Newsletter of THE GEORGIA SOCIETY

Sons of the American Revolution



The

October—December, 2013

Hornet's Nest

The President's Dispatch



President Roger W. Coursey

First, let me say what a privilege and honor it is to have been elected and installed as your President for the upcoming year. I sincerely appreciate the confidence that has installation, I will use this issue to share with

Prior to taking my first command, I asked one Congress). of my prior Commanding Officers, that I ensure that their chapter reports are submitted

of what he has done, and he has left some big submit their reports on time. shoes for me to try and fill. One thing I do past year, to visit as many chapters as possible during the upcoming year. I hope all Chapter Presidents will contact me and let me your chapter.

The Georgia Society has a great reputation among the members of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (I believe the mere presence of President General Dooley being here tonight can give some credence to that). The Georgia Society is an award winning society of the National Society, and our Color Guard is a leader among the National Society having won many awards (with one member, Registrar General J. Michael Tomme, having been a been shown in me by your election of me. previous National Commander and several of Having only been a few days since my our Georgia Society members having been

admired, about what I should say at my on time, so that our committee chairman can Change of Command. He told me, this is a put together the reports that will enable us to ceremony to recognize the accomplishments continue as an Award Winning Society. And of the outgoing Commanding Officer, so I would like to see our Regional Vice keep it short. So that...I will try to do. But I Presidents take a more active role in ensuring do want to congratulate James for all he has that our chapters work towards the programs done to further the goals of the Georgia in the Georgia Society, and follow through Society this past year. He can be very proud and encourage the Chapter Presidents to

I would like to recognize a couple of want to try and do is continue, as he did this people that have been an influence along my way to this position as President of this Great Society. When I joined as a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, I had no know when would be a good time to visit intention of seeking any office (I felt I had already proven my abilities and success, through my career in the military and I was satisfied with what I had done) and I only wanted to recognize my patriotic ancestors. I am proud to be able to say that 19 of my ancestors had something to do with establishing this great country of ours and giving us the freedoms we enjoy today. I have to mention the member who I guess had the greatest impact on getting me to where I am today. After I joined Edward Telfair Chapter, I was content on just being a member. However, Compatriot Gordon Smith, who passed away this past year after a the National Color Guardsman of the Year long struggle with cancer, was the outgoing you parts of my acceptance speech at the [Compatriots George Thurmond, Charlie chapter president for 2008 and asked me to be Annual Conference, since most were unable Newcomer, and Paul Prescottl). I do not plan the incoming chapter president in 2009. I to do anything as simply the President of the knew Gordon from several Masonic I will not take up a lot of your time here Georgia Society, but members of the Georgia organizations that we both were members of. telling you of all the great things I plan to do Society, we as a TEAM can do many things He was very persistent and I agreed to in the coming year. Having served this great to strengthen and build on our successes and become the new Edward Telfair Chapter country of ours for over 27 years as a military reputation as a Society. Other Societies President. Gordon encouraged me to attend officer in Leadership positions, and having continue to challenge us and try to take over the Georgia Society Board of Management had over 50 units under me with several our position as the Society to beat at meetings, so I did. Then Compatriot George million dollars in the budget for my program National. We need to work together and Thurmond took over from Gordon. He sort in my last tour, I know that I cannot do work harder at the chapter level on the of took me under his wing (as he does and anything without the grunt work of those at programs within the National Society has done for many here tonight) and the grassroots level (our chapters, our state (including President General Dooley's encouraged me (more like insisted) that I committees, and especially our members). initiatives that he established at the last attend the Trustee/Leadership Meetings in Chapter Presidents need to Louisville and become a member of some

(Continued on Page 6)

The Hornet's Nest

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

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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:
 1,480

 JUNIOR:
 32

 JUNIOR LIFE:
 04

 EMERITUS:
 05

 LIFE:
 36

DUAL (Between States): 18

TOTAL: 1,575

Membership and Reinstatements:

The Georgia Society had 162 members who failed to renew their membership for 2014 and have been dropped from National and Georgia Society rolls. Those members who have been dropped may be reinstated by sending National, State, and Chapter dues to their chapter treasurer: \$30 National, \$13 State, plus Chapter dues. No form is necessary. The chapter treasurer needs to send a list of member reinstatements that give name, National and State numbers, and any change of address or phone numbers. If a dropped individual's membership was in another state, Form 0918 is required along with a check for dues payment. A RECORD COPY is required when submitting this form. Should the member not have one, an additional \$10 must be submitted to cover the cost of acquiring one from National.

PLEASE NOTE: All reinstatements submitted will be held until 01 Mar 2014 as State Secretaries and National complete the Reconciliation process.

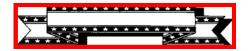
IRS Forms 990 and 990-N:

One of these forms must be filed every year by the 15 fiscal year. For most chapters this is 15 May. If more information is needed contact me.

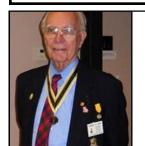
Officer Changes:

Changes in chapter officers is ongoing. If your chapter has changed or will be changing officers please complete the NEW OFFICER NOTIFICATION FORM found in the Source Book. E-mail to: secretaryga@comcast.net. If you are not making officer changes, please let me know that also.

2014 Georgia Society Rumbaugh Orations Final - April 26, 2014 Garden Patch Restaurant 100 Southland Drive, Barnesville, GA (following the Georgia Society BOM meeting)







Message From the Georgia **Society** Registrar

Robert A. Sapp

Over 30 compatriots, not all of which were chapter Registrars, attended the Chapter Registrar Workshop at the annual meeting on 24 January. If you, as chapter Registrar did not attend, then contact the Georgia Society Regional VP of your area and request your chapter's packet.

It is requested that all new chapter Registrars provide the State Registrar with your name, telephone number and Email address. With the Email address you will be processed.

To ensure rapid review and a higher probability of approval it is recommended that application packages contain stand alone documentation. If at all possible the documentation should be original [digital copy or photocopy], containing primary event citation [as close to the time of the event as possible] and direct information. The generational connecting documentation should be a citation that provides descriptive connection. A strong emphasis is made on providing a long form birth certificate for generation 1 showing the biological parents.

Source documentation needs to show a date and location of service as well as the service, military or public. Along with the source, the patriot needs to be shown living at the time of service. Consolidated Service Records provided by NARA [www.fold3.com/] and National Archives in Morrow, Georgia, are excellent documents. For the patriot who did not serve in the Continental line, pension papers provide the best source documents.

Note that the principal causes of pending [delaying application approval] are lack of adequate military/public service documents and generational connections, mainly through the spouse lineage. Care in preparing source

documentation in these areas will enhance approval.

Your State Society Registrar seeks to have 100 percent application approval. This can be acquired through dialogue prior to presenting applications that have difficult areas. Therefore do not hesitate to call or Email.

Your humble servant, Robert Sapp Georgia Society Registrar 770-971-0189 2rasapp@comcast.net



Message From the Georgia Society

Chaplain

Greetings, Compatriots from your Georgia Society SAR Chaplain. I have just returned from the Battle of Kettle Creek weekend in historic Washington, Georgia. It was a huge success. I personally think that everyone kept informed of the application status as came away with a renewed feeling of pride in processed by the state society. In the past this great state of Georgia that many of us year 359 applications and supplementals were call home. The support from many individuals was to be admired. All who sacrificed their time and talents to pull this event off will truly be rewarded, not only to themselves, but to the onlookers as well. It seems that the event gets better and better. Thank you for allowing me to have the Worship Service at the beautiful Phillips Mill Baptist Church and a heartfelt thanks to their Pastor, Bro. Mark Woods, for sharing his pulpit with me on our Lord's Day! We finally finished off the weekend events at Elijah Clarke State Park, Lincolnton, Georgia. I trust we will have many more opportunities to honor the service and sacrifices of our forefathers who forged this great nation we in Kennesaw. His essay is titled The Battle call the United States of America. I want to thank the many DAR ladies who participated and who helped make Kettle Creek weekend a great success for all. Proverbs 3:5-6



The end of December marks the end of the Knight Essay Contest in the Georgia Society. This year five chapters participated in the contest. Judges were then selected from chapters not submitting essays for the competition. From their grading forms returned to me for tabulation a winner was selected. Judges this year were Compatriots Jimmy Boatright, Billy Templeton and Rev. Clyde Hampton.

And now, I am pleased to report that the winner of this year's Georgia Society Knight Essay Contest is ...

Daniel Dzimianski Sponsored by the Lyman Hall Chapter

Daniel's essay is titled The Federalist Papers, and their Writers. Needless to say it is a very good essay. Daniel is from Nicholson, Georgia and is home schooled. He is the latest in a line of siblings that have competed in the Knight Essay Contest over the last fifteen years, some of whom have been our state winner and competed at national. Daniel's essay won out over his younger brother this year, but you can bet the younger brother Timothy will be competing again next year.

As chairman of the program I must add that the competition this year was very close for the top three essays. The point totals for the three were 147, 148, 149!

Daniel will receive a \$600.00 cash scholarship for his essay from the Georgia Society, and the essay will be entered into the national competition. The winners of that level of competition will be awarded \$2000.00 for First Place, \$1000.00 for Second and \$500.00 for Third.

There is more! The Georgia Society also awards a \$400.00 cash scholarship for second place in the contest. The winner of that award is...

Evan Mercer Sponsored by the Captain John Collins Chapter

Evan is a senior at Harrison High School of Cowpens.

A special Thank You is due to the judges of this year's contest. To avoid a conflict of interest Judges are selected on short notice after it is known what chapters have submitted essays for the competition. They are then provided copies of the essays along with a standardized grading form to complete for each essay. The completed forms are then returned to me by December 31 for tabulation.

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The judges completed this task during the last two weeks of December which is a very busy time for most of us. So to Compatriots Jimmy Boatright, Billy Templeton and Rev, Clyde Hampton I thank you very much for your service to the Georgia Society Knight Essay Contest!

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National committees. So I did. I have made a lot of friends in this Society and at National, through attendance at the National Congresses and also the Leadership/Trustee meetings, which I would like to encourage more of our members to attend.

After our Annual Meeting last year when Walker Chewning had to resign immediately as Senior Vice President due to health concerns, we had a special election to replace Walker. I was approached by the Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Registrar General Mike Tomme, about agreeing to be nominated for the office. I was very reluctant to do this and asked him for a week to think about it and talk to my wife, Teresa. We had just been told that Teresa had Stage IV lung cancer that had metastasized to her bones, and I did not feel that I should take the time away from her to devote to this. In our discussions of this, she basically told me that I would do it or she would kick my "butt". She insisted that I do this, and I am very grateful to her for the confidence she has in me, and for her willingness to share this time that I felt should be devoted to her. I will be forever indebted to her for allowing and encouraging me to do this. Teresa, I THANK YOU and I LOVE YOU. I also talked to Gordon Smith about this while trying to decide whether I should do this, he encouraged me to do it. I only wish Gordon could have been here tonight, as he is the big push who got me actively involved in the day to day workings of the Chapter and Society, and moving towards this position. He would have been very happy that a compatriot from South Georgia was becoming State President.

I would like to thank all those compatriots who have stepped up to the plate and agreed to take chairmanship of one or more of the over 30 committees in our Society for the next year.

I now thank you for your attention and the privilege of talking to you. I ask for your prayers during the upcoming year, as WE continue to carry forward the work of the Award Winning Georgia Society. May GOD BLESS each and every one of you, the Sons of the American Revolution, our military members serving the 5 Armed Forces

throughout the world, and the United States of America.

Georgia Society Annual Awards

The following medals and awards were presented at the Georgia Society's Awards Banquet and Awards Luncheon on January 24 - 25, 2014. Some of these awards may have been presented during the year.

INDIVIDUAL MEDALS AND AWARDS

DAR Recognition *Martha Washington Medal*Anna Hick Thompson
Virginia G. Lingelbach

Ladies Auxiliary Recognition

Martha Washington Medal

Teresa M. Coursey

C.A.R. Recognition
SAR/CAR Silver Medal of Appreciation
Amberlee Allmond

Lydia Darragh Medal Ginny Manning Joan Rigel Remona Stallings Cilla Leed Tomme Robin R. Towns

Molly Pitcher Medal - National Joan Rigel

SAR Daughters of Liberty Clare H. Newcomer

members

Lafayette Volunteer Service Medal Cilla Leed Tomme

Outstanding Citizenship Award and Pin Teresa Coursey Remona Stallings

Silver SAR/CAR Medal of Appreciation
N. Walker Chewning
Terry Manning
J. Michael Tomme, Jr.

P.G. Robert B. Vance MembershipTrophy.David A. Noble - Atlanta Chapter 42

Lafayette Volunteer Service Medal -National

J. Michael Tomme, Sr.

Meritorious Service Medal - Georgia Michael M. Black William B. Dobbs II Allen Greenly John Lee Mortison J. Michael Tomme, Sr.

Silver Roger Sherman Medal - Georgia

Walker Chewning William Coffeen Robert Cruthirds David G. Jessel Roger G. Lamb, Jr. Milus Bruce Maney Terry E. P. Manning Hall A. Martin, Sr. Charlie A. Newcomer, III Thomas M. Owen Kline O. Pugh William F. Ramsaur Robert A. Sapp Delbert "Ted" Smith, Jr. George E. Thurmond J. Michael Tomme, Sr. Robert F. Towns, Jr. George Wheeless James Larry Wilson

Silver Roger Sherman Medal - Oak Leaf Cluster - Georgia Edward P. Rigel, Sr.

Silver Roger Sherman Medal - South Atlantic District Edward P. Rigel, Sr. J. Michael Tomme, Sr.

Gold Roger Sherman Medal - National Robert A. Sapp Robert F. Towns, Jr.

Liberty Medal - National
James Earl Clark
Robert H. Lear
David A. Nobel
Thomas M. Owen

Liberty Medal - Oak Leaf Cluster - National

Roger W. Coursey
Larry T. Guzy
Milus Bruce Maney
William Hughes Raper
Robert A. Sapp
Richard Russell Sherman
J. Michael Tomme, Sr.

Robert F. Towns, Jr.
James Larry Wilson
Fred D. Womack
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Silver Good Citizenship

Joseph B. Harris

William Charles Hampton

Richard Lee Richter

Edward P. Rigel, Sr.

Bobby D. Shaw

James E. Stallings, Sr.

George Wheeless

Distinguished Service Medal

Edward P. Rigel, Sr.

Patriot Medal

Delbert "Ted" Smith, Jr.

James E. Stallings, Sr.

Allen Greenly

Color Guard Medals

Von Steuben Medal

Terry Manning

Robert A. Sapp

Bronze Color Guard Medal

Edward P. Rigel, Jr.

Silver Color Guard Medal

Edward P. Rigel, Jr.

Education Committee Awards

Outstanding Elementary Social Studies

Teacher

Angie Barnett - Ragsdale Elementary School,

Hiram, Sons of Liberty Chapter

Outstanding Social Studies Teacher

Regina Loveridge - ParkviewHigh School,

Atlanta Chapter

Education Outreach Streamers

Atlanta

Button Gwinnett

Casimir Pulaski

Coweta Falls

Joseph Habersham

Lyman Hall

Marshes of Glynn

Piedmont

Sons of Liberty

Dr. Lyman Hall Education Outreach Award

Atlanta

Coweta Falls

Best Chapter Education Outreach Award

Atlanta Chapter

Nancy Hart Education Outreach Award

Patricia Pugh - Joseph Habersham

John Dooley Education Outreach Award

James R. Patton - Joseph Habersham

Individual Medals and Awards

Eagle Scout Award

Evan Taylor Mercer

JROTC Award

Alyssa Madison Holt AFROTC - Sandy

Creek High School

Knight Essay Contest

Daniel Dziamski - Sponsored by the Lyman

Hall Chapter

Chapter Participation Awards

Billy Thompson Americanism Awards Membership Group I (1-24 Members)

Winner - Sons of Liberty - William Toth,

President

Honorable Mention - George Walton -

Bill Dobbs, President

Membership Group II (25 - 74 Members)

Blue Ridge Mountains - David Cook,

President

2nd Place - Button Gwinnett - Bruce

Maney, President

Membership Group III (75 or more)

Piedmont - Walt Woliver,

President

2nd Place - Atlanta - Terry Manning,

Pesident

President General's Award

Membership Group I (1 - 24 Members)

Sons of Liberty - William Toth, President

2nd Place - George Walton - Bill

Dobbs, President

Membership Group II (25 - 74 Members)

Athens Chapter - Don Burdick, President 2nd Place - Lyman Hall - Ed Rigel, Sr.,

President

Membership Group III (75 or more)

Atlanta Chapter - Terry Manning,

President

2nd Place - Piedmont - Walt Woliver,

President

Flag Certificate Award

Sons of Liberty

Distinguished Chapter Awards

Athens

Atlanta

Blue Ridge Mountains

Button Gwinnett

Captain John Collins

Casimir Pulaski

Edward Telfair

Joel Early

Lyman Hall

Marquis de Lafayette

Marshes of Glynn

Ocmulgee

Piedmont

Robert Forsyth Washington - Wilkes

William Few

Georgia Society S.A.R./C.A.R. Awards Outstanding Support to C.A.R.

Marquis de Lafayette - Certificate Atlanta - Red streamer with Certificate

Coweta Falls - Blue streamer with Cert

C.A.R. Distinguished Liaison Award

Coweta Falls Chapter

Information Technology Committee
Awards

PG Westlake Communications Award for Best Chapter Website

NO ENTRIES

 $PG\ We st lake\ Communications\ Award\ for$

Best Chapter Newsletter NO Entries

Membership Committee Awards

John Milledge Altamaha Athens Marshes of Glynn Blue Ridge Mill Creek Button Gwinnett Ocmulgee Patrick Carr Casimir Pulaski Robert Forsyth Cherokee Dalton Samuel Elbert Four Rivers Sons of Liberty George Walton Washington—Wilkes

Joel Early William Few Wiregrass

Revolutionary War Graves Committee
Awards

Revolutionary War Graves

Athens Chapter - Certificate and 3 White

Coweta Falls - Certificate and 1 White Star

William Few - Certificate and 1 White Star

Compatriot Graves Ceremonies

Casimir Pulaski - Certificate

Blue Ridge Mountains - Certificate and 2

White Stars

Piedmont - Certificate and 1 White Star

Veterans Committee Awards

B.G. Robert L. Scott, Jr. Veterans Awards Group I (1-24 Members)

NO ENTRIES

Group II (25 - 49 Members

Casimir Pulaski - George Wheeless

Group III (50 - 99 Members)

Marquis de Lafayette - Ted Hackney

Group IV (100+ Members)

Piedmont - Bill Kabel



Report From The



Georgia **Society** Color **Guard**

Ed Rigel, Sr. Commander



Color Guard Schedule

2014

- 08 Feb Kettle Creek Commemoration Ceremony, Washington, GA
- 09 Feb Heroes of the Hornet's Nest Commemoration, Elijah Clark State Park, Lincolnton, GA
- 22 Feb Commemoration of Washington's Birthday Gainesville, 1700 Hrs.
- 28 Feb 01 Mar NSSAR Spring Leadership, Louisville, KY
- 01 Mar Battle of Brier Creek tenative
- 14 Mar Georgia State Society DAR Annual Meeting Opening Banquet, Evergreen Marriott, Stone Mountain, GA
- 15 Mar Battle of Guilford Courthouse, Greensboro, NC
- 22 Mar Compatriot Jacob Highsmith Grave marking, Highsmith Cemetery, Waynesboro, GA 1500 Hrs
- 29 Mar Compatriot Tom Holcomb Grave Marking
- 05 Apr Patriot Jeremiah Sparks grave marking, Mitchem Cemetery, Fairplay, GA
- 12 Apr Compatriot Kit Braselton and Daughter Peggy Braselton, Braselton, GA
- 19 Apr Frederica Days, St. Simons Island, Ceremony 1000 Hrs., 1130 Hrs. Parade
- 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
- 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
- 18 Sep William Few Ceremony, Augusta, GA
- 20 Sep GSSDAR Constitution Week Luncheon, Piedmont Driving Club, Atlanta
- 26 27 Sep NSSAR Fall Leadership, Louisville, KY
- 07 Oct Kings Mountain





Georgia Society Meeting Dates

President Roger William 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

2013 New Members

Georgia Society New Members From September 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013

	Registered	New Member	<u>Patriot</u>	Sponsor
Athens				
	26 Dec 2013	Wilbur Charles Mull	Ephraim Spencer	Charles A. Newcomer, III
	26 Dec 2013	Casey Downs Mull	Ephraim Spencer	Charles A. Newcomer, III
		•	1 1	,
Atlanta				
110001000	16 Sep 2013	Cameron Loren Paul Moore	Burt Moore	David Wayland Moore
	03 Nov 2013	Glance Armstrong Kilgore	Henry Henry	David Andrews Noble
	03 Nov 2013	Christopher Paul Kilgore	Henry Henry	David Andrews Noble
	19 Nov 2013	Neal Allen Baker	Peter Noble	David Andrews Noble
	19 Nov 2013	Paul David Baker	Peter Noble	David Andrews Noble
	19 Nov 2013	Eric Noble Baker	Peter Noble	David Andrews Noble
	26 Dec 2013	Merritt Llewellyn Pearson	Jeremiah Pearson	David Andrews Noble
	26 Dec 2013	William Jackson Pearson	Jeremiah Pearson	David Andrews Noble
	26 Dec 2013	James Russell Hazelwood	Andrew Kimbley	David Andrews Noble
Divo Didgo Mounto	·••			
Blue Ridge Mounta	01 Nov 2013	Edward Wayne Reed	Samuel Reed	Jack Powell Dugger
	02 Nov 2013	Joseph Michael Powell	Jacob Duncan	Jack Powell Dugger
	02 NOV 2013	Joseph Wienaer Fowen	Jacob Duncan	Jack I owell Dugger
Button Gwinnett				
	26 Dec 2013	Scott Thomas Jacques	Joseph Read	Harold Douglas Ford
	26 Dec 2013	Robert William Jacques	Joseph Read	Harold Douglas Ford
	26 Dec 2013	Thomas Leo Jacques	Joseph Read	Harold Douglas Ford
Casimir Pulaski				
Cushini Tuluski	02 Nov 2013	Harold LaRogue Gosnell	Charles Gosnell	George Herman Wheeless, II
CI I		S		
Cherokee	02 Nov 2013	Paginald Alan Pay	Fraderick Day	James Edward Traylor
	02 Nov 2013 02 Nov 2013	Reginald Alan Ray Craig Austin Ray	Frederick Ray Frederick Ray	James Edward Trayler James Edward Trayler
	02 Nov 2013 02 Nov 2013	Cash Jackson Woolbright-Ray	Frederick Ray	James Edward Trayler James Edward Trayler
	02 Nov 2013 02 Nov 2013		Frederick Ray	James Edward Trayler James Edward Trayler
	02 Nov 2013 02 Nov 2013	Paul Alan Ray Lloyd Stanley Lewis, Jr.	Thomas Gross	James Charles Lance
Dalton	02 140V 2013	Lloyd Stainey Lewis, 31.	Thomas Gross	James Charles Lance
Duiton	19 Nov 2013	Cooper David Bell	Thomas O'Kelley	George Dewey Wright, Jr.
	19 Nov 2013	Dylan Thomas O'Kelley	Thomas O'Kelley	George Dewey Wright, Jr.
	19 Nov 2013	Connor Lewis Bell	Thomas O'Kelley	George Dewey Wright, Jr.
Edward Telfair				
Edward Tenan	03 Nov 2013	Brandon Paul Rhodes	Levi Harrell	Roger William Coursey
Captain John Colli		W.W. G. 5	7.1.36	
	01 Nov 2013	William Carey Pickens	John Mayes	Earl Levaughn Cagle, Sr.
	02 Nov 2013	Jerome Garland Anderson	Joseph Anderson	Larry Thomas Guzy
	02 Nov 2013	David Wayne Beam	James Carlile	Robert Van Blackwell
	26 Dec 2013	Leland Smith Hulsey, Jr.	Jonathan Tipton	Larry Thomas Guzy
Marshes of Glynn				
	26 Dec 2013	James Alfred Beck, Sr.	Henry Holland	Robert Hudson Lear
	26 Dec 2013	Charles Irvin Beck	Henry Holland	Robert Hudson Lear
			,	

(Continued from Page 9)

	Registered	New Member	<u>Patriot</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>
Piedmont				
	01 Nov 2013	William Newton Floyd, Jr.	Levi Phillips	Robert Alvyn Sapp
	03 Nov 2013	Michael Leroy Chrisman	Johan Rinker	Eugenius Sheppard Hammack
Samuel Elbert				
	02 Nov 2013	Tracey Scott Tate	Robert Tate	James Larry Wilson
	02 Nov 2013	George Lee Tate	Robert Tate	James Larry Wilson
	26 Dec 2013	James Stuart Lyle, III	Thomas Fortson	James Stuart Lyle, Sr.
William Few				
	01 Nov 2013	Gail David Amstutz	George McCreary	Alton Oneal McCloud

Total 38



Congratulations Chapters!



In Memory of

Our Fathers, Our Brothers, Our Sons
Our Compatriots





Georgia Society Deceased Members January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013

Compatriot	Nat'l No.	Chapter	DECEASED
Charles Milton Bratton	180286	Samuel Elbert	05 Jan 2013
William Webb Harrington, Sr.	161746	Coweta Falls	08 Jan 2013
Charles Lewis Bausch	139473	Coweta Falls	14 Jan 2013
John Winthrop Crim	136761	Coweta Falls	26 Jan 2013
Richard Gladstone Neal, Jr.	137334	Athens	01 Feb 2013
John Robert Jones	156173	Capt. John Collins	02 Feb 2013
Jack Ray Bozeman*	130027	Samuel Elbert	09 Feb 2013
Herbert Brown Braselton, Sr.*	140796	Lyman Hall	15 Feb 2013
Marcus Odian Denard	177336	Washington—Wilkes	26 Feb 2013
Charles Franklin Hyder	163481	Button Gwinnett	02 Mar 2013
Richard Russell Simpson, Sr.	140031	Coweta Falls	08 Mar 2013
Thomas Porter McIntosh, Sr.	152246	Button Gwinnett	21 Mar 2013
Jack Monroe Averett, Sr.	163166	Coweta Falls	05 Apr 2013
Leon Jack Swertfeger, Jr.	158295	Atlanta	05 Apr 2013
Francis Walbridge Bonner	73754	Coweta Falls	05 May 2013
Fred Darwin Womack	170412	Wiregrass	25 May 2013
George Deane Allen	174165	LaGrange	26 May 2013
Edmond Earl Dowlen, Jr.	157706	Atlanta	24 Jul 2013
Joseph Jordan Tankersley	186756	William Few	05 Aug 2013
Charles William Hatcher	162442	Valdosta	05 Aug 2013
Donald Booton Frederick, Jr.	120155	Dalton	15 Aug 2013
James Lafayette Clark	154605	Dalton	28 Aug 2013
James David Hardaway	171103	William Few	29 Aug 2013
Gordon Burns Smith	165801	Edward Telfair	30 Aug 2013
Robert Lee Aston	160184	Samuel Elbert	01 Sep 2013
Joe Delbert Gilbert	172889	Coweta Falls	01 Sep 2013
Denver David Gray	127504	Atlanta	07 Sep 2013
Phillip Webb Potts	131423	Atlanta	21 Sep 2013
John Thomas Patterson	154703	Coweta Falls	25 Sep 2013
Harrell Case Fountain	76573	Casimir Pulaski	06 Oct 2013
Gordon Dean Booth, Jr.	141760	Coweta Falls	16 Oct 2013
Ned Leland Shuman, Sr.	175592	Four Rivers Patriots	17 Oct 2013
George Holden, Jr.	150467	Atlanta	21 Nov 2013
Zachary Samuel Norville, Jr.	145773	Dalton	08 Dec 2013
Richard Adams Munn, Jr.	185296	Coweta Falls	23 Dec 2013

^{*} Past State President



Blue Ridge Mountains

The Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter feels very strongly about our veterans living in our four county area. On Veterans Day, the chapter hosted 29 veterans, from the Chatague Regional Nursing Home, to a reception. Refreshments were served and a special framed Certificate of Appreciation was presented to each veteran. The veterans were surprised with the certificates and were very appreciative of the SAR attention.

Tom Jones, Sr. presented 15 of the special certificates to the veterans living at Hiawassee Park, a Baptist retirement village. He also presented a Flag Certificate to the village.

Also in the area of veteran recognition, the chapter presented a Blue Star Banner to Cheryl Powell at the November 19 chapter meeting.

One of the chapter's high visibility programs is the presentation of the Public Service Awards. On December 12, a Law Enforcement Commendation Medal and Certificate was presented to Corporal Richard Morgan of the Towns County Sheriffs Department.

For the first time in many years, the BRM Chapter entered a float in the Union County Sorghum Festival Parade in October. The subject of the float was "What We Stand For".



L to R David Cook, Corporal Richard Morgan and Tom Jones

Button Gwinnett

Recently, the Afro-American Historical and Genealogy Society (AAHGS) bestowed its highest award, the James Dent Walker Award, to author, lecturer, and family history researcher. Michael Nolden Henderson at the AAHGS national conference held in Nashville, TN. Michael is a member of the Button Gwinnett Chapter.

The award is presented to someone who has exhibited distinguished accomplishments through a significant and measurable contribution to the research, documentation, and/or preservation of African American history. Henderson earned the award for his notable research to uncover his ancestors who populated Louisiana from as far back as 1657. In his book, Got Proof! My Genealogical Journey Through the Use of Documentation, Henderson details his journey to discover his fourth generation great-grandmother, an enslaved woman named Agnes Mathieu, who gained her freedom in 1779 at the beginning of Louisiana's participation in the American Revolution. Her French consort, who assisted in securing her freedom, served in the American Revolution under Spanish colonial governor. Bernardo Galvez. de

Henderson's research into his own ancestors, as well as other people of color in Louisiana, has gained national attention. In 2010, he was featured in a segment of the nationally televised program "History Detectives" titled "The Galvez Papers," and in that same year made history as the first African American in Georgia inducted into Revolution.

"An award of this caliber given by an organization as esteemed as AAHGS makes me extremely proud," said Henderson. "This honor will fuel my ongoing research into the lives of my own African, Native American, and other ancestors, and inspire me to tell the stories of the contributions people of color have made to this country."



James Dent Walker, was a distinguished genealogist elected to the National Genealogical Society's National Genealogy Hall of Fame in 1999. He was a founder and president of AAHGS, and was employed for 30 years at the National Archives and Records Administration. He was particularly noted for his knowledge of military and pension records covering the period of the Revolutionary War through the Civil

Walker, along with his wife Barbara, traveled extensively throughout the northeast and southeast United States researching and recording names of people of color who served in the American Revolution. The database they amassed became the foundation for a publication released by the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution titled (Studies 2008).

In 2011, Henderson, then vice president of the Button Gwinnett Chapter, Georgia Society, Sons of the American Revolution, participated in a grave marking ceremony to honor two of the Georgia patriots listed in the book --Mammy Kate and her husband Daddy Jack -- who served valiantly to rescue Stephen Heard from a prisoner of war camp in Augusta, Georgia. Heard later became the 12th governor of Georgia.

"It's more than a coincidence for me the National Society, Sons of the American to have located patriots Kate and Jack in the DAR book, to have initiated and participated in their grave marking ceremony, and later to be honored with an award named for the man who identified them so many years ago," Henderson said. "It warmed my heart to share this story with Mrs. Walker at the AAHGS awards ceremony. I believe she was touched by the story."



(Continued from page 12)



Michael Henderson with Barbara Walker at the AAHGS Conference

Casimir Pulaski

At our November meeting Compatriot Harold Gosnell was presented his Membership Certificate and sworn in as a member of the Sons of the American Compatriot Gosnell, 83 Revolution. years young, had tried to complete his application for nearly 3 years. At his induction, he said that SAR membership was the last item on his "bucket list." His Patriot is Charles Gosnell of South Carolina. Over 30 family members attended our meeting to see him receive his certificate (some of them are pictured here). Based on his research and membership the SAR stands to gain 4 or more new members. His daughters and granddaughters are using the results of that research to apply for membership in the DAR.



Coweta Falls

The chapter's educational outreach continued during the fall months. Bill Hay and his team made nine Traveling Trunk presentations to 650 students in area elementary and middle schools. The chapter Color Guard participated in the Veterans' Day Parade in Columbus and Guardsmen

Dan McMichael and Roy Collier traveled to Greenville, TN, to participate in programs honoring General Nathanael Greene. Chapter member COL (ret) Ralph Puckett brought the main address at the rededication of the BSA Troop 106 Scout Hut on November 12; Eric Hall and Pres. Hugh Rodgers also attended. On November 16 Chapter Color Guard Bill Hay, David Fox, Dan McMichael and John McCutcheon presented colors at the member grave markings for Charles Quillian Hall and Charles Eason Hall, Sr. Georgia Society President James Stallings attended this event.



Coweta Falls Chapter Color Guard members Bill Hay, Taylor Hay (C.A.R.) Chuck Hall, John McCutcheon, Dan Hutchinson, Roy Collier, Dan Dykes, Dan McMichael and his grandchildren participate in the Columbus Day Veterans parade.



Colors presented at grave markings for Charles Quillian Hall and Charles Eason Hall, Sr. Posting colors were Bill Hay, David Fox, Dan McMichael, John McCutcheon, and C.A.R. member Taylor Hay.

The chapter was honored to have NSSAR Registrar-General Mike Tomme and his wife as guests at the annual Christmas Banquet on December 12th.

Hornet's Nest

Deadline
April 15, 2014

Make sure your Chapter news gets published!



NSSAR Registrar General J. Michael Tomme with Coweta Falls President Hugh Rodgers at the Coweta Falls Christmas Banquet.

Pres. Roddgers presented the SAR Bronze Medal of Appreciation to DAR members Mary Jane Galer and Mary Jo Hay for special



services to the chapter.

DAR Members Mary Jo Hay and Mary Jane Galer receive Bronze Medals of Appreciation from Chapter Member Bill Pruitt.

William M. Hay and Wayne C. Cartledge became the first chapter members to receive the Bronze Roger Sherman medal for



distinguished service over many years.

L to R President Hugh Rodgers, Wayne C.
Cartledge and William M. Hay

On December 14, chapter compatriot William W. Whatley, Sr., and Pres. Rodgers, assisted by Mrs. Whatley (Oglethorpe Chapter, DAR)), Mrs. Rodgers (George Walton Chapter, DAR) and Eagle Scout (Continued from Page 14)

William W. Whatley, III, laid Christmas wreaths on veterans' graves for the Wreaths Across America program at Fort Mitchell National Cemetery.



President Rodgers is assisted by Mrs. William Whatley and Eagle Scout William W. Whatley in laying wreaths for Wreaths Across America.

Piedmont

The Piedmont Chapter honored Delta Air Lines and the Delta Air Lines Employee Honor Guard with its —Outstanding Citizenship award for their concern and patriotism in memorial tribute and honor of our country's fallen heroes at the November chapter meeting.



The Delta Air Lines Employee Honor Guard is comprised of volunteer employees who took it upon themselves to form their Honor Guard and to pay tribute to deceased American service members passing through Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson Airport on the way to their final resting place. The awards were presented by Chapter President Walt Committee, read a salute to veterans, and, Woliver after those attending the meeting viewed a heart-warming video of one of the ceremonies where the Honor Guard paid tribute to two service members whose remains were being returned from abroad.



Receiving the award for the Delta Employee Honor Guard was Brian McConnell, head of

the Honor Guard, along with Honor Guard members - Ura Bryant, Art Ortiz, Harold Milles, Siosia Mataele, and David Wilkinson. Receiving the award for Delta Air Lines was Hussein Berry, Managing Director - Below Wing Customer Service, Operations, The Outstanding Citizenship Award is one of the highest awards given by the SAR to non-

Carter Hehir, 8th grade student at Little Mill Middle School in Cumming, Georgia recently received a first place award in the L to R Gerald Breed, Rick Reese and Bill Lusk Sons of the American Revolution brochure contest for Middle School students. Carter produced a brochure on the national theme Francis Marion – The Swamp Fox. His entry was sponsored by the Piedmont Chapter and Carter received a check for \$50 along with a certificate. Carter's brochure will be entered in the state competition where he will be eligible for additional recognition. Brayden Paul Smith was the first runner up and he received a check for \$25 and a certificate. Ashley Goldsberry won 3rd place and a check for \$15 for her work. School entries were made under the encouragement of their teacher, Dr. Jeffrey Woods, 7th Grade Social Studies and 8th Grade Georgia Studies. Students were encouraged through their research to exhibit knowledge and understanding of American history using American Revolution hero Francis Marion as the brochure theme.



1st Row L to R - Ashley Goldsberg, Carter Hehir, and Brandon Smith. Back Row L to R -Dr. Woods, George Thurmond, President Walt Woliver, and Rick Reese.

Bill Kabel, chairman of the Veterans with the assistance of Chapter President Walt Woliver and Vice President Bill Lusk, he presented the following awards: Military Service Medal and Certificate to Kermit Breed, accepted by Jerry Breed, and to Rick Reese.

> **BOM MEETING SATURDAY** April 26, 2014 10:00 am Garden Patch



October—December, 2013

War Service Medals and Certificates were presented to Harold McPheeters, William O'Neal, accepted on his behalf by Kebler O'Neal and his wife Alicia, and to Rusty Redding.



L to R Rusty Redding, Harold McPheeters, Alicia O'Neal, Kebler O'Neal and President Walt Woliver

Tom Davis was presented with a Korean Service Veterans Corps Certificate of Patriotism for service to his country and the defense of the Republic of Korea.



L to R Tom Davis, Bill Lusk, Bill Kabel and **Walt Woliver**

Bill Kabel, Bill Lusk, Jared Ogden, and Rusty Redding were honored with a Vietnam War Veterans Corps Certificate of Patriotism for their service to their country in the Vietnam War.

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

(Continued from Page 14)



L to R Jared Ogden, Bill Kabel, Rusty Redding, Walt Woliver and Bill Lusk

The Service to Veterans Medal and certificate was awarded to GASSAR Past President Bob Sapp for his long and exemplary service to veterans. Volunteer hours served, visits to confined veterans, support of local, state and national SAR initiatives to better serve veterans. participation in veteran funerals and grave markings, participation in veteran related educational, historical and patriotic activities, and helping veterans document their family genealogical record constitute the criteria for this award. Compatriot Sapp was absent but the membership recognized his service with a standing ovation. For their service to veterans beyond the receipt of their initial Service to Veterans award Bill Kabel and Bill Lusk were presented an Oak Leaf Cluster.

Robert Forsyth

Members of the Robert Forsyth Chapter have been very busy since their Charter Banquet on October 5th.

On the day of the banquet, President Allen Greenly participated in the grave marking of Compatriot Alfred Murray McAfee, Jr. Compatriot McAfee was a member of the Piedmont Chapter.



Color Guard in background L to R George Thurmond, Paul Prescott, Allen Greenly, Bob McCleskey, and Georgia Color Guard Commander Ed Rigel, Sr.

On October 7th, Secretary Ed Rigel, Jr. presented a wreath on behalf of the Robert Forsyth Chapter at Kings Mountain.

On October 12th, the William Few Chapter hosted a grave marking in the historic Summerville Cemetery in Augusta for Patriot John Milledge. The grave marking was co-sponsored by the John Milledge Chapter, the College Hill (Augusta) and Nancy Hart Chapters of the DAR.

The Georgia Society Color Guard and Colonel Elijah Clarke Militia presented the colors and preformed the musket salute. The attendees at the event were surprised when John Milledge appeared from the cemetery and read his own biography and then disappeared back into the cemetery.



The Georgia Society Color Guard presenting the colors.

On October 15th, the Robert Forsyth Chapter received a Veterans Day Proclamation from the Cumming City Counsil.

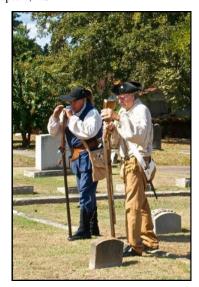


L to R Christopher Russo, Edward P. Rigel, Jr., Allen Greenly, Daniel P. Miles, Sr. and Charles Meagher. Back Row Council Member Lewis Ledbetter, Mayor H. Ford Gravitt, Council Member Rupert Sexton, Council Member Quincy Holton and Council Member John D. Pugh.

In November, the chapter published its first newsletter, "The Marshall". The newsletter is named for Robert Forsyth, whom the chapter is named after, who was the first U.S. Marshall killed in the line of duty. You can find a copy on the GASSAR web site.

William Few

A Grave Marking Ceremony for Patriot John Milledge was held at 1pm on October 12, 2013, at his burial site located in Augusta, Georgia's historic Summerville Cemetery. The ceremony was planned and presented by the Col. William Few Chapter, SAR, and the Augusta, College Hill and Nancy Hart Chapters, NSDAR to honor his patriotic service. In attendance were 30 descendants of this notable Georgia governor, congressman, and senator, who were in Augusta for this event and a family reunion. The program included presentation of the Colors by the award winning GASSAR Color Guard and Militia, greetings from GASSAR President, James Stallings, Sr., and comments from Milledge descendant Catherine Milledge Chastain. There was also a special appearance of the "spirit" of John Milledge in the person of Superior Court Judge of Augusta Judicial District, Daniel Craig. The event also included a wreath presentation and honors by representatives of the GASSAR, NSDAR and CAR chapters in attendance, and the children of the Milledge family. The program with the program concluded with Taps, a musket salute including "Mourn Muskets" by the Col. Elijah Clark Militia, GASSAR. The National Anthem and Amazing Grace were sung by Ms. Holly Croft, of the Augusta Chapter, NSDAR. A reception followed at Meadow Garden, hosted by the combined members of the Augusta, College Hill and Nancy Hart chapters, NSDAR



Colonel Elijah Clark Militia performing Mourn Muskets

(Continued from page 15)



John Milledge Grave



Milledge Family



Georgia Society President James E. Stallings, Sr. bringing greetings from the Georgia Society



Superior Court Judge Daniel Craig as John Milledge



L to R Valette Adkins, Nancy Hart Chapter DAR, Daphne Hopson, Augusta Chapter DAR, and Maxine Maloney, College Hill Chapter DAR

The Col. William Few Chapter, SAR, participated in the annual "Veteran's Day" observance at the "All Wars Monument" located on Broad and 4th Streets in downtown Augusta on 11-11-13. LTC (USA Ret.) David Titus, chapter Chaplain, represented the chapter in the wreath laying ceremony. A highlight of this event was the presentation of a much delayed Purple Heart Medal and Certificate to Army SFC (Retired) Cletus Williams. SFC Williams is an 82 year old veteran of the Korean War. Major General LeWarren Patterson, Commander of the US Army Signal Center and Ft. Gordon was the presenter.



LTC David Titus



SFC Cletus Williams receiving his Purple Heart and Certificate from Major General LeWarren Patterson

Our chapter was also in attendance at the City of Augusta-Augusta Richmond County Historical Society Veterans' Day observance at Heroes' Overlook (Riverwalk at Tenth St.). Dr. Russell Brown, Major, USA Retired, represented the William Few Chapter at this event. Also in attendance were Mayor Deke Copenhaver, Maj. Gen. Patterson and wife and the Ft. Gordon CSM and wife, former Mayor Bob Young and wife, CSM (Ret) Jim Hussey and wife (representing U.S. Sen. Saxby Chambliss), and about 50 others. The Ft. Gordon army band and color guard participated in the ceremony. Four new memorial bricks were dedicated and Spec. Leon Peeples, Vietnam War recipient of the Distinguished Service Cross, was recognized.

The Col. William Few Chapter met Thursday evening December 12th at the Pinnacle Club in downtown Augusta for our 2013 annual Christmas Banquet and 4th Quarter meeting. With 27 members and guests in attendance, we welcomed GASSAR President James Stallings, and his wife Remona, as honored guests. President Stallings brought greetings from the State leadership and also assisted with several presentations and our 2014 officer installation.

After opening the evening with prayer and pledges led by Chaplain David Titus, a brief Chapter business session was conducted. A letter from John Milledge descendent, Catherine Milledge Chastain was read to the membership. Mrs. Chastain expressed thanks on behalf of the Milledge descendants for our grave marking ceremony honoring patriot and former Georgia governor, John Milledge. She was especially grateful for the presence of the GASSAR ceremonial units and the many SAR and DAR chapters from throughout the state that participated. Compatriot William Tankersley informed the group of a planned private grave marking ceremony that will be held in March of 2014. More details, including plans for a site cleanup, on the event will be forthcoming.

We welcomed two new chapter members this evening, Gail Amstutz and Albert Tankersley. President Stallings presented their membership certificates and welcomed them into the Sons of the American Revolution. The Chapter was also presented with, and approved, the final version of our newly revised chapter Constitution and Bylaws. Several chapter members were recognized with certificates honoring their military service. Don Anderson, David Titus and William Yarborough were recognized for service in Vietnam. Don Anderson was also honored for service in the Korean War.

(Continued from Page 17

Kirby Towns was presented with two Supplemental Certificates. To conclude the business portion of the evening, President Stallings lead the installation ceremony for the installation of our new 2014 officers. William Colbert, President; Richard Noegel, Vice President; Albert Beveridge, Secretary/ Treasurer; Alton McCloud, Registrar; William Tankersley, Judge Advocate/ Parliamentarian; and David Titus, Chaplain.

The evening concluded with toasts, dinner and a carol sing lead by Compatriot Richard Noegel.

Chaplain David Titus dismissed us with prayer and the SAR Recessional.



President James E. Stallings, Sr. and new member Gail Amstutz President James E. Stallings, Sr. and new member Albert Tankersley



L to R President James E. Stallings, Sr, David Titus, William Tankersley, Richard Noegel, Alton McCloud, Albert Beveridge and William Colbert

Wiregrass

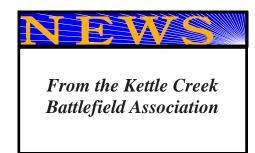
The Wiregrass Chapter had their Officers installed Thursday night, January 9, 2014. The installing Officer was the President-Elect of the "Georgia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution", Roger Coursey from Guyton, Georgia. The banquet, held at the home of Norma and SAR member Julian Sconyers, was the scene of 38 members and spouses. Everyone enjoyed a delicious meal with the "Ribeye Steaks"



grilled by Julian and 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 Coursey program, President-elect installed the following 2014 Wiregrass Chapter Officers: Steve Burke, Ruskin Powell, Emory Fennell, George King, Dess Smith III, Marcus Price, Chip Durden and Julian Sconyers. President-Elect Coursey then installed the 2014 Wiregrass Chapter President, Wilder Smith.







This year, we have reached out to many local and national officials to help gain support for the effort to create a public park at the Kettle Creek Battlefield. With support of our membership, which now has reached over 300 individuals and organizations, we have gained the support of other individuals such as Gov. Nathan Deal, Senator Johnny Isakson, Rep. Tom McCall, Sen. Bill Jackson, Rep. Mickey Chinell, Commissioner Sam Moore, and the Wilkes County Board of Commissioners. In September, the KCBA held a forum at War Hill to build a consensus for the county for a need to establish a Kettle Creek Battlefield Park. It was attended by over 60 local and state dignitaries who registered their support for the effort. After initial discussion with the representatives of Plum Creek Timber Company, the KCBA initiated a drive to raise funding to purchase additional acreage to add to the existing 14.5 acre park. An effort was made to reach out to individuals and organizations that would understand the vision that the KCBA had for developing the Kettle Creek Battlefield Park. With the strong support of many individuals and organizations, the KCBA was able to raise over \$100,000.00 in funds for increasing the size of the park. Thanks to these generous contributions, the KCBA will be conducting a property closing on January 15, 2014, which will formalize the purchase of an additional 60.39 acres for the Kettle Creek Battlefield. We would like to thank the members of the KCBA board, the KCBA membership, and all who have contributed to the success of this purchase.

GASSAR's Eagle Scout Scholarship Winning Essay

Cherokee Expedition of 1776

by Evan Mercer

With the Revolutionary War barely a year underway, the British were realizing the war would not be easily won. They needed ways to disrupt the colonists' lives, convincing them of the need to return to life under the Crown. Using Native Americans to harass the colonists' communities satisfied that need.

Initially, Native Americans were reluctant to choose sides but they felt the pressure of white settlers encroaching closer to their homelands and hunting grounds. King George III had already decreed that no white settlements should be established west of the Appalachian Mountains, the British reminded the tribes. That promise, along with assurance of guns, brought many of the tribes into the British forces.

Well-armed and supplied by the British, Indian tribes, namely the Cherokee and Iroquois, turned many of the colonial settlements into bloody grounds. One Cherokee warrior in particular, Chief Dragging Canoe, unleashed his unbridled rage onto the colonial settlers. He had never forgiven the colonists for the small pox that had killed half the Cherokee nation. His own face, pitted with deep scars, was a constant reminder of the disease.

Eaton's Station, near current day Kingston, Tennessee, was to be Dragging Canoe's next target. Information about the attack was leaked to the settlers by Dragging Canoe's cousin, Nancy Ward. Unwilling to forego the battle despite the colonists being forewarned, Dragging Canoe raced toward the settlement, 200 warriors supporting him. The frontiersmen, rifles at the ready, turned back the Cherokee forces, but at a cost of 40 colonists' lives.

The Eaton's Station bloodbath pushed the Continental Army to take action. Under the leadership of Colonel William Christian, 1800 colonial forces marched south toward the Indian encampments. Met by Ellis Harden, another Indian informant, Christian was told that Indian forces were gathering on the opposite bank of the French Broad River. Attempting to trick the Indians, Christian had his men pitch their tents and set fires for four straight nights in a nearby area. The Continental soldiers were given orders to act unconcerned, as if they were unaware of the nearby Indian presence. On the fourth night, Christian, 1100 soldiers by his side, crossed the French Broad downstream, planning to come up behind the Indians. They would be pinned between the river and his forces, assuring a victory. To his surprise, when the Indian camp was reached, it was empty. The Indians had fled.

Christian pursued them for the next two months through the heart of Cherokee country. ¹¹ With minimal force, the Continental army had effectively shut down further Indian attacks in the southern arena. British troops would no longer receive the support they desired.

Through the Cherokee Expedition, the army learned the importance of Indian spies. Usually acting as traders, the spies gained valuable information that prevented many attacks upon the colonists. One of my ancestors, John Gritton, served as one of these Indian spies from 1776 to 1782. Peporting back to a Pennsylvania regiment, he kept the colonials informed about nearby Iroquois tribes, doing his part to earn America's freedom.

About Evan Mercer

Evan Mercer is a young man who is a member of Troop 353 sponsored by Burnt Hickory Baptist Church in Marietta, Georgia which is in the Silver Comet District of the Atlanta Area Council, BSA. Evan is sponsored by the Captain John Collins chapter and is our 2013 Georgia Society Scholarship winner.

Applicants for our scholarship program must demonstrate a breadth of involvement, accomplishment and leadership in ten different areas ranging from Scouting itself, to community, religious life, scholastics, school and extracurricular activities. The applicants must also provide a four generation ancestor chart plus a 500 word essay related to the Revolutionary War.

What he has accomplished in his seven years as a Boy Scout is just short of phenomenal. Only 2-3% of all Scouts even attain the rank of Eagle Scout which requires that they earn 21 merit badges (12 of which are required such as Citizenship in the Community, Nation and World, Personal Fitness, Personal Management, First Aid, & Camping) and create, manage and lead an Eagle service project of significance. In this young man's case he led some 30 Scouts and adults in the construction of an outdoor classroom for a local elementary school that involved some 300 hours of labor. Most Eagle Scouts I've worked with over the years earn between 25 and 35 merit badges during their Scouting career. Our candidate has earned 105 and still counting. There are only some 130 merit badges even offered in the program. He of course earned three non-required, but important merit badges that the SAR gives special recognition to: American Heritage, Genealogy, and Law.

Scouting has always emphasized service built upon the precepts and values reflected in the Scout Oath and Law. He has demonstrated his troop leadership over many years serving most recently as Junior Assistant Scoutmaster and has earned all of the religious awards associated with Scouting and his church. Born deaf, Evan has confronted and mastered many challenges. He has striven to be the best in many areas. He's ranked #1 academically among the 511 students in his high school senior class. He participates, frequently excels, and often leads in a variety of scholastic, athletic and church programs, but I would suspect he is most proud of the "Mercer Maniacs" a mentoring program he helped found in 2010 for deaf 4th and 5th grade boys who are struggling both academically and socially. In 2013 he added another mentoring program for middle schoolers to help them prepare for the rigors of high school. As a consequence of his service to the community our awardee was presented the Hoya Award at Harrison High. He was also chosen to tutor high school students at the Calvary Children's Home (for displaced children), the only non teacher to be selected. Unfortunately, his many other achievements far exceed the time we have today to cite them.

The son of Ken & Pam Mercer, our Society's nominee will be turning 18 in March, and is planning to attend college in the fall of this year. He has and will continue to make a significant difference in the greater world he is about to enter.

Photos from the 2014 GASSAR Annual Conference



Georgia Society President James E. Stallings, Sr.



National Society President Joseph Dooley



Patriot Medal Winners. L to R. NSSAR President Joseph Dooley, Allen Greenly, Jane Greenly, Delbert "Ted" Smith, Jr., Shirley Smith, Remona Stallings, James E. Stallings, Sr., Kline Pugh



NSSAR Regional VP Dr. Randy Moody



Banquet Reception



Banquet Reception



Banquet Reception



President James E. Stallings presenting PG Joseph Dooley with the Georgia Plate



President James E. Stallings, Sr. presenting C.A.R. President Amberlee Allmond the SAR/C.A.R Silver Medal of Appreciation



Edward P. Rigel, Sr. being Presented the Distinguished Service Medal by President James E. Stallings, Sr.



Eagle Scout Evan Mercer receiving Eagle Scout Scholarship Award



President Roger W. Coursey, Teresa Coursey and PG Joseph Dooley