



The

Oct 2015—Jan 2016

Hornet's Nest

The President's Dispatch



William Allen Greenly (Allen)

I stand before you today humbled by the honor that you have given me. I am honored to stand before this body as your new President. As I look around this room I see the past presidents that I am following in the footsteps of and I am inspired by their dedication to the SAR, their leadership, their mentoring and their selflessness. I pledge to you that I will do all that I can to maintain the high standards of the Georgia Society and to keep her flag flying high.

I would not be standing before you today without the support, mentoring and encouragement of many of you in this room. Certainly I would not be here without the full support of my beautiful wife, Lady Jane. Throughout my professional career, I focused on the job I was doing. I did not have any true outside interests except for travel and constantly learning about the world around me.

I was at the funeral for one of my grandsons and was I talking to my son-in-law's father who told me about the SAR. Before I decided to join, I talked to Jane about it. She said if you are going to join, then you have to get involved. If you're not going to get involved, then don't join.

A few months later I inquired about joining the SAR through the GASSAR website and within a couple of days Bob Sapp called me. He helped me with my application and on October 1, 2008 I became a member. Before I received my membership, I volunteered to work at the National Congress held in Atlanta under the direction of Larry Guzy.

Bob Shaw recruited me to be the Piedmont Chapter photographer by asking if I knew how to use a camera, and the rest is history.

Today our Society, like our nation, faces many challenges. From these challenges come my goals for the next year.

1. Create a positive atmosphere to change those things that may be hindering our progress
2. Design and create a new data base for our web site
3. Restart the Brier Creek Commemoration
4. Increase membership growth rate
5. Put a strong focus on our youth education programs

Why do I believe that some things need to change? It's really quite simple. If we are not constantly changing, we will become stagnate. All of us have gone through changes in our lives, both personally and professionally that have contributed to our growth.

We have all, or most of us have gotten married and started a family. These are two significant changes in our lives. We had to learn to live with another human being and become a husband. Then we started having children and we had to learn to be parents, then grandparents. And guess what? It didn't kill us. In fact, it made us stronger and better individuals.

All of us have had jobs, some of us multiple jobs. I would almost bet that everyone in this room did not start and end, or if you are still working, doing the same job. As you grew older, you progressed up the ladder and became more successful. Again, I would almost bet that no one in this room told their boss "I want to go backward". No, we thrived on the challenges. We wanted to grow and become the best that we could be. And guess what? It didn't kill us. We grew stronger.

Every organization that wants to grow must constantly change. They must constantly be on the lookout for new opportunities and new ways of doing things to keep their message fresh in the minds of the public. If we are going to grow, we must prepare for that growth and that may take some changes.

Organizations that do not change wither and die. As one compatriot told me, if we don't change we will become a bunch of doddering old men in funny clothes that no one pays attention to.

Should we change everything for the sake of change? Absolutely not. However, we must look at our organization and seek opportunities to make ourselves stronger. We must look at the way we are doing things and ask ourselves "is there a better way"? If the answer is yes, then we must collectively find a new solution and embrace that change.

Sometimes change is painful, but I have found in my life that when I embraced

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change, everything worked out for the better.

We must find new ways to attract members. And, we must find new ways to keep them as members. Let's take a hard look at our publicity and our message. Let's get our committees working together, i.e. get our Publicity Committee involved with our State and Chapter activities to get the word out and attract the public to our events. We have all worked in business and we all know that it takes team work to accomplish any task. We must use teamwork to move us forward. We cannot be little islands doing our own thing. Working together, we can accomplish so much more. Sometimes life throws us a curve. We may have known that we had to do something in the future, but hey, that's down the road and we'll worry about that when the time comes.

That is what has happened with our database. It is now approximately 9 years old and it hasn't been modified in any significant manner since it was developed. The database we have was designed and built by one of our compatriots. He has now transferred to another state society and will not be able to help us when, or if, something happens that will require a change to the database.

We must therefore look at where we are and where we want to go with our database. We all know that technology does not stand still and we have watched the explosion of technology, especially in the past 10 years. This is especially true in database design and development. There are now tools that allow a developer to do an operation in minutes that use to take hours.

When I was apprised of this situation, I talked with several people in our society and a sub-committee was formed under the IT Committee. Ed Rigel, Sr. sent out an email requesting individuals with accounting, IT, database, computer science, software and other experience related to IT development to volunteer their time to help us create the Requirements Document for a new database. We were gratified by the response. We had 12 members volunteer to serve on this committee. We are beginning our meetings today.

I cannot tell you everything that this new database will allow us to do. What I can tell you is that when it is completed, we will have the capability to accept credit cards for dues, and allow us to get more reports than we can currently get. If you have suggestions, let one of the committee members know. All of the other improvements will come from the committee.

Increasing the Membership growth rate.

Webster's Dictionary defines "madness" as "behavior or thinking that is very foolish or dangerous". A more common definition that I use is "doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different result". I believe this is the pattern we find ourselves in now.

Let's look at the last five years of membership and we can see that we have been growing very slowly.

| Year | January 1 | December | Gain/Loss |
|------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| 2011 | 1,244 | 1,560 | 166 |
| 2012 | 1,380 | 1,660 | 180 |
| 2013 | 1,480 | 1,747 | 172 |
| 2014 | 1,575 | 1,800 | 240 |
| 2015 | 1,560 | 1,863 | 303 |

The Georgia Society was formed on March 15, 1921. It started in Atlanta with 15 members. At that time the population of the State of Georgia was approximately 2.9 million. Today, we have 1,863 members and the State of Georgia's population is approximately 10.2 million. It has taken us 95 years to grow from 15 members to 1,863. As an aside, the Georgia Society DAR has over 8,000 members. If we maintain the same rate of growth that we have had for the past 95 years, it will be 8-9 more years before we break the 2,000 member mark. For as long as I have been a member, I have heard every past President challenge each of us to bring in 1 new member. I believe that we can build upon what we have in place to attract more.

The first thing we as a society and chapters must work on is to get our message out, to make it fresh and more relevant to today's target population.

To follow are some of the issues I will try to address.

That our new Publicity Chairman work with our Color Guard, Historic Sites and Celebrations and our chapters to find new ways to get our message out. That our chapters and our society to open up to new ideas and new ways to attract membership. We have to find ways to take our light from under the basket where it is hidden and let it shine for everyone to see.

That our chapter officers start a mentor program in their chapters for incoming officers. This will take some planning, but it will make the transition for new officers much easier. We started this in the Piedmont Chapter and we now have it in the Robert Forsyth Chapter. I also want to hold classes after each BOM meeting for Chapter Officer training. These could be one hour classes and I believe new officers will benefit greatly. That our chapter presidents sit down with all new members and find out why they joined, find out where their passion lies and get them involved in a chapter committee or other special assignment.

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The President's Dispatch—continued

That our committee chairman set committee goals in writing and to base their reports on how they are progressing toward obtaining these goals. I want to ask them to work with each chapter, to train them on the programs you are responsible for, and to work with them to establish these programs in their chapters.

That our Regional Vice Presidents report on which chapters they visited in the quarter. You are the direct line between the chapters and the Board of Managers and the Board relies on you to let us know how the chapters are doing, how we can help them, and what new programs they are doing to increase membership. Bring these ideas and details on how these programs work back so they can be shared with all the other chapters in the state.

That our officers and past presidents talk to our smaller chapters and encourage them to hold a minimum of 10 meetings per year. It seems that the chapters that hold monthly meetings are stronger and more involved in their communities than chapters that meet quarterly.

This year I am proud that we are starting the DAR Referral Awards program. This program rewards both DAR chapters and individual members that help in recruitment of new SAR members. The Rachael Martin DAR Chapter Referral Award is awarded to the DAR chapter with the largest percentage of new SAR members in a single calendar year. This award is a certificate and a \$100 check to the chapter. The Grace Martin DAR Chapter Referral Award is awarded to the DAR chapter that obtains the largest number of members in a single calendar year. This award is a certificate and a \$100 check to the chapter. The SAR Medal of appreciation will be awarded to each DAR member that obtains five new SAR members. I believe that this program will help boost our membership.

We want to thank the DAR Liaison Chairman Carl Bhome and Committee member Shep Hammack for designing this new program.

If we want to attract younger members, which I believe are the future strength of our organization, we are going to have to go to their world. They live in a world of social media, apps and websites. We must develop a short range plan and a long range plan to make this happen. The subcommittee will be tasked with this once the database planning is complete.

We should have a Twitter account, an up to date Facebook page and an updated website that can easily be seen on any phone or tablet device. The app is going to take a lot of thought and I have great confidence that our younger members will jump at the chance to work on that.

Brier Creek is under assault from a pipe line company. They want to put a pipeline right

through the middle of the Brier Creek battlefield. We must work together, with the DAR, with other historical societies and with the State of Georgia to stop this. There are 200 patriots buried on this battlefield and we do not want them disturbed.

I have asked members of the Wiregrass and William Few chapters to work with the Historic Sites and Celebrations committee to restart the Brier Creek Commemoration. I would like there to be a Commemoration this fall and then have the Commemoration move to March of each year to a date that does not coincide with Spring Leadership.

Compatriots, the education of our youth is our most important mission. This is where our strength should lie. Our youth programs; poster contests for our 4th/5th graders, the brochure contest for our 8th graders, Traveling Trunk, Eagle Scout awards, Rumbaugh Oration, Knight Essay and JROTC for our teens have a big impact on the youth of our state. We must expand these programs to more children.

One of the problems that I see is that some chapters do not know how to implement these programs. I am going to request that our Education Chairman, Rumbaugh Oration Chairman, Knight Essay Chairman, JROTC Chairman and our Eagle Scout Award Chairman create easy to follow instructions on how to implement their respective programs, from A-Z. When you meet the chapter presidents, talk to them about your program and ask if they have it implemented. If not, then ask how you can help them.

When you Regional VP's meet with the chapters, find out what programs they are supporting, or want to support, and then let the committee chairman know so they can contact the chapters and lend them a helping hand.

Chapters that do the Traveling Trunk should be working with chapters that want to do this program and help them with the implementation. I would like for Compatriots that do the Traveling Trunk program to volunteer and help train those chapters that want to do this great program. Invite them to join you on presentations, or help them do a presentation in their area.

The youth that we touch are going to be the leaders of tomorrow. How can they know where they are going unless they know where we have come from? It is therefore essential for us to reach as many youth as we can.

We cannot sit back and complain about the state of things unless we are willing to try to do something about it. Our committee chairman cannot do everything, they need help. Think about what you would like to do and then join a committee, state or chapter, but get involved.

As a friend of mine has said "you only get out of something what you put into it". I encourage you to get involved.

I believe that we live in the greatest nation on earth and the greatest nation that the world has ever seen. I believe that we must all work to make our nation even better than it is.

In closing, I thank you for your time and attention, and especially for your trust in me to serve as your President.

May God bless each of you, may God bless the SAR and may God bless the United States of America.



Executive Committee Meetings

Wednesday April 13, 2016
Wednesday July 20, 2016
Wednesday October 12, 2016
Wednesday January 18, 2017

Executive Committee meetings will be at

J. Christopher's
5482 Chamblee Dunwoody Rd
Atlanta, GA 30338

Board Of Managers Meetings

Saturday April 23, 2016
Saturday July 30, 2016
Saturday October 22, 2016
Saturday January 28, 2016

BOM meetings will be at

Garden Patch Restaurant
100 Southland Drive
(old hwy 41)
Barnesville, GA. 30204



President Tom Owen & Jane

President's Farewell

As I reflect on the past year I want to thank the Compatriots of the Georgia Society for your support and assistance during the course of my administration. I realize it is impossible to recognize everyone personally, but from my heart I thank all the membership. I was able to visit the majority of our chapters and coupled with Society events logged over (17,600) miles. The driving was pleasant, the scenery magnificent and the membership fantastic at every stop.

Looking back to January 2015 I can truly say it has been an Honor and Privilege to have served the Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution. History tells us that we will be judged by the tracks we leave behind. As a Society and as the 2015 President, I pray the tracks history will review demonstrate commitment to our organizational goals and a Society rapidly moving ahead as we enter a new age. I am personally humbled to have served this great Society and to have been given the opportunity to leave my footprint among the tracks of the remarkable Leadership of years past.

Most especially I need to thank the many, many Chapter Presidents for their unwavering support, partnership, team spirit and fidelity to duty, who gave me their gratitude, emails of encouragement and personal prayers. We truly have a new generation of leadership stepping forward that will surpass all expectations.

The Georgia Society is a partnership where no divisive activity or miss-representation of the few can subvert our advancement. Always, the Compatriots and Leadership of the Society find the right path and move forward. As overwhelmingly reflected at the Winter Board of Managers Meeting everyone is disgusted with the miss-use of our business email system, and rightly so.

Our Annual conference and Management Meetings on the 22-23 January 2016 were truly the best most have ever witnessed. Our membership is the greatest ever and the participants at the conference made it a most remarkable affair. I praise the many award recipients, as we were honored to have the best of the best come forward for recognition as leaders in the SAR. It was an outstanding performance by the members of our Society, our Committee Chairmen and the leadership of the Georgia SAR.

As the "now", Past-President of the Georgia SAR and the Past-President of the Georgia SAR Ladies Auxiliary (Lexie Jane Owen), we both ask that as we enter this New Year, for everyone to stand behind our newly elected leadership and help guide the Georgia Society to new heights.

We are America's strength and future-----Destined to safe guard and honor the rich history of our Nations birth. In This, We Must Not Fail.....

I again thank you for your Support and May God keep the Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution strong and faithful to the values of our Founding Generation.

May God Bless and Be with All of you.

Respectfully, I Bid You Farewell

Tom Owen
Past-President

The Hornet's Nest

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Visit the State Society Web Site: www.georgiasocietysar.org

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Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution 2016 Annual Conference

Sonesta Hotel, Duluth, GA 22-24 Jan 2016

Georgia Society Past Presidents



Front row L to R: J. Michael Tomme Sr (2010), Larry Guzy (2000), Thomas Owen (2015), George Wheelless (2006)
Back row L to R: Roger Coursey (2014) James Stallings Sr (2013), Ed Rigel Sr (2012), Robert Sapp (2011), George Thurmond (2004,05)

All Annual Conference photos are the work of Rick Reece III

2016 Conference Awards



Ladies SAR Auxiliary President Jane Owen presents a gift from the Georgia Society to 1st Lady Mickey Jo Lawrence in honor of her attendance.



Georgia Fellows Chairman Ed Rigel, Jr welcomes Brandy Rigel as a new member of the Georgia Fellows Fund.



Georgia Society Secretary George Wheelless presents the Silver Roger Sherman Medal to Emory Fennell and Bill Coffeen

2016 Conference Awards



Patriot Medal

James H Boatright III



Silver Citizenship Medal

MG Don Burdick



Distinguished Service Medal

CAPT Roger W Coursey



Patriot Medal

Brent Taylor

2016 Conference Awards Color Guard



Commander's Award for 2015
William H Palmer congratulated by Bruce Maney



2015 Rookie of the Year
Michael T Watkins congratulated by Bruce Maney



Von Steuben Medal
Secretary General J Michael Tomme, Sr
presents to James Stallings Sr



Senior Honor Guard
Bruce Maney presents to
Walker Chewning

2016 Conference Awards Color Guard



Senior Honor Guard
Bruce Maney presents to
Jay Guest



Honor Guard Award
Roger W Coursey congratulated by Bruce Maney



Honor Guard Award
Bruce Maney congratulates Allen Greenly



Bronze Color Guard Medal
Wayne Brown congratulated by Bruce Maney

2016 Conference Awards

Grave Marking Medal



William Allen Greenly



Jay Guest



Ray Crumbley



Sid Turner

2016 Conference Awards



**Abby Garnett
C.A.R. Silver Medal
of Appreciation**



**Bruce Maney receives Certificate of
Appreciation from Color Guard
Commander Ed Rigel, Sr**



**Jo An and Walker
Chewning - C.A.R. Silver Medal
of Appreciation**



**President General Lawrence and Terry Gibbs
recognize Eagle Scout Grant Mercer, sponsored
by the Captain John Collins Chapter**

2016 Conference Awards Meritorius Service Medal



Larry Guzy



Michael D Henderson



Bill Kabel

2016 Conference Awards Roger Sherman Medal



H. Wilder Smith



Chip Durden



Four Oak Leaf Cluster Recipients

PG Lawrence with: L to R—Ed Rigel Sr, George Wheelless, Bob Sapp, Walker Chewning

2016 Conference Awards Chapter Recognitions



Distinguished Chapters

Colonel William Few, Marshes of Glynn, Marquis de Lafayette, Edward Telfair, Robert Forsyth, Lyman Hall, Ocmulgee, Button Gwinnett, Captain John Collins, Athens and Casmir Pulaski.



Education Outreach Chapters

South Atlantic District VPG Ed Rigel Sr with: Coweta Falls, Marshes of Glynn, Piedmont, Casimir Pulaski

2016 Conference Awards Chapter Recognitions



Membership Growth Chapters

Membership Chairman J Michael Tomme Sr with L to R: Wiregrass, Washington-Wilkes, Samuel Elbert, Captain John Collins, Marquis de Lafayette, Lyman Hall, Marshes of Glynn, Coweta Falls, Button Gwinnett,



C.A.R. Liaison Award
Coweta Falls Chapter



C.A.R. Liaison Award
Piedmont Chapter

2016 Conference Awards Patriot Grave Marking Chapters



Athens Chapter



Marquis de Lafayette Chapter



Marshes of Glynn Chapter



Samuel Elbert Chapter

2016 Conference Awards Patriot Grave Marking Chapters



William Few Chapter



Captain John Collins Chapter

BG Scott Support to Veterans



Athens Chapter



Robert Forsyth Chapter

2016 Conference Awards



Daughters of Liberty Medal

Lexie Jane Owen



Camp Follower Award

Linda Reed



**Ocumgee Chapter President Ray Crumbley
accepts congratulation from Flag Respect
Chairman Paul Prescott**



Martha Washington Medal

Patricia R Colbert



Ed Rigel, Sr. Commander

Georgia Society Color Guard



No. Date Events

1. 9 Jan GA Tech vs. VA basketball
2. 16 Jan Cowpens
3. 22 Jan GA SAR Annual Conference Awards Banquet
4. 23 Jan GA SAR Annual Conference Awards Luncheon
5. 12 Feb 18th Century Encampment at Warhill, Kettle Creek Battlefield
6. 13 Feb Kettle Creek Parade, Washington
7. 13 Feb Kettle Creek Commemoration, War Hill
8. 14 Feb Colonial Worship Service, Phillips Mill Baptist Church, Washington
9. 26 Feb NSSAR Spring Trustee/Leadership Meeting Friday Banquet
10. 26 Feb NSSAR Spring Trustee/Leadership Meeting Saturday Banquet
11. 11 Mar GA State Society DAR Annual Conference
12. 12 Mar Guilford Courthouse
13. 2 Apr Grave Marking for Patriot William Wiggins, sponsored by Ocmulgee Chapter, Oak Lawn Cemetery, Ft. Valley
14. 9 Apr Grave Marking for Compatriot LTC Richard Maltbie sponsored by Button Gwinnett Chapter, Georgia National Cemetery, Canton
15. 16 Apr Frederica Days, St Simons Island
16. 17 Apr Colonial Worship Service, St. Simons Island
17. 23 Apr GA SAR BOM Meeting, Barnesville
18. 30 Apr Patriot Robert Henderson Grave Marking sponsored by Robert Forsyth and Lyman Hall Chapters, Hall County
19. 30 May Community Memorial Day Ceremony, Rome
20. TBA Ramsour's Mill
21. 8-13 Jul 126th NSSAR Annual Congress
22. 30 Jul GA SAR BOM Meeting, Barnesville
23. 17 Sep Constitution Day Luncheon
24. 17 Sep William Few Commemoration, Augusta
25. 30 Sep NSSAR Fall Trustee/Leadership Meeting Friday Banquet
26. 1 Oct NSSAR Fall Trustee/Leadership Meeting Saturday Banquet
27. 7 Oct Kings Mtn
28. 9 Oct Savannah
29. 19 Oct Yorktown
30. 22 Oct GA SAR BOM Meeting, Barnesville
31. 19 Nov Fort Morris
32. 3 Dec Vann's Creek
33. TBA Dec Wreaths Across America

2017 27-28 Jan - GASSAR Annual Conference

A current update of the Color Guard Schedule is always available at the Georgia Society website:

http://www.georgiasocietysar.org/pdf/color_guard.pdf



[Georgia Society](#)
[Historic Sites & Celebrations—Scott Collins—\[scollins@collinscpa.com\]\(mailto:scollins@collinscpa.com\)](#)

Please assist the members of the HS&CC in the performance of their tasks to deliver a quality and professional program to honor our Revolutionary War ancestors and to deliver these public orientated events in the best interests of the Georgia Society SAR.

[2016 GASSAR HS&CC Sanctioned Events](#)

- 1) Battle of Kettle Creek & Revolutionary Days
[February 12-13-14, 2016](#)

- 2) Fort Frederica/Patriots Day (Marshes of Glynn--St Simons Island)
[April 16 & 17, 2016](#)

- 3) Constitution Day--William Few (Augusta, Georgia St. Paul's Church)
[September 17, 2016](#)

- 4) Battle of Savannah (Coastal Heritage Society--GASSAR)
[October 9, 2016](#)

- 5) Fort Morris, Sunbury (Marshes of Glynn)
[November 19, 2016](#)

- 6) Battle of Vann's Creek (Samuel Elbert)
[December 3, 2016](#)



George H. Wheelless



Secretary's Report Georgia Society, Sons of the American Revolution Fall 2015

Active Membership as of 01 Jan 2015.....1560

| | | |
|-------|-----------------------------|------------|
| Plus: | | |
| | New Members... | 226 |
| | Transfers In... | 6 |
| | Reinstatements | 82 |
| | Reinstatement-Transfers.... | 7 |
| | Total Additions..... | 321 |

| | | |
|-------|-------------------------|-----------|
| Less: | | |
| | Deceased..... | 30 |
| | Resignations..... | 0 |
| | Transfers Out..... | 13 |
| | Total Losses.... | 43 |

Active Membership as of 31 Dec 2015....1838 Reported to National

| | | |
|-------|-------------------|----|
| Plus: | | |
| | Dual Members..... | 25 |

Active Membership as of 31 Dec 2015....1863 Reported to BOM

BREAK DOWN OF GEORGIA SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP BY CATEGORY

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Regular Members..... | 1722 |
| Jr. Members..... | 65 |
| Jr. Life Members..... | 4 |
| Emeritus Members..... | 4 |
| Life Members (Regular)..... | 43 |
| Dual..... | 25 |
| Total Membership..... | <u>1863</u> |



In Memory of



Our Fathers, Our Brothers, Our Sons

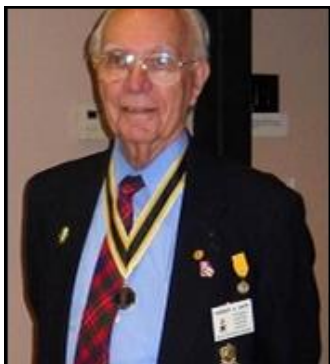
Our Compatriots

Georgia Society Deceased Members Since January 1, 2015

| Name | National Number | Chapter | Date |
|----------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Tilmon Perkins CHAMLEE | 146985 | John Milledge | 05 Jan 2015 |
| Robert Wilson Reardon, | 128318 | Piedmont | 08 Jan 2015 |
| Robert Gregg WILLIAMSON | 144099 | Edward Telfair | 12 Jan 2015 |
| William Joseph REESE, | 185211 | John Collins | 26 Jan 2015 |
| Robert Forrest TOWNS | 155521 | Athens | 10 Feb 2015 |
| Redden Parramore HART | 161955 | Valdosta | 25 Feb 2015 |
| Marion Jennings RICE | 137988 | Athens | 03 Mar 2015 |
| Richard Clarence PALMER, | 194023 | Button Gwinnett | 21 Mar 2015 |
| James McRae ANDREW, | 188004 | Wiregrass | 14 Apr 2015 |
| McaIpin Hill ARNOLD | 154120 | Samuel Elbert | 17 Apr 2015 |
| Charles Keeley OWEN, Jr. | 175937 | Wash-Wilkes | 11 May 2015 |
| John Granville NORRIS | 166164 | Coweta Falls | 04 Jun 2015 |
| William Glenn NEELY, Jr. | 175358 | John Milledge | 10 Jun 2015 |
| Robert Lee TERRELL, | 178119 | Jos. Habersham | 15 Jun 2015 |
| Jerry Anderson CHURCH, | 180284 | Atlanta | 17 Jun 2015 |
| Benton Wilson ROBERTS, Jr. | 159747 | Joel Early | 26 Jul 2015 |
| Rodney Earl BENNETT | 172654 | Marshes of Glynn | 02 Sep 2015 |
| William Bradnock DAVID, | 89478 | Valdosta | 05 Sep 2015 |
| Ben Gause GAUTIER | 169965 | John Milledge | 20 Sep 2015 |
| Dudley Gardner BROWN, Sr. | 136511 | Edward Telfair | 23 Sep 2015 |
| Robert Lee WALKER, Jr. | 171244 | Piedmont | 03 Oct 2015 |
| Thomas Roy WISE | 175589 | Marquis de Lafayette | 06 Oct 2015 |
| Richard William MALTBIE, | 186085 | Button Gwinnett | 07 Oct 2015 |
| John Bridger EVANS, Sr. | 157494 | Altamaha | 07 Oct 2015 |
| Joel Boyd GUNNELLS, Jr. | 153404 | Samuel Elbert | 10 Nov 2015 |
| Michael Stuart BUNTING, | 174407 | Lyman Hull | 30 Nov 2015 |
| William Edgar PASCHAL | 152624 | William Few | 04 Dec 2015 |
| James Terry GREENE, | 195893 | Jos. Habersham | 13 Dec 2015 |
| Edgar Monroe BJRKETT, | 190729 | Edward Telfair | 03 Jan 2016 |
| Charles William BURGIN | 111904 | Coweta Falls | 03 Jan 2016 |

State Officers & Committees

NEWS



[Georgia Society Registrar—Bob Sapp](#)

2rasapp@comcast.net

The total applications received as of 31 December 2015 was 317 with 305 reviewed and sent to NSSAR for approval. NSSAR has approved 220 applications and has pended 16. The state registrar has pended a total of 45 applications of which 4 were also pended by NSSAR. The total long term pended applications at NSSAR is 14.

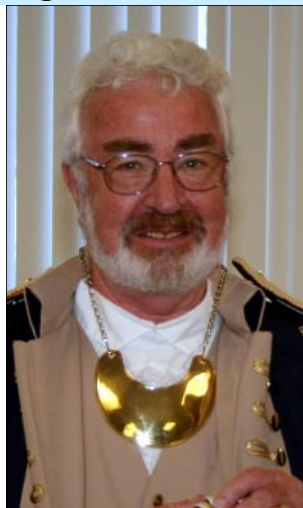
The statistics of applications reviewed and approved is as follows:

- 97.2% of applications reviewed and mailed to NSSAR
- 72.1% applications approved by NSSAR
- 14.2% of applications received pended by state registrar
- 7.27% of applications pended by NSSAR

The last quarter of 2015 flow of applications was a burst of applications in December.. The quantity of pended by registrar still indicates a need for chapter registrars to review application preparation procedures. Check that the lineage in each generation is documented. Be sure that marriage and parent connections are documented when changing the lineage from male line to wife's line. Review is made easier when surplus material is eliminated such as Ancestry.com summary cover sheet along with either census originals or other original material. If the original cannot be easily read, the add the summary sheet.

Your registrar strongly suggests contacting him when you have questions on documentation. Plan to attend the Registrar/Genealogy workshop at the annual meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Your humble and obedient servant,
Robert Sapp
Georgia Society Registrar
770-971-0189; 2rasapp@comcast.net



Flag Respect—Paul Prescott

prescotp@bellsouth.net



The Flag Committee results are in for 2015.

We did not make the 100% goal, but we were a lot closer to 100% than last year.

This year 25 our chapters presented at least one flag certificate.

The results by Chapter and Region are listed below. Congratulations to all participating Chapters. Thank you to all supporting Regional Vice Presidents.

Let's start now for even better performance in 2016.

| Region | Number of | | | |
|-----------|-----------|----------|------------|---------|
| | Name | Chapters | Presenting | Percent |
| Northeast | | 6 | 6 | 100% |
| Metro | | 5 | 5 | 100% |
| West | | 4 | 4 | 100% |
| Southeast | | 4 | 3 | 75% |
| Northwest | | 4 | 3 | 75% |
| East | | 4 | 2 | 50% |
| Central | | 2 | 1 | 50% |
| Southwest | | 2 | 1 | 50% |

| Chapter | # |
|----------------------|----|
| Ocmulgee | 17 |
| Wiregrass | 12 |
| Blue Ridge Mountains | 9 |
| Athens | 8 |
| Atlanta | 5 |
| Capt John Collins | 4 |
| Lyman Hall | 3 |
| Marquis de Lafayette | 3 |
| Marshes of Glynn | 3 |
| Rome | 3 |
| Washington-Wilkes | 3 |
| William Few | 3 |
| Altamaha | 2 |
| Button Gwinnett | 2 |
| Cherokee | 2 |
| George Walton | 2 |
| Joseph Habersham | 2 |
| Lagrange | 2 |
| Piedmont | 2 |
| Robert Forsyth | 2 |
| Casimir Pulaski | 1 |
| Coweta Falls | 1 |
| Edward Telfair | 1 |
| Joel Early | 1 |
| Samuel Elbert | 1 |
| Dalton | 0 |
| Four Rivers Patriots | 0 |
| John Milledge | 0 |
| Mill Creek | 0 |
| Patrick Carr Rangers | 0 |

TOTAL 94



Genealogist —Bruce Maney

MilusBruce@aol.com

Since October 1, 2015 I have assisted the following Chapters with research to resolve or attempting to resolve lineage issues for prospective members or supplemental applicants. Assistance was provided to the Chapter Registrar, First Line Sponsor or Applicant. Those GASSAR Chapters were:

Atlanta Chapter
Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter
Button Gwinnett Chapter
Joseph Habersham Chapter
Robert Forsyth Chapter
William Few Chapter

Assistance was also provided to Compatriot Bob Sapp, GASSAR State Registrar, at his request.



Historian —N. Walker Chewning

wjcl@aol.com

Objectives for 2015:

- Create a catalog of the items belonging to the GASSAR located at the Atlanta History Center
- Update the Georgia Society Website section "History of Georgia" for the years 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015.

Activities of the past quarter:

- The History of Georgia Society for the years 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 have been completed and are being sent to the webmaster for publication.
- Additional items were added to the Digital Catalog and were placed in storage at the Atlanta History Center, Kenan Research Center.
- A flash drive catalog has been created and will be passed along to future State Historian. A broad index of Items archived at the Kenan Center is included in this Digital Catalog.



Friends of the Library —Hugh Rodgers

h_srodgers@knology.net

One of the Committee's main objects is to foster membership in the Friends of the SAR Library at SAR headquarters in Louisville. The acquisition of materials supporting Georgia genealogy is an important focus.

The Chairman distributed Friends of the Library brochures at the quarterly Board of Managers meeting in October and e-mail made contact with chapters through the Board of Managers mailing encouraging membership in FOL.

As of 31 December 2015, the Georgia Society has the following:

18 Chapters as members of FOL
60 Compatriots and other individuals
1 The Georgia Society
1 SAR Ladies Auxiliary
1 NSDAR Chapter
81 Total Georgia Society membership.

The Georgia Society leads the National Society in Friends of the Library memberships. Only four Georgia chapters failed to renew their memberships before the 31 Dec 2015 deadline. We are grateful for the continued support of a number of Compatriot wives and DAR members.



SAR/DAR Liaison Committee—Carl Bhame

cbhame@bellsouth.net

Initiative to Recognize DAR Chapters

With the direction and approval of the EXCOM, this committee has taken steps to implement new awards for DAR chapters who have been most productive in supporting SAR applications for new members. The accounting for awards will use the DAR Finders Form filed with the DAR-assisted applications. We will begin that accounting in 2016 for awards that will first be given in 2017 based on 2016 data. The awards recognize two chapters each year. The Grace Martin award will be given to the chapter with the highest total count of SAR members whose applications were assisted by that chapter's members. The Rachel Martin award will be given to the chapter with the highest percentage of DAR-assisted applications relative to that chapter's size.

These new awards for chapters now stand along with the ongoing SAR Medal of Appreciation for DAR members who assist with at least five new SAR members' applications, over one or more years.

The Source Book has been updated at Section 17.4.1 to provide details and procedures for making the Grace and Rachel Martin awards.

A brochure titled DAR Referral Awards has been printed to publicize and explain these awards. Supplies of these brochures may be obtained from this committee.

Plans For The Next Quarter

Assist the GASSAR Registrar with notification of awards that should be given to DAR members who have assisted with SAR membership applications.

Promote the use of the DAR Finders Form and the SAR competition for the awards to the DAR members and chapters. Continue to promote the SAR/DAR joint activities.

Provide assistance to the GASSAR officers and Committees as may be requested. This chairman is open to any suggestions for the work of this committee to better support the GASSAR goals and objectives.



Rumbaugh Oration Contest—George Wheelless

secretaryga@comcast.net

Since the inception of the Rumbaugh Orations Contest, the Georgia Society is currently tied for 3rd place in having its contests win 1st Place at the National Congress (1967, 1970, 1975, 1977, and 1987). The Georgia Society had not promoted this contest at the State Society level in many years. We revived the contest in 2008 but had no entry. The 2009 Georgia Society winner, Wells Ellenberg, placed 3rd at the 2009 National Congress in Atlanta, GA. The 2010 Georgia Society winner, Gabrielle Cyphers, was a Finalist at the 2010 Congress in Cleveland, OH. The 2011 Georgia Society winner was Sam Bishop. He competed at the 2011 Congress in Winston-Salem, NC.

The 2012 Georgia Society winner, Carley Stamps was a Finalist at the 2012 Congress in Phoenix, AZ. The Georgia Society Orations Winner for 2013, 2014, and 2015 was Jefferson DeMott. He was a Finalist in 2013 (Kansas City, MO) and 2015 (Louisville, KY). In 2014 (Greenville, SC), he did well but was not selected as a Finalist.

The budget for the Rumbaugh Orations Contest provides a total of \$1,500 to the winner (\$500 for 1st Place and up to \$1,000 towards expenses to our National Congress) and a \$200 prize to the Runner-Up. The State Orations Medal comes out of the Orations budget.



Roster of Georgia Fellows

Abbott, Kendall Edward
 Acree, Glynn
 Andrews, Richard
 Bearden, James
 Bolsen, Alexander
 Brown, Wayne
 Burdick, Don
 Chapman, Christopher
 Chewning, Newton Walker
 Coursey, Roger W.
 Dayhuff, Barbara S.
 Dayhuff, Hal
 Dobbs, William
 Dooley, Joseph W.
 Faith, Robert D.
 Flanagan, Jimmy
 Galer, Robert
 Gibbs, Terry
 Golab, Theodore H. "Ted"
 Gray, Rita
 Gray, Skip
 Greenly, Allen
 Guest, Jackson "Jay"
 Guest, Sara

Guzy, Karin
 Guzy, Larry
 Hammack, Shep
 Hampton, Charles
 Haught, Tucker
 Hays, Bill
 Hay, William (Bill) M., Sr.
 Henderson, Michael
 Henson, James Allen, Jr.
 Hulsey, Leland
 Jenkins, David Denton
 Jessel, David G.
 Jessel, Brenda
 Lamb, Roger G., Jr.
 Leathers, Bob
 Lynch, James W.
 Martin, Hall
 Maney, Bruce
 Maney, Charlene Strickland
 Manning, Terry E. P.
 Manning, Virginia Coning
 McCutcheon, John E.
 Newcomer, Charlie
 Newcomer, Clare
 Owen, Thomas M.

Palmer, Virgil
 Prescott, Nancy
 Prescott, Paul I.
 Rigel, Brandy
 Rigel, Edward P., Sr.
 Rigel, Joan S.
 Rigel, Edward P., Jr.
 Rodgers, Hugh
 Sapp, Robert A.
 Scow, Steven
 Shaw, Bob
 Stallings, James, E., Sr.
 Stansberry, Douglas
 Thomas, Don Ray
 Thurmond, George
 Titus, David
 Tomme, Cilla Leed
 Tomme, J. Michael Sr
 Turbyfill, Robert R., Jr.
 Turrentine, John E.
 Webb, Mark
 Woliver, Walt
 Wood, Carter J



Congratulations to Compatriot Edward P Rigel, Jr. Ed was recently elected by the membership of the Georgia Fellows to serve as the Committee Chair, effective 23 Jan 2016.

Ed has served the Lyman Hall and Robert Forsyth Chapters and is a member of the Color Guard.

He is the South Atlantic District Secretary, Adjutant for the GASSAR Color Guard and serves Source Book, and Historic Sites & Celebrations Committee.



Special welcome goes to our newest and youngest Georgia Fellow.

Alexander Bolsen is the grandson of Bob Leathers, Past President of the Button Gwinnett Chapter.

Chapter Reports

NEWS

Athens



Flag Certificate Presentation

Compatriot Wilbur Mull, Athens Chapter Chaplain presenting a flag Certificate to Dr. Loilf Nichols, Director, State Botanical Garden of Georgia on December 17, 2015.

The Garden's flagpole position at the entrance will allow for maximum visibility.

Blue Ridge Mountains

A Very Busy Year—2015 Review

The Vietnam Moving Wall – The chapter was invited to post the colors on Monday, October 12 at the Vietnam Moving Wall. Twelve compatriots participated in posting the colors. Several compatriots contributed additional hours in support of the erection and dismantling of the wall.

Smokie Mountain Melodies, a female vocal group, invited the chapter to join in their program of patriotism by having President Cook portray President George Washington and his wife Benetta as Betsy Ross.

Murphy, NC Independence Day parade organizers invited the chapter to lead the parade with our chapter color guard. Four members of the color guard lead the parade and a photo and article was included in the National SAR magazine.

Hogsed Youth Conservation Day organizers in Murphy, NC invited the chapter to have a booth to display colonial period items and to make eight presentations to students and children. Children were given an opportunity to have their picture taken with "George Washington". Over 250 attended the booth and display which also included a flintlock musket demonstration.

Education – The chapter had over 185 poster entries with the West Fannin Elementary School entry winning 2nd place in the National competition. The chapter's essay entry for 2014 won 1st place in the Georgia Society competition. The 2015 entry will be judged early in 2016.

President Cook and Vice President Turner presented the Traveling Trunk to three fourth grade classes at West Fannin Elementary School. They made the presentation to more than 125. Plastic sample bags of beeswax, sassafras, a wooden button and "wampum" were given to each student with a note listing the uses of each item. The objective of the sample bags was to help the students retain the information. Presenting to three individual classes increased interest with over 50 questions being asked.

Button Gwinnett

Our Chapter program for November was a presentation by Herb Smith, a former sentry at the the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Vice President Bill Palmer presented Herb Smith a BGSAR Certificate of Appreciation for his outstanding Power Point program.



Bill Palmer and Herb Smith



The Tomb has been manned day and night by the U. S. Army since 1937. Less than six hundred of the coveted Tomb Honor Guard Medals have been awarded.

Honoring Veterans in Snellville



Compatriots Bill Palmer, Benjamin Kitchings, Harry Kitchings and Bennie Koon honored Veterans at the Snellville Veterans Memorial. Compatriot Benjamin Kitchings laid a BGSAR wreath at the Memorial.



Button Gwinnett—Continued

Honoring Patriots at St Marys



The award winning Georgia Color Guard performs at St Marys with a Council of the Knights of Columbus.

Larry Whitfield and Bill Palmer stand guard at a Patriot grave.



Gordon Woodard, Bill Palmer and Bruce Maney prepared for participation in the ceremonies.

Coweta Falls



Compatriot Dan McMichael , as Gen Nathanael Greene, had a major part in recent dedication ceremonies of a Statue of General Greene at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. The event took place on August 7, 2015.

Dan was the model for the Statue. Associated pictures are of the finished Statue, Dan with the sculptor, and of him, in uniform.



Also pictured are several members of Descendants of Washington's Army at Valley Forge.

Tim Massey (President of Descendants), the current Quarter Master General of the Army ,the Seventh Generation Granddaughter of Nathanael Greene Catherine Greene *in middle with Award* , the Sculptor Susie Chisholm , and other Members.

Joseph Habersham



For the calendar year of 2015 the Joseph Habersham Chapter presented the "traveling trunk" program to seventeen fourth grade elementary schools involving 1761 students. A program on "patriotism" was presented to one fifth grade elementary school involving 83 students. Each of these students and their teachers were given a pocket Constitution, including a Bill of Rights and the Declaration of Independence.

On November 14, 2015 a day long "traveling trunk" presentation was made to the Banks County Middle School, grades five thru seven. This involved 714 students.

On December 10, 2015 a presentation was made to the Rabun Gap Nacoochee Middle School involving 120 students. Each of these students and their teachers were given a pocket Constitution, including a Bill of Rights and the Declaration of Independence.



The last two activities, Banks County Middle School and Rabun Gap Nacoochee Middle School, were accidentally left off the quarterly BOM report. In total, the Joseph Habersham Chapter gave to students 1964 pocket Constitution, including the Bill of Rights and the Declaration of Independence.

The Joseph Habersham Chapter presented educational programs to a total of 2678 elementary and middle school children in 2015.

This is the second year the Joseph Habersham Chapter has given the pocket Constitution, with the Bill of Rights and the Declaration of independence to students as part of the "traveling trunk" presentation. It has been received extremely well by the educators and students. The Joseph Habersham Chapter has increased its presentations to students by 814 students over last year's presentations.

As we are preparing the calendar for the 2016 presentations, the educators are already expressing excitement to schedule their school.



Lyman Hall



Veterans Day

Charles Lindsey, USAF Colonel (ret) of the Lyman Hall Chapter recounts tales of his service during WWII.

Charles was the navigator aboard a B-24 'Liberator' bomber in the Pacific theater .

One of his many missions was recognized as the longest combat sortie of the entire war—almost 20 hours.

He spoke to almost two hundred eighth graders at East Hall Middle school.

"Yes, that was me way back then" - Charles Lindsey



(Photo by Ed Rigel, Sr)

New Lyman Hall members, Lawrence Henry "Chip" Spiler, Jr and Kevin Nelson King were welcomed into the Chapter at the October meeting.



(Photo by Ed Rigel, Sr)

Lyman Hall Chapter Vietnam era veterans – L to Right: Lyle Letteer, Hall Martin, Ralph Collier, Bill Fisher, Carter Wood, Clint Daniel, Charles Lindsey, Art Chapman, Larry Dennis

Ocmulgee



Ray Crumbley, President of the Ocmulgee Chapter, GASSAR presented a Flag Certificate to Kelly Bradley, General Manager of Camping World in Byron, Georgia on August 18, 2015.

The flag and flag pole and the marker honoring Marine Corps Medal of Honor Recipient Sgt. Rodney M. Davis of Macon was installed earlier this year in a ceremony attended by over 50 veterans and dignitaries on the property. The huge flag measuring 40 feet by 80 feet is the largest flying flag in Georgia to our knowledge.

Honoring Sgt Rodney M Davis, USMC Medal of Honor



Camping World people are true Patriots committed to honoring military servicemen and veterans by installing the flag

and marker located at their business adjacent to Interstate 75 south of the Georgia Highway 49 overpass.

Rev. Matthew Harlow, rector of Christ the Redeemer Anglican Church in Warner Robins, Georgia, and new member and Chaplain of the Ocmulgee Chapter, GASSAR delivered a program at the chapter's August meeting titled, "America's First Bishops."

When the Revolutionary War broke out, the Anglican Church in the thirteen colonies were cut off from the Church of England. Prior to that time all Bishops and Priests were educated and ordained in England. After the war the remaining Anglican clergy in America elected Samuel Seabury of Connecticut to sail to England to be consecrated a bishop.

When the English bishops refused, Seabury went to the Church of Scotland who agreed to ordain him as the first bishop for the new Episcopal Church in the United States. Subsequently the next men to be sent by America to be ordained bishops, William White of Pennsylvania and Samuel Provost of New York, were accepted by the English bishops and became the second and third bishops in America.



Rev Matthew Harlow, Chaplain of the Ocmulgee Chapter speaks to the chapter.



President Ray Crumbley welcomes Ocmulgee Chapter's new member and Chaplain, Reverend Harlow.

Ocmulgee—continued**Colonial Day at Westfield Elementary School**

Ray Crumbley, President of the Ocmulgee Chapter, GASSAR and Regional Vice President Robert Cruthirds gave a presentation to the Westfield Elementary School Fourth Grade Class in Perry, GA on November 5, 2015 as a part of their celebration of Colonial Day.

Mrs. Glynelle Beeland, History Teacher, had been teaching the students about Colonial America and the American Revolution using material furnished by the Governor Treutlen Chapter NSDAR. Students were required to wear colonial era clothing and spent the day eating colonial food, playing colonial games, and doing colonial arts and crafts.



Compatriot Cruthirds wore his GA SAR Color Guard Uniform and spoke about George Washington.

Compatriot Crumbley gave a presentation on Mount Vernon using slides from his recent visit there.

Piedmont



(Photo by Rick Reese)

L to R: Randy Pollard, Bob McCleskey, President Bill Kabel, George Thurmond, Savannah Bailey, Robert Sapp, Mrs and Mr Bailey (Savannah's parents)



(Photo by Rick Reese)

President Bill Kabel presents the Outstanding Citizenship Medal to Savannah Bailey of Milton High School.



Continuing the tradition of remembrance, a memorial was created on the front lawn of Milton High School to honor the 2,996 people who died tragically on Sept. 11, 2001. Savannah Bailey, Milton senior, honors student and scholar athlete, lead and organized the effort for the third year in a row. “It was a meaningful way to engage students, teachers and the community as we remembered and honored those who lost their lives on that tragic day of Sept. 11, 2001,” Bailey said. “While my classmates and I were only 3 years old at the time of this terrible tragedy, we all have a responsibility to ensure none of us ever forget. By remembering and honoring lives lost of both victims and first responders, we strengthen what binds us together as a community and as a nation.”

Piedmont—continued



War Service Medals were presented by Piedmont Chapter President Bill Kabel to L to R: John Wassell, Doug McNeil, and Dale Miller

Retiring Unserviceable US Flags



This flag receptacle is a joint effort between the Piedmont Chapter SAR, the Martha Stewart Bullock Chapter DAR, the Martha Stewart Bullock Society N.S.C.A.R., and The Home Depot.

It was placed on October 10, 2015.



In December, two and a half months after the receptacle was placed, the contents were emptied. 144 flags were removed.

Piedmont—continued



President Bill Kabel receives the Easton Flag from Compatriot Bob Sapp.

GA SAR Registrar Robert Sapp, a Piedmont Chapter member presents a ‘Easton Flag’ to the chapter. President Bill Kabel received the flag which will be a very welcome addition to the chapter’s Color Guard.

The Easton Flag is a banner used to represent Easton, Pennsylvania. It is designed differently from more common Flags of the United States in that it has 13 (8-pointed) stars in a blue field, with 13 stripes in the canton. According to local legend, the flag was hoisted when the Declaration of Independence was publicly read in Easton, 8 July 1776.

The flag was used as a company flag under Captain Abraham Horn in the War of 1812, and some suspect that the design may only date from this era. It is worth noting that US flags of this era had 15 stars and 15 stripes. The flag was returned to the Easton library for safe-keeping when the company returned. The Easton Area Public Library still holds the original flag.



Compatriot Tim Dunn relates the service history of his Patriot Issac Dunn to members of the Piedmont Chapter as part of a continuing feature at chapter meeting.



President Bill Kabel congratulates USMC SSG Brandon Turner upon presentation of the Outstanding Citizenship Award. Staff Sergeant Turner has served two tours of duty in Iraq and three in Afghanistan.

Piedmont Hits a Milestone for Sock Donations

Back in early 2012 the Piedmont Chapter Veterans Committee learned of the Atlanta VA’s ongoing need for socks when it found out that the Atlanta VA Medical Center (VAMC) issues a pair of socks to each newly-admitted patient, and also to homeless veterans. Piedmont Chapter then instituted its “*SAR Socks for Vets*” program with the intent of getting its compatriots to donate socks at its monthly meetings to help with the VA’s needs.

A box is prominently located at each meeting for members to place socks. Little did the chapter’s leadership envision the magnitude into which the “*SAR Socks for Vets*” program would eventually develop. Not only have Piedmont members responded to support the program in grand style, but a number of civic organizations, church groups, and DAR chapters also made significant donations to “*SAR Socks for Vets*” when they learned of Piedmont’s program.

The program’s success has been outstanding! Since the first donations in June, 2012, Piedmont recently hit **6,000** pairs of socks at its November annual “Salute to Veterans” chapter meeting when its members brought in 837 pairs of socks. Although “*SAR Socks for Vets*” has been the primary focus, the program has enabled the chapter to have even greater success for serving veterans by opening the doors to other types of donations (books, magazines, personal care items, etc.), the estimated value of which is now more than \$22,000.

Samuel Elbert

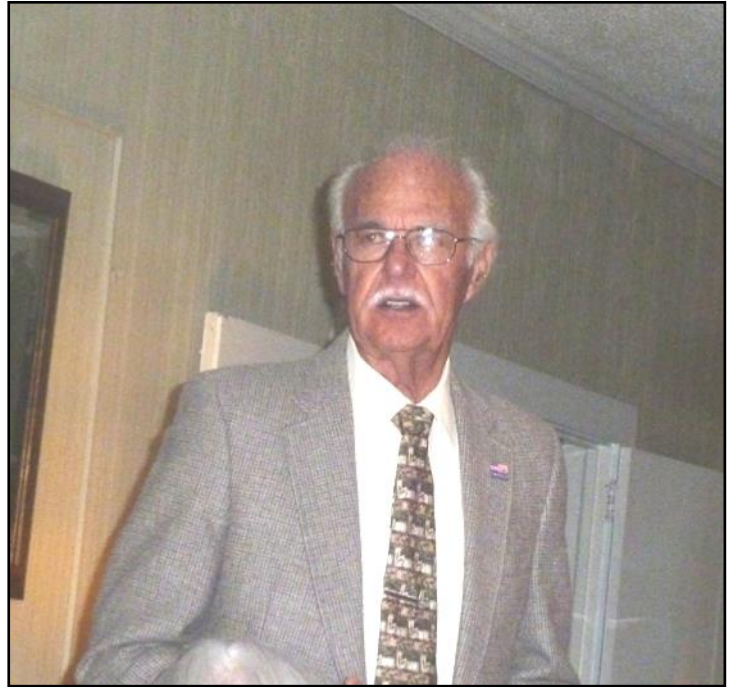
Samuel Elbert at 20 Years

The Samuel Elbert Chapter met at the Elberton Country Club where 20 years ago the Chapter was chartered led by Jack R. Bozeman Dec. 1st, 1995.

The original roll shows Jack R. Bozeman, President, Robert Heard, V-P, Charles Cecchini, Treasurer, Leon Stratton, Secretary, Russell Slaton, Registrar, William Banks Sr., Chaplain, Ross Banks, James Louie Bradley, L. H. Hunt, Charles Mann, Thomas Sigman Jr., Thomas Sigman III, Timothy Sigman, Larry Wilson, Marion Slaton, Gene Anderson, Clyde Adams, Marion McMullan, and Kirk Bozeman.

Since the losses of several deceased members the Samuel Elbert Chapter the following members were awarded membership medals and certificates for 20 year charter membership: Jack R. Bozeman (deceased); Clyde Adams, Charles Cecchini, Ross Banks, Thomas Sigman, Jr. Larry Wilson, Marion Slaton, Marion McMullan, Gene Anderson, and Kirk Bozeman.

In other business, Larry Wilson gave a \$4,500 check to President Tom Owen of the Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution. The Samuel Elbert Chapter and the Georgia Society Sons of The American Revolution were awarded \$4,500 by the Hartwell EMC for the brochure project.



Gene Anderson makes his remarks upon being awarded the Meritorious Service Medal at the Samuel Elbert Chapter 20th

9th Annual Vann's Creek Ceremony December 5, 2015 at Richard B Russell State Park

Dr. Solomon K. Smith, professor at the University of Georgia Southern History Department. Dr. Smith spoke at the Vann's Creek Ceremony in the Pavilion at the Richard B. Russell State Park Saturday, Dec. 5th, on the topic, "The British misread the strategy indicators from their victory of the battle of Brier Creek and the battle at Vann's Creek in Elbert Country".



On February 11th, 1779, at the battle of Vann's Creek, the British commander Boyd met some limited resistance from the Rebels (Patriots) and after the "smoke cleared", Boyd had lost some 120 of his men – most of them had been harshly recruited by force and when the opportunity arose during the battle they left and went back to their homes in North Carolina or South Carolina. This Vann's Creek battle weakened the numbers for the original 800 men traveling to Fort Augusta (Fort Cornwallis in Augusta) where Col. Campbell was awaiting reinforcements.

Three days later Boyd, after the Vann's Creek battle, marched into Wilkes County and was severely "checked" and defeated by the Patriots led by Cols. Andrew Pickens, Clarke, and Dooly at the Battle of Kettle Creek February 14, 1779. The British (Tory's) lost one of the first battles of the War. Word traveled across the South and affected the morale of the Rebels (Patriots). Consequently, Campbell in Augusta, because of the threat of the Patriots army assembling across the Savannah River on the South Carolina side, Campbell had to leave and go back to Savannah.

Although after the Battle of Brier Creek where Col. Samuel Elbert was captured and lost 150 slaughtered men, word went across the South and heightened the determination of the Rebels where the Militia in South Carolina began to topple the British and British commander Cornwallis had to give up his quest of overtaking the South.

Samuel Elbert then went north and was trapped at Yorktown and had to surrender his approximately 10,000 man army to Gen. George Washington. Vann's Creek, although small in numbers but large in spirit, definitely had an indirect effect in the outcome in the war!

Samuel Elbert—continued

Patriot Grave Marking #36

Samuel Elbert Chapter honors Revolutionary War Soldier

William Haley

Tory of Elbert County Buried next to revolutionary war soldier.



The Georgia Society Color Guard at the Haley grave marking

Revolutionary War Soldier, William Haley, a settler of Elbert County before 1800's, was honored October 31, 2015.

Legend has it, that during the war, Haley had a Tory neighbor and Haley found him on his land and shot and killed him. The Tory was buried on Haley's land and after later consideration, Haley requested he be buried next to the Tory. His request was honored after his death.

Next to Haley is his wife Mary Tureman. At the head of John Haley is buried the Tory.

William Haley was reported to have served at Brier Creek with Col. Samuel Elbert.



"Nancy Hart" aka Audrey Hardin welcomed guests to her 'neck of the woods'.



Landowner Gordon Alexander allowed and assisted in the very difficult efforts to clear decades of growth at the hilltop family cemetery.

Samuel Elbert—continued

Patriot Grave Marking #37



Patriot descendants assemble at the Burden family cemetery in Elbert County

The Samuel Elbert Chapter sponsored the Archibald Burden RS Gravesite Ceremony October 31st, 2015 and the GASSAR Color Guard of about 26 participated. A pioneer of the original Elbert County helped settle the area.

Archibald E. Burden was born 1745 in Amherst Co., VA, and died 1806. He married Hannah Goad Abt. 1770.

One of the first known settlers of Elbert County was Archibald E. Burden. He was born about 1745 in Amherst County, Virginia. He and Hannah Goad were married about 1770. Archibald E. Burden was a revolutionary war soldier. He is listed in the journal of the house of delegates, dated 1778. He is also listed in the Historical Registrar of Virginians in the Revolution. In 1783, he is listed as the head of the family with nine white souls in his household in Amherst, VA.

The Burdens are believed to have come to Elbert County between 1785-1790. They settled in that part of Wilkes County, which later became Elbert County, and more specifically near Bowman, GA, and the later community of Dewy Rose, GA. Archibald and three of his sons took part in the 1805 land lottery. Except for "Cuffy" (Archibald Jr) who was apparently unmarried at the time, each had two draws.

Archibald took part in many town and council meetings during the formation of Elbert County.

President of the GASSAR Tom Owen gave greetings.



VP of the Samuel Elbert Chapter Olds Harris was the Master of Ceremonies.

William Few

The Col. William Few Chapter met Thursday evening December 8th at the Pinnacle Club in downtown Augusta for our 2015 annual Christmas Banquet and 4th Quarter meeting.

With 34 members and guests in attendance, we welcomed GASSAR President Tom Owen and his wife, Jane, as honored guests.

President Owen brought greetings from the State leadership.



After opening the evening with prayer and pledges led by Chaplain David Titus, a brief Chapter business session was conducted.

We welcomed new chapter members Chris Lane and James Lemley this evening, as Vice President William Tankersley presented their membership certificates and welcomed them into the Sons of the American Revolution.

To conclude the business portion of the evening, President Tom Owen led the installation ceremony for our new 2016 Board of Managers.

They are - William Tankersley, President; Sonny Pittman, 1st Vice President; James Brady, 2nd Vice President, Albert Beveridge, Secretary/Treasurer; Alton McCloud, Registrar; John Garcia, Sr., Judge Advocate, Jerry Brigham, Parliamentarian; and David Titus, Chaplain.



The evening concluded with toasts, dinner and the singing of Silent Night.

Wiregrass

Presenting their 18th Flag Certificate



L to R: Allen Farley, Lt. Tommy Lloyd, President Wilder Smith, Jr, Fire Chief Michael Strobridge, Chris Headrick and James Ward

The Wiregrass Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution awarded the Swainsboro Fire Department its 18th U.S. Flag Certificate for flying the Flag and flying it correctly. The Certificate was awarded to the Fire Department at the November Wiregrass Chapter meeting held on November 12, 2015.

Chapter President Wilder Smith, Jr. presented the Certificate to Fire Chief Michael Strobridge while firefighters Allen Farley, Lt. Tommy Lloyd, Chris Headrick and James Ward looked on. President Smith said that this "Certificate of Commendation" was given to the fire department in Recognition of Exemplary Patriotism in the display of the Flag of the United States of America in the correct way.

This project is an ongoing project of the Wiregrass Chapter, GASSAR, and we will be honoring others with this certificate."



The Wiregrass Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution held its monthly meeting on Thursday afternoon at 6:00 at the Emanuel Medical Center Private dining room on November 12, 2015. With President Wilder Smith presiding we had 8 members in attendance, two guests, our DAR liaison member Judy Womack and 7 members of the Swainsboro Fire Department.

President Smith introduced our Wiregrass Chapter Secretary/Treasurer Compatriot Ruskin Powell who was the host for tonight's program. Ruskin presented his program on John Adams who was the second President of the United States from 1797 to 1801.

John Adams was an American lawyer, author, statesman, and diplomat. He not only served as President, but was the first Vice President (1789-1797) and as a Founding Father was a leader of American independence from Great Britain. As a delegate from Massachusetts to the Continental Congress, Adams played a leading role in persuading Congress to declare independence. He assisted Thomas Jefferson in drafting the Declaration of Independence in 1776, and was its foremost advocate in the Congress.

He was the first U.S. President to reside in the executive mansion, now known as the White House. He died on the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1826.

Compatriot Powell Presents program on John Adams



Wiregrass—continued

Eleven New Members at One Chapter Meeting



The Wiregrass Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, held its monthly meeting on Thursday night, December 3, 2015 at Julian and Norma Sconyers Clubhouse. Georgia Society Senior Vice President Allen Greenly was present to install eleven new members into the Chapter.

Those installed were Wessyn Willoughby, Robert Miller, Jim Daughtry, Thomas Miller, Hayden Miller, Sam Cochran III, Lee Smith: not present were Richard Torpin Smith III, Leo Anderson III, Lee Smith II, and Joe Webb.

Wiregrass Chapter has doubled in membership in the last twenty months and now stands at 46 members. The Chapter already has a great start in membership for 2016. We have applications for approval at the State and National Society's for 4 more new members and these should be approved by the last of January which should put the Wiregrass Chapter at 50 members.

It looks as if the Chapter will also have some C.A.R. candidates as well. Congratulations to the Wiregrass Chapter.

Continuing a Three-Part Series

“Georgia’s Signers Of The Declaration Of Independence”

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To be concluded in the next issue of “The Hornet’s Nest”



Georgia’s Signers Of The Declaration Of Independence

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Lyman Hall

Lyman Hall was born in Wallingford, Connecticut, on 12 April 1724, son of John and Mary (Street) Hall. He studied theology, completing his education at Yale College in 1747 (B.A.) and 1750 (M.A.). He served as Congregational pastor in Fairfield, Connecticut, until dismissed from the church for immorality (the precise nature of the charge is no longer known). Although subsequently reinstated, Hall next studied medicine with a Fairfield physician and apparently practiced in Wallingford.

He married first Abigail Burr, and second Mary Osborne, before moving to South Carolina, and later to Georgia before the Revolution. He practiced medicine in both places. Doctor Hall was Georgia’s sole representative in the Continental Congress in 1775. He brought 200 barrels of rice and £50 with him for

the relief of the poor in Boston. Admitted to the Continental Congress as a delegate, Hall declined to vote because each colony had but one vote and he represented but one parish.

Georgia returned Dr. Hall to the Continental Congress through 1780. He became one of Georgia’s Signers of the Declaration of Independence, and made his last appearance in Congress in February of 1777. Such was his influence in the Continental Congress that other delegates complained that, unlike the other southern states, Georgia always voted in consonance with Connecticut. In 1783 Hall became governor of the state, serving as such until 1790.

In 1787 Dr. Hall served as executor of the estate of Button Gwinnett, and handled the sale of Gwinnett’s property at Sutherland’s Bluff. At the same time, Hall advertised the sale of his own plantation, Hall’s Knoll, in Liberty County. He subsequently moved his residence to Shell Bluff in what was then Burke County.

Doctor Hall died at his home at Shell Bluff on 19 October 1790. His family buried him there in the family burial ground. Hall’s second wife Mary (Osborne) Hall died there in November of 1793. Their only son John Hall, who died on 20 January 1792 in his 27th year, was also buried at Shell Bluff.

Search for Dr. Hall

Pursuant to an earlier, concurrent resolution, in 1847 the Georgia Legislature made an appropriation of \$1,500 for the removal of the remains of Georgia’s Signers of the Declaration of Independence and the construction of a suitable “Signers” monument to them as Georgia’s “Fathers of the Revolution.” Pursuant to the terms of this appropriation, in 1848 a committee of the City Council of Augusta had Doctor Hall’s remains removed from their resting place at Shell Bluff, where they had reposed almost 60 years. These were then taken to Augusta for reburial under a monument “suitable to his accomplishments.”

On 4 July 1848 in Augusta, a procession headed by the grand master of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Georgia, followed by the mayor, city council, and other dignitaries, and accompanied by martial music, proceeded to the site on Greene Street opposite the city hall and laid the cornerstone of the Signers Monument.

As stated, the committee concluded that it could not locate the whereabouts of Button Gwinnett. Workmen finally finished what had become known as the Hall and Walton Monument in November of 1852, a granite obelisk.



LYMAN HALL.



Hall's old marble tombstone was left behind at Shell Bluff. The inscription on it read:

*"Beneath this stone
Rest the remains of the Honorable
LYMAN HALL, Esq.,
Formerly Governor of this State,
Who departed this life the 19th of Oct., 1790,
In the 67th year of his age.
In the cause of America, he was uniformly
A Patriot.
In the incumbent duties of a Husband and a
Father, he acquitted himself with
Affection and Tenderness.
But, reader, above all, know from this inscription,
that he left this probationary
scene a true Christian and an
Honest Man.
To these so mourned in Death, so loved in Life,
The childless parent and the widow'd wife
With tears inscribes this monumental stone,
That holds his ashes and expects her own."*

Eventually, an "enterprising individual" appropriated Dr. Hall's abandoned tombstone as a barroom counter in a tavern in the eastern part of Burke County.

Hopefully, the patrons of this barroom drank many toasts to the Declaration of Independence and to one who signed it.

In time, Hall's barroom headstone disappeared. In 1936 the Georgia Daughters of the American Revolution approved the following resolution: "That the grave of Lyman Hall in Burke county be marked, the necessary sum to be appropriated by the state conference." Thus, Dr. Lyman Hall now has two grave markers.

Lyman Hall

Continuing this Three-Part Series

"Georgia's Signers Of The Declaration Of Independence"

Watch for the author's discussion of George Walton
in the next issue of "The Hornet's Nest"



Honoring Three Daughters



Weather did not dampen spirits at a very sincere ceremony to honor three Daughters of the American Revolution on Saturday, Nov 7th at the Georgia National Cemetery in Canton. The Martha Stewart Bulloch Chapter, NSDAR presented the DAR Grave Marking ritual that included remembrances of many years of service by their members: Harriet Garner Cooper, Inez Riley Moss and Sara Martha Thurmond. The dedication was very well attended by the Chapter and family members.



L to R: Lynn Thurmond Kozlosky, Anne Alexander (Marty's sister), George Thurmond, Thomas Thurmond remembering Marty



L to R: GA SAR President Tom Owen, Martha Stewart Bulloch Regent Paula Nelson, Thomas Thurmond



The award winning Georgia Color Guard presented colors for the grave dedication ceremony

Fall BOM Awards

The NSSAR Patriot Grave Marking Medal is presented to members participating in 15 Grave Marking Events.

An Oak Leaf Cluster signifies an additional 15 Grave Markings.



President Tom Owen presented the award to these individuals, L to R:

Col. George E. Thurmond, Piedmont Chapter (Medal & Certificate)

James E. Stallings, Sr., Ocmulgee Chapter (Oak Leaf Cluster & Certificate)

Don Ray Thomas, Sr., William Few Chapter: (Oak Leaf Cluster & Certificate)

W. Allen Greenly, Robert Forsyth Chapter: (Oak Leaf Cluster & Certificate)

Dr. Edward P. Rigel, Sr., accepted the award on behalf of Edward P. Rigel, Jr., Robert Forsyth Chapter (Medal & Certificate)

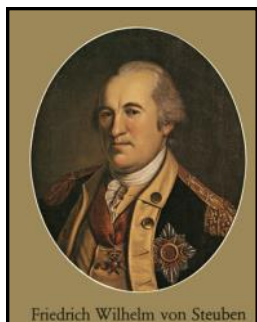


The NSSAR Thomas Jefferson Medal is presented to the member who supports the Ideals and the Endowment Funds of the Knight Essay Contest.

President Owen presented to award to Terry A. Gibbs, Captain John Collins Chapter, GASSAR Knight Essay Chairman: (Medal and Certificate)



Georgia Society Color Guard Commander, Dr. Edward P. Rigel Sr presented the Von Steuben Medal (Medal & Certificate) to GA SAR Past President, USCG CAPT (Ret) Roger Coursey, Edward Telfair Chapter.



The medal recognizes sustained achievement in the National SAR Color Guard by obtaining 500 National points and 5 years' service since his award of the Silver Color Guard Medal.



Fall BOM Awards



Georgia Society Color Guard Commander, Dr. Edward P. Rigel Sr presented the Molly Pitcher Medal and Certificate to Mrs. Lexie Jane Owen, Regent of the Kettle Creek Chapter, NSDAR.

The Molly Pitcher Medal recognizes Jane's support and dedication to the National Society Color Guard, Sons of the American Revolution 2012 – 2015.



National Society Sons SAR Veterans Corps Certificates were awarded to four new members. Award recipients were:

George Patrick Marion Reese, Special Operations Forces, Navy, Lebanon 1982, Captain John Collins Chapter

Fred Lloyd Blackwell, Military Service Veterans Corps, Captain John Collins Chapter

Ray D. Ruggles, Military Service Veterans Corps, Captain John Collins Chapter

Bruce E. Townsend, Vietnam War Veterans Corps, Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter

David Cook and David Ludley received the certificates on behalf of their Compatriots from GA SAR President Tom Owen.



President Owen presented the National Award for the Piedmont Chapter for its pledge of the Signer Level of the 1776 Society.

Chapter President Compatriot Bill Kabel received the award on behalf of the Piedmont Chapter.

Piedmont is the first Chapter in Georgia to have pledged at this level.

