR membership at 31,433.
- Construction on new headquarters on time and on budget; anticipated finish May or June. Society will probably need to borrow \$500K.

- No members of the GA Society were selected for Minuteman recognition. I do not know if any were nominated.
- Sam Powell, NCSSAR, was elected as Color Guardsman of the Year.

An item of great significance since the Leadership meeting, the NSSAR received an offer for the purchase of its building on 4th Street. This is the building that currently houses the administration of the Society. The offer was the first since the building was placed on the market a while back and the offering price was quite substantial.

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A meeting of the National Trustees was called for Saturday, 26 April, to vote on accepting the contract for sale of the building. I have discussed the matter with Alternate Robert Sapp, reviewed all Trustee documentation provided, and have reviewed all input from former President Generals and others who are familiar with the history of the building and efforts to sell it. At the called meeting of the Trustees on 26 April, 2014, I will vote in favor of approving the sale of the building.

Related to the anticipated sale of the building, the following concerns were forwarded to the National Society:

As of April 18th the Museum Gallery at the 4th Street building is closed to the general public. This means that during the months of April, May, June and July the Headquarters staff, in all Departments, will be occupied with preparing to move, moving and unpacking the material in the new facilities.

> You may experience a delay in receiving a follow up telephone or email response when you leave or send a message. The staff will be fully involved with the preparations for the move, execution of the move and unpacking after the move.

- The Genealogy staff and the application processing may be delayed for a period while computer systems are down during the move or possibly the staff is being redirected to help with the move.
- Merchandise may not be available due to furniture and equipment being moved through the loading dock area or the staff being redirected to help with the move.
- The Education Department may not be available due to everything being in boxes or the staff being redirected to help with the move.

Respectfully, Ed Rigel, Sr. National Trustee GA Society SAR





For those who were not at the Spring Trustees/Leadership Meeting in Louisville, KY. I will give a brief synopsis of the happenings in the committee meetings attended by some of our GASSAR member.

Americanism Committee

1. Like most of the other youth awards, the Americanism Committee has approved a medal to cover the cost of the Americanism Committee sponsored contest... Poster Contest and Brochure Contest. Members may buy a medal for \$250 which will cover the cost of the medal. I do not know when 2. For 2018, TXSSAR was approved by the medal will be available for purchase.

2. This will be the first year of the Brochure approval. Plans are for Houston Contest and it appears that several states will have entries this year at Congress in GWEF Board Greenville.

recommended we change the theme for the by PASSAR and ILSSAR leaving \$12,962.55 Brochure Contest. Since the middle schools to be used by those who request monies. do not cover the same subjects as the GASSAR was mentioned regarding the intent elementary schools do in history, it is difficult to honor the "Turtle", however there was no to get schools to support the contest when request made. Georgia could easily win one they are tied to the same theme as the Poster or two awards next Congress (KY) if we have Contest. The committee voted to amend the as little as 5 new George Washington themes, and the results will be announced at Fellows. The year starts on 1 April. Georgia the Congress in Greenville

4. The Americanism Contest Score Sheet has the latest revision on the NSSAR website for use this year.

Newsletter Committee

1. Working on an Online Newsletter Category

2. A seminar will be conducted at the 124th Congress (probably Sunday afternoon)

3. Seeking input for Independent Broadside

4. Judges are asked to provide feedback on items to improve the quality of newsletter

5. Certificates will be sent out to those in the top five who do not receive awards

Merchandise Committee

1. Merchandise inventory audit=less than 2% error rate

2. \$122,600 net earned for NSSAR in 2013

Patriot Index/Revolutionary War Graves Committee

1. Committee to review the member grave marking item (replace PATRIOT with MEMBER on the current markers) 2. Compatriot Ed Rigel, Sr received the FIRST grave marking medal by a member of the Georgia Society

Historic Sites Committee

1. 2014 NSSAR Historic Sites list will be taken over by Jack Manning and released soon

2. Reenactment spun off and is now a

separate committee Veterans Committee

Marquis de Lafayette (5th) and Robert 1. Forsyth (6th) and Button Gwinnett (7th) in Stark Award competition for 50-99 category. Piedmont (2^{nd}) for their category

Congress Planning Committee

1. For 2017, TNSSAR is revisiting Knoxville as a potential site for Congress now that the city and several hotels are doing major demolition and rebuilding. This is east of Nashville and will be very close for GA participation

committee to be voted upon this fall for

1. Approved \$17,962.55 for distribution in 3. The Georgia Society, among others, has 2014. Of that \$5,000 was approved for use has never before won these awards.

Genealogy Committee

1.Chapter Registrars need to be aware of the need to stress to potential members (especially younger...50 to 60ish) of the need for the long form vs. short form in order to keep them from being pended by national. Also that an official affidavit or statement should be submitted if a long form is not available.

Chaplain Committee

1. Chaplain Corps protocol for Greenville, SC, NSSAR conference in July discussed.

Flag Committee

1. Flag protocols were discussed in the context of SAR flags vs. banners longevity

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Color Guard Schedule

2014

- 26 Apr GASSAR BOM meeting, Barnesville, GA
- 24 May Scout Day, Marietta National Cemetery, 0730 Hrs
- 08 Jun MOAA Wounded Warrior Banquet, Lake Lanier Islands
- 28 Jun Patriot Bushnell Monument dedication, Warrenton, 1100 Hrs.
- 18 24 Jul 124th Annual Congress, Greenville, SC
- 26 Jul GASSAR BOM, Barnesville, GA 1000 Hrs
- 13 Sep Compatriot Fred Smith grave marking, 1000 hrs and Patriot Samuel Reed 1400 hrs. Blue Ridge Mountain Chapter
- 17 Sep William Few Ceremony, Augusta
- 20 Sep GSSDAR Constitution Week Luncheon, Piedmont Driving Club, Atlanta
- 26 27 Sep NSSAR Fall Leadership, Louisville, KY
- 07 Oct Kings Mountain
- 09 Oct Battle of Savannah
- 25 Oct GASSAR BOM, Barnesville, GA
- 01 Nov Compatriot Charles Hendry grave marking
- 22 Nov Fort Morris
- 06 Dec Vann's Creek
- 13 Dec Wreaths Across America

January-March, 2014





Georgia Society Meeting Dates

President Roger W. Coursey



GA Society Executive Committee Meetings - 2014

10:00 AM Saint Peter Claver Catholic Church Social Hall 131 Ward Street Macon, GA 31204 April 16th July 16th October 15th January 14th

GA Society Board of Managers Meetings - 2014

10:00AM Garden Patch Restaurant 100 Southland Drive, Barnesville, GA 30204-1573 April 26th July 26th October 25th

GA Society Annual Conference - 2015 January 23-24, 2015 Sonesta Gwinnett Place 1775 Pleasant Hill Rd. Duluth, GA 30096

2014 New Members

Georgia Society New Members From January 1, 2014 to March 31, 2014

Athens	Registered	<u>New Member</u>	Patriot	<u>Sponsor</u>
Athens	29 Jan 2014	Michael Brent Owen	Thomas Napier	Robert Forrest Towns
Atlanta				
1 thuntu	16 Jan 2014	Kenneth Harrison Thomas	Joel King	David Andrews Noble
	16 Jan 2014	Charles Cotsworth Pinckney II		David Andrews Noble
	29 Jan 2014	Carl Latta Espy III	Samuel Espy	David Andrews Noble
	29 Jan 2014	Carl Latta Espy II	Samuel Espy	David Andrews Noble
	11 Feb 2014	Gordon Russell Cade	Uriah Connor	David Andrews Noble
	04 Mar 2014	Thomas Howard Gurley	Isham Gurley	William Howard Gurley
	04 Mar 2014	Thorn Sherwood Winter, IV	Phineas Carman	David Andrews Noble
	04 Mar 2014	Robert Julian Goodlow	Jacob Opp	David Andrews Noble
	04 Mar 2014	Thorn Sherwood, V	Phineas Carman	David Andrews Noble
	04 Mar 2014	Kiernan McAlister Winter	Phineas Carman	David Andrews Noble
	04 Mar 2014	Travis Sherwood Wheeler	Phineas Carman	David Andrews Noble
	04 Mar 2014	Cody Alexander Wheeler	Phineas Carman	David Andrews Noble
	04 Mar 2014	William Todd Gurley	Isham Gurley	William Howard Gurley
	04 Mar 2014	Liam Alexander Gurley	Isham Gurley	William Howard Gurley
	04 Mar 2014	Thorn Sherwood Winter, III	Phineas Carman	David Andrews Noble
	11 Mar 2014	Michael Eric Gamble	Peter Yates	David Andrews Noble
Button Gwinnett				
	29 Jan 2014	Ralph Charles Galpin	Issac Slaughter	Harold Douglas Ford
	19 Feb 2014	James Malcom Ruff, Sr.	Peter Shaffer	Newton Walker Chewning
Coweta Falls				
	23 Jan 2014	Mark Haynes Powell	Abasolom Powell	Wayne Curtis Cartledge
	23 Jan 2014	Tommy Haynes Powell	Abasolom Powell	Wayne Curtis Cartledge
	28 Mar 2014	Christopher Aaron Callier	John Parker	Hugh Irmon Rogers
	28 Mar 2014	Thomas Prier Callier, III	John Parker	Hugh Irmon Rogers
	28 Mar 2014	Thomas Prier Callier, IV	John Parker	Hugh Irmon Rogers
Edward Telfair				
	23 Jan 2014	Damon Dupree Fuller	Edward Pegram	Roger Warren Coursey
	06 Feb 2014	Nathan Robert Lund	Benjamin Stearns	Roger Warren Coursey
Joel Early	22.1 2014			
	23 Jan 2014	Emmitt Wayne Sheffield	John Sheffield	Kenneth Neal Spooner
	23 Jan 2014 04 Mar 2014	Amos John Sheffield	John Sheffield	David Neal Spooner
		Samuel Baxley Mills	Zoath Spooner	David Neal Spooner
Captain John Collin				
	16 Jan 2014	Eugene Stafford Irvine	Abner Hammond	Robert Van Blackwell
	04 Mar 2014	Frank Aloysius Riley, Jr.	Abraham Waterman	Larry Thomas Guzy
Joseph Habersham				
	23 Jan 2014	David Edward Payne	Howard Cash	William Hughes Raper
	23 Jan 2014	Benjamin Haley Cash	Howard Cash	William Hughes Raper
	23 Jan 2014	Michael Scott Prather	Benjamin Crowley	William Hughes Raper
	23 Jan 2014	Randall Stephen Prather	Benjamin Crowley	William Hughes Raper
	23 Jan 2014	Robert Scott Prather, III	Benjamin Crowley	William Hughes Raper
	23 Jan 2014 23 Jan 2014	Robert Scott Prather, Jr. Alvin Floyd Gosnell	Benjamin Crowley Charles Gosnell	William Hughes Raper William Hughes Raper
	29 Jan 2014	Sylvan Raymond Dyer	John Ingraham	William Hughes Raper
	27 Jan 2014	Syrvan Raymond Dyci	John ingranalli	miniani riugiles Kapei

(Continued on next page)

The Hornet's Nest

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	Registered	<u>New Member</u>	<u>Patriot</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>
Marshes of Glynn	06 Feb 2014	James Steven Hinson, Sr.	Christopher Mercer	Robert Hudson Lear
	11 Mar 2014	Ward Page Faulk	Travis McClendon	William Floyd Ramsaur
	11 Mar 2014	James Stewart Thomason	William Thomason	Robert Hudson Lear
Piedmont	29 Jan 2014	Frederic Miller Reese, III	William Brockett	Frederic Miller Reese, Jr.
	06 Feb 2014	Warren Randolph Pollard, III	Aaron Smith	Eugenius Shepphard Hammack
Robert Forsyth	29 Jan 2014	Evan Bentley Perry	Christopher Brandon	Timothy Frank Bassett
	25 Feb 2014	Daniel Eugene Odom	James Veazey	William Allen Greenly
	25 Feb 2014	Austin John Odom	James Veazey	William Allen Greenly
	25 Feb 2014	Matthew Daniel Odom	James Veazey	William Allen Greenly
	28 Mar 2014	Matthew Kyle Hooper	David Hooper	William Allen Greenly
	28 Mar 2014	Edward Reid Hooper	David Hooper	William Allen Greenly
Wash - Wilkes	04 Mar 2014	Samuel Jackson Moore	James Finley	James Larry Wilson

Total 51



Congratulations Chapters!

The Hornet's Nest



In Memory of Our Fathers, Our Brothers, Our Sons Our Compatriots 2014



Georgia Society Deceased Members January 1, 2014 to March 31, 2014

<u>Compatriot</u>	<u>Nat'l No.</u>	<u>Chapter</u>	DECEASED
Garnett Lane "Jack" Ferguson, Jr.	152185	Piedmont	17 Jan 2014
Charles Haddock Hendry, MD	184426	Piedmont	20 Jan 2014
William Maurice Slayton	172800	Coweta Falls	21 Jan 2014
Murray Stanton King	182261	Blue Ridge Mts.	23 Jan 2014
William Kenneth Jackson	155036	Samuel Elbert	30 Jan 2014
Loring Charles Covington	168635	Captain John Collins	11 Mar 2014
John Richard McAliley, Jr.	185254	Atlanta	30 Mar 2014

* Past State President







of the

Georgia Society Chapters

Atlanta

The Atlanta Chapter continues to grow with another 40 members projected for approval in David Cook presenting Heroism Medal to 2014. With two museum quality Sacred Soils displays on tour around Georgia presently, the chapter is now engaged in the creation of a cenotaph monument to Patriot David Bushnell, the inventor of the Revolutionary War submarine "The Turtle." The monument is under contract for its construction and placement by mid-June with a dedication ceremony planned for Saturday, June 28, at 11:00 am in Warrenton, Warren County, Georgia (just south of Wilkes County). We look forward to a ceremony attended by the GASSAR Color Guard, area DAR chapters, GASSAR members, and several veterans and military organizations. As final plans are confirmed additional information will be disseminated. Pictured at the April 10th meeting is one of Atlanta's newly inducted members, Liam Gurley, being pinned by his first cousin, Ameila Gurley.



Blue Ridge Mountains

The Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter presented its first Hero Medal and certificate to Fireman Dustin Lee of the Union County Georgia Fire Department. The medal was presented for his actions in saving the lives of an elderly couple from a house fire. Fireman Lee performed a dramatic rescue even though he was off duty and had no equipment. The house was mostly consumed with fire and smoke. One of the individuals required a walker.



Fireman Dustin Lee

The Chapter was represented at Cowpens, Kettle Creek and Guilford Courthouse by Color Guard member Jack Dugger who presented wreaths at each location. The chapter has added two flags to the chapter Color Guard unit, making a total of six.

The chapter was honored to have GASSAR President Roger Coursey and NE Regional VP Carter Wood as guests at the March Chapter meeting.

The chapter conducted a brief ceremony during the March meeting to recognize deceased Compatriot Murray King.

Washington's Birthday was celebrated by presenting a framed portrait of George Washington to the Mountain Regional Library in Young Harris, GA. This is the third Washington portrait the chapter has presented to libraries in the Mountain Regional system. There was also a display in the Union County Library.

"Colonial Life in America" was the theme Marshes of Glynn used by chapter president David R. Cook total attendance was over 400 students and teachers. The chapter's traveling trunk was used in the presentations and has been expanded with additional items.





Lyman Hall

During the month of March, Dr. Ed Rigel, Sr., President of the Lyman Hall chapter and Carter J. Wood, Northeast Region Vice President visited the Wauka Mountain Elementary School in Hall County. They presented the traveling trunk to the 4th grade class of Rhonda Fraley.



L to R - Ed Rigel, Sr., Rhonda Fraley and Carter J. Wood

On March 31, 2014, five Compatriots when visiting four elementary schools. The from the Marshes of Glynn SAR Chapter participated in the Dedication Ceremony of the Wright Square Burial Ground in Brunswick, Georgia. Dressed in Colonial attire, we presented the Colors and provided Taps for the ceremony. Since Brunswick's founding in 1771, many citizens were buried in Wright Square- one of the small park squares in Downtown Brunswick- before 1839, when the "new" public cemetery was established. During the 1950s, a Middle School was built in Wright Square on top of the early burial ground. That school was razed a few years ago, and in the fall of 2012 the City of Brunswick sponsored archaeological excavations to confirm the location and establish reasonable boundaries in each direction. The burial ground covers approximately one quarter of an acre and thirty seven graves were discovered, although 65 to 75 graves are believed to exist.

(Continued next page)

January — March, 2014

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No grave markers have survived making it difficult to determine the individuals interred or the dates of burial, but examination of public probate records, newspaper obituaries and family histories has yielded 125 prospective interments. The most recognizable name is Benjamin Hart who served in the Georgia Militia, died in 1802 and was the husband of the famous Nancy Hart. All records state that Benjamin Hart L to R - Lt. Brad Freeman, James E. Stallings was buried in Wright Square. Other and GASSAR President Roger W. Coursey prospective interments include five men who are listed in Ross Arnold's Georgia Four Warner Robins, GA Firefighters were Revolutionary Soldiers. The City is awarded the Fire Commendation Medal and considering additional ways to identify the Certificate for their Valor shown in burial ground with a viewing stand, performance of their duty by rescuing a man landscaping, interpretative signs, etc. Our SAR Chapter will work with the City and other Heritage and Historical Organizations in the future efforts to recognize those who served in the American Revolution.



Marshes of Glynn Compatriots in photo with Wright Square Monument: (left to right) Johnny Turrentine, Rob Lear, Steve Ford and Bill Ramsaur with two members of the Fort Frederica DAR Chapter; not pictured Brent Taylor.

Ocmulgee

Ocmulgee Chapter held its annual Washington Birthday Dinner and Awards Ceremony on 22 February 2014. GASSAR President Roger Coursey brought Greetings and assisted Ocmulgee President James Stallings in the Awards Presentations.

Three Monroe County, GA Sheriff's Deputies were awarded the Law Enforcement Commendation Medal and Certificate for their Valor in performance of their duty by rescuing a man from a burning automobile. President Coursey made the presentation to Lt. Brad Freeman. Deputies Sgt. Mike Hull and Jason Beck were unable to attend the event. Their Medals and Certificates were presented by Ocmulgee President Ray Crumbley and Past President - 2012, on right, recommended that President James Stallings on 10 April 2014 in a James Stallings, center, be awarded the ceremony held at the Monroe County Bronze Chapter Distinguished Service Medal Sheriff's Office in Forsyth, GA.

Hornet's Nest Deadline July 15, 2014 Make sure your Chapter news gets published!



from a burning dwelling.



From left to right are Lt. Larry Warren, Ocmulgee President Stallings, Lt. Larry Nelson, Firefighter Taylor Howell, Engineer Randy Wilson and GASSAR President Coursey.

Ocmulgee Secretary Stan Adams, and Vice President Ray Crumbley were presented the Bronze Roger Sherman Medal for their service to the chapter. Also receiving the From L - R President Ray Crumbley, Vice award were Treasurer Charles Hampton and President Moses Alexander, Secretary Stan Chaplain Charles Daniel who were unable to Adams, and Past President James Stallings. attend the event.



From L to R - James Stallings, Stan Adams, Ray Crumbley and GASSAR President Roger W. Coursey

Ocmulgee Past President Bill Gifford 2011 for his service during President Gifford's tenure.





From L to R - James Stallings, Bill Gifford and State President Roger W. Coursey

Ocmulgee Past President Tucker Haught 2009 - 2010 recommended that Past President Christopher Stokes be awarded the Bronze Chapter Distinguished Service Medal for his service during President Haught's tenure. Compatriot's Haught and Stokes were unable to attend the event.

GASSAR President Roger Coursey, on left, installed the officers of Ocmulgee Chapter





Ocmulgee President Ray Crumbley receives his symbol of office from his wife Sadie.



(*Continued next page*)

January-March, 2014

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On 15 February 2014 GASSAR Immediate Past President James Stallings, representing GASSAR President Roger Coursey, presents a Certificate commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the General Daniel Stewart Chapter DAR to Regent Ellie Loudermilk.



During the 18 March 2014 chapter meeting Ocmulgee President Ray Crumbley presented The Rumbaugh Oration Contest Medal to Jefferson Demott, Chapter Winner, as Rumbaugh Chairman Dan Topolewski looks on.



During the 18 March 2014 chapter meeting Ocmulgee Past President James Stallings presents Compatriot Jack L. Zuker with the NSSAR Korean War Service Certificate honoring his service to our country.

On April 2, 2013 Ocmulgee Past President's James Stallings and Robert Cruthirds presented the Colors during the Naturalization Ceremony held at the Federal



Courthouse in Macon, GA. At the invitation of the judge presiding Compatriot Stallings brought Greetings from the Sons of the American Revolution and made a few remarks regarding the founding of our country to the thirty-six new citizens.

Piedmont



The Georgia Society Color Guard honored Compatriot Jack Ferguson as Honorary Pall Bearers at his funeral service which was held at the Mayes Ward Funeral Home Chapel in Marietta, Georgia on January 20, 2014.



Past Georgia Society President Bob Sapp shown in the photo delivered the tribute to our friend and Compatriot. Bob noted Jack"s many accomplishments and his devoted service to the SAR. Following the memorial service, the Color Guard, pro-ceeded to the Georgia National Cemetery in Canton, Georgia where Jack was given full military honors prior to his burial.

Color Guard Change of Command

Color Guard Commander Paul Prescott has served the Piedmont Chapter for ten years, participating in more than 1,100 SAR events in uniform. Additionally, he served as Georgia Society Color Guard Commander for six years and he was named Color Guardsman of the Year by the NSSAR in 2011.



At a traditional and proper ceremony, which was held at the end of the January Chapter Meeting, Piedmont Chapter Past President Paul Prescott, relinquished his position as Color Guard Commander to Compatriot Bill Kabel.

This change of command ceremony was conducted by Sergeant-At-Arms, Tom Davis under the direction of Chapter President Walt Woliver. At the appointed time, Sergeant-At-Arms Davis advised those present of the pending change and proceeded to relieve Commander Prescott of the chapter"s flag which he respectfully returned to Piedmont President Woliver who in turn presented the flag to the new Color Guard Commander, Bill Kabel with appropriate instructions regarding responsibilities and care. Commander Kabel assumed the flag and command. His first act as Piedmont Color Guard Commander was to appoint Compatriot Paul Prescott as the Assistant Color Guard Commander.

Hornet's Nest **Deadline** July 15, 2014 Make sure <u>your</u> Chapter news gets published!

Robert Forsyth



January's guest speaker Paul I. Prescott, flag respect committee chair of the Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution discussed the importance of honoring our sacred American flag. For example, he noted the American flag should be at the center and at the highest point of the group when a number of flags of states, localities, or societies are grouped for display. Prescott's captivating talk interjected anecdotes and humor, all the while demonstrating his commitment to educating others who simply may have been previously ignorant to respecting this enduring symbol. It is one that honors not only our nation, but also those who have and continue to bravely defend it.



Compatriot Mike Jones spoke at the February chapter meeting on how to properly fold an American flag. Jones discussed the honor guard and how the flag is used in military funerals, presented to loved ones of the deceased on behalf of a grateful nation. A flag folding demonstration was provided with the assistance of two other members of the honor guard. A properly proportioned United States flag will fold 13 times on the triangles, representing the 13 original colonies. When finally complete, the triangular folded flag is emblematic of the tri-corner hat worn by the patriots of the American Revolution.

Wlliam Few



A Grave Marking Ceremony for Patriot (Sgt.) William Jones was held at 11am on March 8th, 2014, at his burial site located in the Jones Family Cemetery near Appling, GA. Sgt. Jones served his country in the 2^{nd} Georgia Continental Battalion. The ceremony was planned and presented by the Col. William Few Chapter, SAR, and the College Hill Chapter, NSDAR to honor his patriotic service. The Jones Family and the SAR and DAR chapters placed a memorial stone, which includes both his SAR and DAR identification numbers, at the gravesite. In attendance were 25 guests, including a descendant, Caroline Kelly Tait and her husband, Claude, of Shreveport, LA. Mrs. Tait is also the Registrar of the Shreveport Chapter, NSDAR. The program included comments from Caroline Tait honoring her ancestor and a history of Sgt. Jones presented by Col. William Few chapter member and Parliamentarian, William Tankersley, The event included wreath presentations and honors by representatives of the GASSAR, NSDAR, Daughters of the American Colonists, and Colonial Dames chapters in attendance. The College Hill Chapter presented Mrs. Tait with a live bouquet of flowers from the family home site as a lasting memorial. The program concluded with a musket salute and mourn musket provided by Elijah Clarke Militia member. Don Thomas of the Lyman Hall Chapter, GASSAR, and "Taps" played by Elijah Clark State Park Manager, Ranger Chris Hawn.



Caroline Tait reveals the new marker

With permission of the landowners where the gravesite is located, members of the College Hill and William Few chapters conducted extensive site preparation prior to the event. It was great to see our organizations working together in the recognition of this patriot ancestor.

At our first quarter meeting on March 21st at the Garlic Clove Restaurant we had 30 members and guests in attendance.

Don Anderson and William Yarbrough were presented with their Korean War Certificates. Bill Tankersley and Kirby Towns each received supplemental certificates.

Our guest speaker was Ed Rigel, Sr. who presented a program on the Traveling Trunk. He challenged the chapter to begin a Traveling Trunk program for their local schools.

<u>Wiregrass</u>

The Wiregrass chapter had their Officers installed Thursday night, January 9, The installing Officer was the 2014. President-Elect of the "Georgia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution", Roger Coursey from Guyton, Georgia. The banquet, held at the home of Norma and SAR member Julian Sconyers, was the scene of 38 members and spouses. Everyone enjoy a delicious meal with the "Ribeye Steaks" being grilled by Julian and Buddy Cobb. After the meal, SAR member Dess Smith III introduced Georgia's 12th District Congressional candidate John Stone from Augusta, Georgia who provided this months program for us. John talked about MG Robert Howe, the Continental Army, and the First Battle of Savannah. MG Howe was the commander of the Continental Army in Savannah during that first Battle and his army was defeated by the British. John also discussed how our system of government is dependent on our continuing to follow the Constitutional principles established following the American Revolution. After the program, President-elect Coursey installed the following 2014 Wiregrass Chapter Officers: Steve Burke, Ruskin Powell, Emory Fennell, George King, Dess Smith III, Marcus Price, and Julian President-Elect Coursey then Sconvers. installed the 2014 Wiregrass Chapter President, Wilder Smith.

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Front row L - R Steve Burk, State President Roger W. Coursey, Chapter President Wilder Smith, John Stone, Ruskin Powell. Back Row L - R Marcus Price, George King, Chip Durden, Emory Fennell, Dess Smith III, Julian Sconyers

Compatriots of the Wiregrass Chapter from Swainsboro, attended the 235th Anniversary Celebration of The Battle of Kettle Creek during the Washington-Wilkes Revolutionary Days on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, February 7, 8 and 9, 2014.

One of the displays was set up by our very own Wiregrass Chapter Vice-President Steve Burke, see photo. At 11:30, Wilder Smith, Dess Smith, Emory and Joyce Fennell and Chip Durden watched the Annual Revolutionary Days Parade around the town square. Wiregrass Chapter members Steve Burke and Ruskin Powell marched with the Patriot Militia in the parade.

On Sunday February 9th, at 9:00 a.m., a Colonial Worship Service was held at the Phillips Mill Baptist Church in Washington. Our Wiregrass Chapter Compatriot Emory Fennell was the guest Pastor and conducted the service. Emory is the Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution Chaplain. The Wiregrass Chapter Compatriots in attendance were: President Wilder Smith, Vice-President Steve Burke, Secretary Ruskin Powell, Registrar Dess Smith III, Chancellor Chip Durden, Chaplain Emory Fennell and prospective member Louis Bellamy. DAR member Joyce Fennell also attended with her husband Emory.

At our March 13, 2014 monthly meeting, we had 15 members, 6 prospective members and our Honorary member Judy Womac in attendance. Our program was presented by Emory Allen Burton, who was a classmate of Dess Smith at the Georgia Military College. When Allen Burton arrived at GMC, the company commander was Felix Moring, who is now a member of the Wiregrass Chapter and was in attendance. It was the first time that Allen and Felix had seen each other in 53 years. Allen is a member of the Washington-Wilkes Chapter and a charter member of the Kettle Creek Battlefield Association. His program was on Thomas Paine and his pamphlet Common Sense.



L - R Dess Smith III, Emory Allen Burton and President Wilder Smith, Jr.

On March 15th the chapter was represented at the Annual Celebration of the battle of Guilford Courthouse in Greensboro, North Carolina. Wilder Smith, Jr, President of the



Wiregrass Chapter placed the Wiregrass Chapter wreath at the monument in the photo.

Altamaha and Marshes of Glynn

A grave marking ceremony for Revolutionary War soldier Jacob Highsmith was held Saturday, March 22.

About 60 people, many of them Highsmith descendants, turned out for the ceremony at the Highsmith Cemetery in Waynesville in Brantley County.

The exact location of Highsmith's grave is not known, but a marker was placed in the Highsmith Cemetery, which, according to



records, was laid out on the northeast corner of Jacob's plantation.

The Altamaha, Jesup, GA, the Marshes of Glynn, Brunswick, GA and the Gainesville, FL, chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution, sponsored the ceremony.

Chapter president Jason Deal served as the emcee. Chapter secretary-treasurer R.M. Beaver Jr. led the pledge of allegiance. Marshes of Glynn president Jimmy Boatright offered the invocation and Gainesville, FL, immediate past president Roger Cox offered the benediction.

Randy Highsmith, great-great-great-greatgrandson of Jacob, read the biography of his ancestor. Highsmith joined the Gainesville, FL chapter of the SAR under Jacob's lineage and discovered at that time that his grave was unmarked. R. Highsmith then launched a year long effort to mark Jacob's service to his country.

J. Highsmith served in the Pitt County, NC militia during the Revolutionary War.

Born in North Carolina in 1758, Highsmith moved to Tattnall County, GA after the war and then later moved farther south to what was then Wayne County, now Brantley County, GA. Highsmith owned a l a r g e p l a n t a t i o n n e a r Waynesville. Highsmith and his wife, Sarah, raised 13 children. He died in Wayne County (now Brantley County) in 1829.



The Georgia State Society Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard presented the colors and offered honors to Highsmith including the firing of a musket volley.

Randy Highsmith and members of the Highsmith family unveiled the marker during the ceremony.

Boatright also performed the sacred soils ceremony, scattering soil collected from the 28 battle sites of the Revolution which occurred in Georgia.

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More than a dozen representatives of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and the Children of the American Revolution (C.A.R.) presented wreaths during the ceremony.



Jimmy Boatright, President of Marshes of Glynn Chapter, spreads a mixture of soil from twenty eight sites in Georgia in which Revolutionary Patriots shed blood during the Revolutionary War. The soil was obtained from the new Sacred Soils Exhibit created by the Atlanta Chapter and is on loan to Marshes of Glynn Chapter. Marshes of Glynn has presented the exhibit to Brunswich High School, Glynn Academy High School, and will be moving it to the Brunswick Public Library on March 25th.

> BOM MEETING SATURDAY July26, 2014 10:00 am <u>Garden Patch</u>

Report From The



George Thurmond



Compatriot Ed Rigel, Sr. receives the Patriot Grave Marking Medal from NSSAR Revolutionary War Graves Committee member George Thurmond. The medal recognizes past efforts to identify and report data on Revolutionary War graves and to encourage new efforts to identify graves. The data generated by these efforts will meet educational objectives by continuing to build and improve the existing database on these patriots by listing their final resting places. It meets historical objectives by providing data to potential members and by identifying these significant places so that they may not be lost to future generations. Compatriot Rigel is the first member of the Georgia Society to

Recipients must actively participate in 15 Patriot grave marking ceremonies. The medal is suspended from a purple and black drape and is a round disk of silver color. The obverse depicts a cemetery with a picket fence, with a rifle leaning against the fence, a Betsy Ross flag, and a cloudy sky. The words "1775 Patriot" appear at the bottom. The reverse has the words "Services for Those Who Served" flanked by laurel leaves, with space for inscription. A certificate accompanied the presentation.

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Council of State Presidents

1. Addressed changing the Council of State Presidents by laws so that meeting at the Trustees/Leadership Meetings can be counted as official meeting, in order for business to be conducted. Currently only the meeting at Congress is considered an official meeting... This will be addressed at Congress this summer.

2. Much discussion on the need for Societies to be incorporated (GASSAR is) and the need for Societies to have liability insurance.

Germany Society Meeting

1. Larry Guzy was nominated to serve again for 2014-2015 as the Secretary/ Treasurer for the Society. There are 163 dual members and currently 5 residents in Germany or primary members with an additional 3 in process. The membership is open to all who want to honor their Germanic heritage

2. The Society voted to give \$750 to the CAAH, \$250 to USO in Germany, and \$25 to the Friends of the Library.

Roger W. Coursey President, GASSAR





The annual commemoration of the Revolutionary War's Battle of Kettle Creek was held this year Feb. 7-9 in Wilkes County. Georgia's most famous battle during the War for Independence occurred Feb. 14, 1779, a few miles outside the city of Washington, where a 12.5-acre park was established in 1900 to preserve the site.

Today, the Kettle Creek Battlefield Association hosted a three-day event that includes a banquet on Feb. 7, where Charles Baxley spoke on "The Revolution Comes to the Ceded Lands, Wilkes County and its Birth Under Fire." The ceded lands included Madison, Elbert, Oglethorpe and other counties that once belonged to Cherokee and Creek Indians.

The major events took place on Feb. 8 in downtown Washington. Numerous events included living history demonstrations at the Robert Toombs House and Fort Washington Park. A dramatic portrayal of the battle took place in the park at 9:30 a.m. and a parade followed at 10 a.m.

Afterward, visitors traveled to the Kettle Creek park, known as War Hill, where events began at 2 p.m., included demonstrations by the Continental Army, the Georgia militia, drum music and a musket firing.

The Sunday events included a Colonial church service at Phillips Mill Baptist Church on Georgia Highway 44 about 9 miles from Washington. The church was created during the Revolution and at least four Patriots are buried in the cemetery, according to the Kettle Creek association. The church's first pastor was Silas Mercer, the father of Jesse Mercer, for whom Mercer University in Macon is named.

Currently, the association, which was formed in 2011, is trying to enlarge the perimeter of the park around War Hill. In 1933, a 16-foot granite obelisk was placed at the site. Recently, the association purchased about 60 acres of land from Plum Creek Timber Company and considerably increased the park size. The association would like to add 780 acres. The association touts the park's benefits as preserving its historic value, wildlife protection and recreation.

The site is considered the key battle in Georgia during the Revolutionary War. During the battle, about 350 Patriot soldiers led by Col. Andrew Pickens of South Carolina defeated about 700 Loyalists. Elijah Clarke, for whom Clarke County is named, also fought in the battle.

The Kettle Creek Association now has about 400 members and is continuing to seek donations through the public and private foundations to enlarge and develop the park, according to an association member. *From "Online Athens"*

From the "News Reporter" Vol. XCIII, No. 7 (Washington-Wilkes County newspaper)

In the last few years, the annual observance of the Battle of Kettle Creek has grown from a small, solemn observance by heritage groups and descendants into a colorful three-day pageant of history and heritage that packs an appeal for all ages. Like any big celebration, it has taken the work of many people to bring it to pass.

The transformation has been a result of years of hard work by members of the Sons of the American Revolution, the Daughters of the American Revolution, and many others to expand the scope and appeal of the observance, organizers say.

In particular, the event is organized by the Georgia Society of the SAR's Historic Sites and Celebrations Committee. "Folks have no idea what they do in the two months leading to Kettle Creek," Tom Owen said. "It takes, literally 250—300 hours and about \$2,500 for the SAR to deliver Revolutionary Days to the residents of Washington-Wilkes each year, not to mention the thousands of dollars spent by the SAR/DAR members and visitors when they come."

A dozen members of the Historic Sites and Celebration Committee do the heavy lifting, Owen said. "In addition to me" he said, "these committee members include Milus B. Maney, James H. Boatright III, N. Walker Chewning, William F. Ramsaur, Charles E. Drake MD, Robert F. Town, William A. Greenly, Edward P. Rigel, Jim Lloyd, and James L. Wilson. These men deserve to be recognized.

The committee's mission is to preserve and provide Revolutionary era history to Georgia by supporting annual GASSAR battlefield observances, Owen said. "We exist to provide a quality patriotic experience for everyone to enjoy. Events are to be challenged for period knowledge, image, and quality delivery of our American Revolutionary history.

As successful as the Kettle Creek effort has been, Owen said, there are always ways to improve. "Members of the committee strive to reach out for new membership, youth participation, enhanced public imagery, and civic involvement."

Kettle Creek is not the group's only outreach, he said. Throughout the year, committee members take part in SAR events all over the state and in adjacent states, reaching out to the public to tell the story of the Revolutionary War in the South.

The weekend's observance of Revolutionary Days in Washington-Wilkes was a great success, with hundreds of visitors and local people attending and participating, SAR leaders say.

"I've received many positive comments regarding the event," said Thomas Owen, Chairman of the Historic Sites and Celebration Committee of the Georgia State Society SAR, "My group outdid themselves and by all estimates from the SAR and the DAR, this was the largest crowd participation in the 16 years we have delivered Revolutionary Days in Washington."

Crowds filled the square Saturday morning to watch and participate in the annual parade and battle re-enactment, and to talk with historic re-enactors. "We had a fantastic representation of militia and continental actors from Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Florida, and Georgia," Owen said. "I had circulated an invitation to the event all over the southeastern U.S. via our state SAR connections and it served well."

In another first, costumed militiamen presented arms and fired a musket salute at the Black Revolutionary Patriot monument on The Square to honor Austin Dabney and other veterans of the Revolution.

More than ever, children dressed up and marched in the parade and took part in the battle re-enactment, he said. "Everyone was very impressed with the children of Washington-Wilkes," Owen said. "I wish I had a picture of all those who stood and saluted the raising of the Revolutionary colors on the courthouse flag pole at 9 a.m., and again the replacement of the colors at 12:30 p.m. when we put the National Banner back up. Everyone was impressed as both times the militia presented arms and fired muskets making the children very excited."

Photos from the 2014 Kettle Creek Celebration



Wiregrass Chapter Display



GASSAR Color Guard leading the parade



Getting ready for the fight



The memorial on War Hill



Elijah Clarke Headstone



Main Street demonstration



Militia and DAR



Take that you pesky Redcoats



GASSAR Color Guard presenting colors



Presenting the Colors



Militia on the square



Children join the parade



A Patriot victory!



President Roger W. Coursey paying tribute



Musket salute

Photographs by Rick Reese