

Newsletter of The Georgia Society

Sons of the American Revolution



The Hornet's Nest

January 2022

Special Annual Conference Edition



The President's Farewell

As mentioned in my farewell address at the Youth & Chapter Awards Banquet 29 Jan 2022, my tour as GASSAR President was "very enjoyable" which I attribute to Philippians 4:13, my scripture for the year, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Let me start by thanking my EXCOM and the others who contributed to our meetings, especially Scott Collins, Richard Marsh, and Wayne Brown. I would like also to thank our Officers, Committee Chairs and Members, and Chapter Presidents. Special thanks are appropriate for Commander Bill Palmer.

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The President's Inaugural Address

Ladies and gentlemen, compatriots and guests, I am honored to have been elected Georgia Society president for 2022.

Allow me please to say a "thank you" to my family, to my late grandfather Paul Hoerske, who began our family membership in SAR in New Orleans; to my mother Kathie and my sister Betsy, without whose love and patience I could not be here today. Serving as president is a commitment of time that is not made lightly; and I could not take on this monumental task without their encouragement and support.

Compatriot Jessel, you have led the Georgia Society through what has continued to be a challenging time for all of us. It has been a distinct pleasure to serve as Senior Vice President with your guidance, and I shall work to maintain the high standard of honor, honesty, and integrity you have shown.

Thank you as well to the ladies of the DAR, especially those with us today. You have always made the compatriots of the SAR feel welcome whenever we are together, and we all in the SAR owe you much gratitude for your continued efforts in membership and fellowship.

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

The President's Inaugural Address (Cont.)

Most certainly I must also thank several compatriots and friends whom I met very early in my membership. There are so many of you who have welcomed me over the years, but I would be remiss if I did not make special mention of Larry and Karin Guzy, George and Marty Thurmond, and Mike and Cilla Tomme. Thank you for so welcoming me from day one, more than 20 years ago. Your encouragement then and now makes a difference.

The Georgia Society in 2022 finds itself in an exciting position, as pending host of the 132nd Annual Congress. The congress planning committee has been working diligently to make this event a meaningful and memorable success. We anticipate upwards of 500 attendees joining us in July at the Hyatt Regency in historic Savannah. This congress takes on special significance, as it represents for many a first real opportunity to gather safely after a much too long absence. I truly hope everyone here makes plans to attend, and volunteers are always appreciated.

Whenever I am asked, "what is it that the SAR does?" I say that our mission is patriotic, historic, and educational: that we are a non-profit, non - partisan organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and promoting education to our future generations.

Most all of us in this room know how we do these things; appearances of our award-winning Color Guard, grave markings and event commemorations, youth programs such as the outstanding ROTC cadet and Rumbaugh historical oration contests, and service to veterans to name just a few. While our efforts are well spent and valuable, there is concern that, perhaps, we need to reach out even further. To invite guests to attend patriotic events, or youth contests, or other programs honoring outstanding members of our community. SAR needs you to help grow the audience of people with a respect for history and patriotism. We have an obligation to our organization, our ancestors, and our future, to reach out and share. The average citizen needs to be welcomed – THEY are the ones we need to reach.

Fortunately, the National Society is giving us the outline on how to do this. As we are all aware, the United States is in the middle of a years-long recognition of the 250th anniversary of American Independence. The National Society has formed the America 250 SAR Committee, a recognition program designed to encourage and recognize those SAR Compatriots, Chapters and States that participate in events which publicly educate, honor, and celebrate the events and heroes of the years preceding the Revolutionary War through the Treaty of Paris. The National Strategic Planning Committee is diligently working on a strategic plan with implementation guidance for meeting our America 250 objectives. To this end we will form a committee within GASSAR to lead and guide us through the various activities and programs in the coming years. There will be more to come on this, but for now, I would like to highlight one particular America 250 objective for us to achieve in 2022, taken from the current draft goals being generated by the Strategic Planning committee.

With the purpose of enhancing America's awareness and understanding of the American Revolution, we shall strive for a significant increase in Color Guard membership by 2026. This year, therefore, we want to add 36 to the rolls. That's just three per month, or really, just one new guardsman per chapter; if we have members who join with other member friends we will more than reach our goal.

I know we can do this! The best time to capture a new compatriot's attention is at that first meeting, when he receives his certificate and his rosette. He is ready and eager...let's have our color guard introduce him to the color guard! I can speak from personal experience. When I joined, Larry Guzy immediately encouraged me to join. He explained it was a great way to meet new members, a fun way to be involved in our work, and an opportunity to support and respect our ancestors. He was right on every count. The friends I have made in the color guard are friends to this day. I would wish that incredibly positive experience for every member of the Georgia Society. Let's make it happen! Commander Collins, what do you say? Please let me know what you need from the Executive Committee and the BOM in support of this endeavor. And, gentlemen, if you can count to four and know your left from your right, you can do this! (That's how it was explained to me!)

There is another 2022 goal for GASSAR, one that is very important to me personally, but before explaining it, a brief anecdote.

Back in the fall of 2020, I was speaking with one of my employees, a young woman just into her 30s. She said that she had never voted, and really wasn't going to bother with it. But I talked to her about how it's more than her vote, it's her voice. About how nothing can change if she doesn't make her voice heard. Also about how many people around the world would give anything to exercise this right. And you know what? She voted. She called me right afterwards, excited to tell me she had in fact voted, and she felt so good that she and her vote mattered. And you know what else? I FELT AMAZING! I reached this person – whether it was a sense of liberty, patriotism, or civic duty, I'm not sure which – but I connected.

However, gentlemen, if we are to stand for the values of liberty, patriotism, and civic duty, we must first live it internally. We have over 2,000 members in Georgia, across 35 chapters. Unfortunately, many chapters have found it challenging to send a single representative to the BOM meetings. But thanks to the outstanding work by Rick Reese and the rest of our IT team, we are able to conduct much of our business simultaneously in person and online. Every chapter must have a representative in attendance, and I am tasking the regional vice presidents with ensuring this takes place. In addition to meeting your obligations to visit your chapters, you are now being asked to work directly with the chapter presidents to ensure their representation at the BOM meetings. {{{No later than 7 days prior to each meeting, you will send to the attention of Senior Vice President David Ludley and Recording Secretary Ed Rigel Jr. the name of the representative attending, and if he will be doing so in person or online. For the remote delegates it is a simple process to get up on Saturday, and at 9:45 login via computer, tablet, or phone. Voting will be done for these hybrid meetings under the procedures outlined in Robert's Rules of Order.}}} Simply put, 100% chapter representation is imperative for our society to succeed in its mission to promote patriotism, preserve American history, and promote education to all generations.

Continued on page 3



The President's Inaugural Address (Cont.)

So the next time you go to a grave marking, march in a parade, or attend a youth event – please invite your neighbor, a fellow parishioner, or a friend from work. And bring your whole family, too! You never know where that one experience could lead.

For 2022, we have so much to achieve. Let us work to add to our Color Guard rolls; let us ensure all our voices are represented; let us make progress on America 250; and in Savannah, let's welcome our members and guests with the warmth and enthusiasm we are known for! The Georgia Society is marching forward. Let us show everyone how it is done!

Thank you again for this honor, and for the trust you have placed in me, to lead and guide this outstanding organization. I look forward to seeing you again and seeing you often. God bless you all in your travels home, and God bless the United States of America.

Joe Vancura

The President's Farewell (Cont.)

He was always there at activities with many Color Guardsmen or just a few. He was there early to set up and to check out the arrangements. Past President Scott Collins represented me on numerous occasions throughout the Southeast by representing Georgia and placing Wreaths at both State and National Ceremonies. To all, THANK YOU!

To the Chapters that I visited in person or by zoom, thank you for your hospitality, it was rewarding and enjoyable. To both Richard Reese's, your skills were invaluable in adding pre-recorded clips to zoom meetings and in zooming and broadcasting BOM's and Award Meetings. Your services were greatly appreciated. And to all that had any part in Heroes of the Hornets' Nest Ceremony, Kettle Creek Ceremony, Fort Frederica Naval Battle Ceremony, Kings Mountain Ceremony, and Fort Morris Ceremony, I appreciate both your time and efforts.

To Past President Wayne Brown, great job in all your preparations for our Annual Meeting. PG Larry Guzy thanks for remaining involved in the activities of GASSAR and PG Mike Tomme, thanks for Chairing the Nominating Committee and your involvement with GASSAR. Past President Bill Dobbs and new President Joe Vancura, many thanks for your devotion to duty! And to my wife Brenda, thanks for all the visits and the miles travelled together, you are great company – love U!

To anyone that I missed, THANK YOU!

David G. Jessel



Registration & Education Program



Left: Registration, manned by Piedmont Chapter member George Thurmond.

Above: Compatriot Jay Guest arrived with a reminder of just how wonderful the state of Georgia truly is.



Left: Next to Registration, yours truly offered a variety of gift options from leatherette coaster sets to cutting boards to automobile window stickers, all in support of the 2022 Annual Congress to be held in Savannah. Items are still available for your enjoyment and support of the Congress.

Below: Piedmont Compatriot Mark Anthony conducted the early arrival training class on the ins and outs of the Americanism Award spreadsheet.



Left: While easier to use than methods of the past, the assembled learned that even with this helpful tool, as many as 25% of the available points that a chapter could report, fail to be reported due to lack of... well, lack of the data being reported to the member collecting said data.

Past Presidents of the Georgia Society



Past Presidents of the Georgia Society present at the 2022 Annual Conference included: (L - R Sitting) Wayne Brown, George Thurmond, David Jessel, Don Burdick, & Bob Sapp.

(L - R Standing) Roger Coursey, Allen Greenly, Larry Guzy, Bill Dobbs Jr., & Scott Collins.

A Special thanks to Rick Reese III for his taking and then sharing 90%+ of the photos in this edition. You can also access these and other photos through the generosity of Rick via the following link:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1QwBf2UVcdOmEZOOKM0ltm8DI_v_oZd57?usp=sharing

Friday Night Reception



Prior to the Awards Banquet members meet and greet at the Reception.



Last minute business during the reception.





Last minute preparations by the award winning Georgia Society Color Guard and their Retiring Commander.



Member Awards Banquet



The entire event was well documented by the Reese family photography crew, with a little assist from *The Hornet's Nest* editor, Emil Decker.

GASSAR 2022 Annual Meeting Videos:

(Click on the YouTube links below to view the videos)

Awards Banquet

<https://youtu.be/HoYiVgIINGkM>

Memorial Service

<https://youtu.be/QZRpcCRnoDw>

Annual Meeting

<https://youtu.be/reQU2FysWE0>

Youth Awards <https://youtu.be/L5MX2d-clJI>

Winter BOM <https://youtu.be/nVbjOdI54IQ>





Above: Georgia Society President David Jessel and his wife Brenda



Above: National Librarian General Fred Olive

Below: Georgia NSDAR Regent O.B. McCorkle, escorted by George Thurmond

Below: South Carolina Society President David Phillip Smith



Right: Past President General Larry Guzy and his wife Karin.



Georgia Society President David Jessel opens the program to begin the Annual Conference.



Invocation by GASSAR Chaplain William Floyd and the presentation of the Colors by the Award Winning GASSAR Color Guard.





Dinner is served.









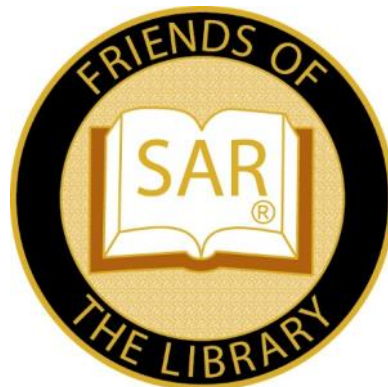
Dr. J. Fred Olive III, Librarian General - What does the SAR Genealogical and Research Library mean to you, to your research, and to you when you are not in SAR Library?

Did you know that the library staff members are adding links to full text of electronic books to the online catalog? (As of now there are over 11,300 of these books available.). If there is a book on a particular patriot then the staff are adding records associated with that Patriot.

A little SAR history you might find in the Library: The year -1889. Location: Louisville Kentucky. A meeting of a relatively new Sons of the American Revolution. A relatively new compatriot Goldsmith Bernard West, president of Alabama was asked to assist in the design of the SAR badge.

Another young compatriot made a motion to no longer accept ladies into its membership. Yes, you heard me correctly "no longer accept *ladies* as members." As the news was received by the female members and non-members of SAR in Louisville and beyond - - You can guess what happened.... The Daughters of American Revolution was formed in 1890.

It is from the SAR Institutional records that we find the stories. If you are a member of the Friends of the SAR Library. I thank you. If you wish to become a FOL member. I thank you. Your support is one of your legacies to the SAR.



O.B. McCorkle, GA State Regent, NSDAR Will Tims, GA State C.A.R. President, as well as South Carolina SAR President David Smith brings greetings.



Member Awards



Martha Washington Medal

Deborah Dobbs, Ladies Auxiliary
Nancy Ann Burdick, Ladies Auxiliary
Linda Brown, Ladies Auxiliary

The Martha Washington Medal may be presented to a woman over 18 years of age in recognition of outstanding service to SAR.

Daughters of Liberty Medal

OB McCorkle, Regent GA State Society NSADAR

Daughters of Liberty - OLC

Brenda Davison Jessel, Ladies Auxiliary President

The Daughters of Liberty Medal may be presented to a lady recommended by any officer of a chapter, state or National Society, SAR in appreciation for her unselfish devotion, tireless efforts and assistance to the SAR, and who has dedicated her time, energy, ability and/or finances to the organization in support and furtherance of the stated objectives of the SAR. This is the highest lady's medal.



Lydia Darragh Medal - OLC

Brenda Davison Jessel, Ladies Auxiliary President

The Lydia Darragh Medal recognizes the assistance of the ladies who work behind the scenes supporting SAR programs. This Medal is named after Lydia Darragh (1729-1789), who crossed British lines in 1777 during the British occupation of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to deliver information to George Washington. As did Lydia Darragh, many ladies have had to courageously adapt to various circumstances in an effort to work side by side with State Society Presidents.



Ladies' Medal of Appreciation

Jane Grier Durden, Ladies Auxiliary

Ladies' Medal of Appreciation - OLC

Malone K. Moore, Ladies Auxiliary

Linda Reese, Ladies Auxiliary

Leslie Strickland Watkins, Ladies Auxiliary



The SAR Medal of Appreciation may be presented to a member of the DAR in good standing in recognition of and in appreciation for outstanding services rendered to the SAR.

Certificate of Distinguished Service

William Coffeen Capt. John Collins Chapter

Terry Gibbs Capt. John Collins Chapter

Richard Marsh Atlanta Chapter

Paul Prescott Piedmont Chapter



The State Meritorious Service Medal may be awarded to SAR members who have rendered long, faithful and meritorious service to their state society.



State Meritorious Service Medal

Robert D. Bulloch
Marquis de Lafayette Chapter

John E. Flikeid
Robert Forsyth Chapter



PG Robert B. Vance, Sr. Membership Plaque

Dess Smith Wiregrass Chapter

- 25 new members



Patriot Grave Marking Medal

K. Scott Collins Athens Chapter

William Joseph Tankersley Little River Chapter

The Patriot Grave Marking Medal recognizes both past efforts to identify and report data on Revolutionary War graves and to encourage new efforts to identify graves. The Patriot(s) being honored must be prominently recognized in the service and printed program with a brief biography that includes the type of service during the Revolution.

The Compatriot must have participated in a prominent role during the planning and execution of the grave marking. The Compatriot must have participated, as defined above, in at least fifteen (15) grave marking events.



Silver Good Citizenship Medal

Thomas A. Jones, Sr. Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter

Jared Ogden Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter

Stephen Weaver Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter

The Silver Good Citizenship Medal recognizes outstanding and unusual patriotic achievement and service that is of a local degree. The medal is presented to persons of prominence in the areas of government (including military service), religion, education, business and other professions, and other fields of endeavor. Since it recognizes extensive service, a biographical sketch of the candidate should accompany the request for a medal.



Silver Roger Sherman Medal

Dan McMichael Coweta Falls Chapter

Robert W. Moore Coweta Falls Chapter

Ronald W. Redner Piedmont Chapter

Silver Roger Sherman Medal - OLC

Jack Dugger Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter

Shep Hammack Mt. Vernon Chapter

Dr. David Ludley Marquis de Lafayette Chapter

Bill Palmer Button Gwinnett Chapter

Paul Prescott Piedmont Chapter

Ed Rigel, Jr. Robert Forsyth Chapter

Justin Reese III Athens Chapter

Hugh Rodgers Coweta Falls Chapter

John Trussell Ocmulgee Chapter



The Silver Roger Sherman Medal may be awarded to a compatriot in recognition of, and in appreciation of, outstanding services rendered to a State Society. The recipient must have served as an active officer for a minimum of two years, as an active Committee chairman for three years, or as an active member of a committee for four years.

State Distinguished Service Medal

William B. Dobbs II George Walton Chapter

The State Medal of Distinguished Service is the highest medal that can be awarded by a State Society President. The incumbent State President may present one medal during his term. A Compatriot may receive this medal only once.



Color Guard Commander's Award

Eldon Evans Button Gwinnett Chapter



Rookie Color Guard of the Year

Dr. Ed Hendricks
Joseph Habersham Chapter



Molly Pitcher Medal

Elizabeth Jones Collins

To earn the Molly Pitcher Medal, a woman must be present at, and support, the SAR Color Guard at qualifying SAR Color Guard events. The same events that count toward earning the SAR Silver Color Guard Medal for SAR Color Guardsmen shall also count toward earning the Molly Pitcher Medal. In addition, participation in, and support of, State events, such as a State Society Annual Meeting or a State Society Board of Managers/Governors Meeting, shall also count toward earning the Molly Pitcher Medal. To earn the Molly Pitcher Medal, a woman must accrue at least three hundred (300) points.



Bronze Color Guard Medal

Eldon Evans Button Gwinnett Chapter

Bill Floyd Mount Vernon Chapter

Ralph Galpin Button Gwinnett Chapter

The Bronze Color Guard Medal is for service at the State and/or Chapter levels. Each medal is awarded for at least three years of service at the applicable level. To earn an SAR Bronze Color Guard Medal, a Color Guardsman must accrue at least three hundred (300) points by participating in uniform at qualifying Chapter, State, or National Color Guard events.



Patriot Medal

Emil Decker Robert Forsyth Chapter

Richard Paul Marsh, Atlanta Chapter

Don Ray Thomas Sr. Little River Chapter

The Patriot Medal is the highest award presented to a Compatriot by a State Society and recognizes long, faithful, outstanding and distinguished service at the state and/or chapter level. The Patriot Medal is awarded only by a State Society and may be presented only to an individual and may be received ONLY once. Service at the national level is not considered in making the award. It is desirable that it be presented at the annual meeting of the state society. A representative cannot accept the Patriot Medal. A Compatriot may receive this medal only once. State Societies are authorized 1 medal per 500 members, but are not required to issue all medals authorized. Medals not awarded may not be carried over to the next year.



Our first recipient has been a very active member of his chapter and the state society. **Emil Leon Decker** has been a member of the Sons of the American Revolution since November 02, 2015, when joining the Robert Forsyth Chapter. Compatriot Decker has served as the Georgia Society newsletter editor from 2019-Present. His work as Editor won the Graham T. Smallwood Jr. Award for Best Society Newsletter (500+ members with more than 10 pages) at the 2021 National Congress. At the chapter level, he has served as the Robert Forsyth Chapter Editor from 2016-Present; Chairman of the Education Outreach Committee from 2017-Present; Chairman of the Events Committee from 2019-Present and a member of the Youth Awards Committee from 2017-Present; Compatriot Decker has been instrumental in building the Chapter's Traveling Trunk Program, even going as far as building the actual trunk itself. He developed two Travelling Trunks for the chapter while training several members to participate. Since 2017, he has presented the Traveling Trunk Program to elementary and middle schools in Forsyth and Dawson Counties, reaching over 1000 students and educators every year, even when his in-person activities were curtailed by COVID-19. He has presented the program to SAR, DAR, Civic Organizations, multiple levels of Scouts, homeschoolers, and public-school classes. He has researched and created many other presentations, such as ones on Kings Mountain and General Lafayette. Compatriot Decker's activities led to the Robert Forsyth Chapter receiving the Ophanian History Presentation Award at the 2021 National Congress. An avid craftsman, Compatriot Decker has put his talents to good use for both the Chapter and State. He designed a granite marker that has been used for Patriot Grave Markings and makes these available at low cost to the sponsoring Chapters. He also creates items such as cutting boards, coasters, and household decorations with a patriotic theme that he raffles at chapter meetings, with proceeds going to the Chapter's Education Committee. Compatriot Decker has been a member of the Elijah Clarke Militia since 2017, and participated in multiple events over the years, including national, state, and local events, to include the filming of the War Hill video shoot by the National Guard. He has encouraged others to join the Color Guard by purchasing or making militia uniforms. He researched source materials and published a booklet entitled, "The Well-Dressed Guardsman" used by the state color guard. Compatriot Decker was instrumental in setting up and promoting the first Robert Forsyth Chapter musket raffle, acquiring county sheriff approval, advertising, and promoting sales of tickets by visiting many Chapters during their monthly or quarterly meetings, to include the South Atlantic District. He produced an engraved wooden case for the brace of pistols that were the second raffle event. He regularly produced and donated SAR and Revolutionary themed items for raffle at in-person chapter meetings. All funds raised are placed in the Marshal Fund for the chapter. Compatriot Decker regularly collects flags from the Dawsonville Home Depot and coordinated with Piedmont Chapter and Ingram Funeral Home for annual flag retirement ceremonies. Compatriot Decker served 8+ years on active duty with the US Army in crypto security and tactical tele-communications, serving in the US, Germany, and in the Gulf War zone with a chemical decontamination unit. Compatriot Decker spent 32 years in the field of education, from elementary to technical college, mostly teaching technology. He sponsored various student clubs, most notably the robotics club which served the technology programs in Forsyth County and throughout the state. He mentored multiple teachers from Forsyth and surrounding counties into the robotics program and hosted multiple tournaments including the Georgia State Championship where robotics students attended National or World Championships for each of the 10 years he sponsored. Compatriot Decker is a member of the Georgia Fellows. **Congratulations to you, Compatriot Emil Decker.**

Our next recipient has been a very active member of his chapter and the state society. **Richard Paul Marsh** has been a member of the SAR since July 5, 2012, joining the Atlanta Chapter. Compatriot Marsh serves the Georgia State Society as the Information Technology officer and Committee Chair. He is also the Atlanta Chapter Treasurer and IT Chairman. He enhanced the State SAR Web page to allow all 35 SAR Chapters to make dues payments (National, State and Local). He developed a custom online dues payment module now used by 21 chapters, facilitating the early collection of dues and enhancing membership retention. He implemented a successful webstore, providing merchandise sales and fundraising capabilities for 2022 National Congress in Savannah. He also has added a process to make payments for the 2022 National Congress Medal through the website. As Chairman of the Chapter Eagle Scout Committee, he works with the Eagle Scout Troops in the Atlanta Metro Region to increase their participation in the Eagle Scout Honors and Scholarship Program. Compatriot Marsh self-published and co-authored with David A. Noble the Revolutionary War reference book "Patriots in the Georgia Revolutionary War Engagements 1776-1782." This book was the result of researching thousands of Revolutionary War pension applications, books and documents from other states. The names of Patriots, their officers, other Patriots with which they associated, and the Georgia engagements in which they participated are detailed in the book. It won the National SAR Minnesota Stephen Taylor Award in 2017 for the compatriot, who by his research and writing, has made a significant contribution to the preservation of history of the American Revolutionary era and its patriots. Book sales have

raised in excess of \$20,000 to support preservation of Georgia Revolutionary War Battle Sites. Compatriot Marsh is also the Atlanta Chapter webmaster. He won the NSSAR President General Robert B. Vance award for 2016-2017, for best SAR Chapter website. Compatriot Marsh is a member of the Georgia Fellows. **Congratulations to you, Compatriot Richard Marsh.**

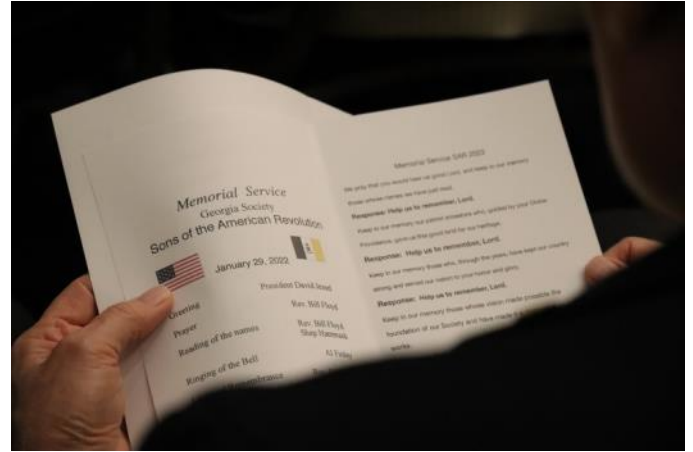
Our next recipient also has been a very active member in his chapter and at the state level. **Don Ray Thomas, Sr** has been a member of the SAR since March 31, 2000, joining the William Few Chapter. Compatriot Thomas is also a charter and founding member of the Washington-Wilkes Chapter, and charter and founding member of the Little River Chapter. He has served as Chapter President, Treasurer and Sergeant-at-Arms for the Washington-Wilkes Chapter. He is currently serving as the Chapter Newsletter Editor for the Little River Chapter. Compatriot Thomas is a Past Georgia Society Regional Vice President for the Northeast Region. Compatriot Thomas has served as the Chairman of the Education Outreach Committee for the William Few Chapter and currently holds that position for the Little River Chapter. He funded and began his own Traveling Trunk Kit. He has presented the Traveling Trunk and other colonial / revolutionary era educational programs to over 8,000 youth and adults in a wide variety of settings. He is a 2 time recipient of the Georgia Society SAR John Dooly Education Outreach Award. This award goes to a Georgia Society member who has significantly contributed their time and efforts in an outstanding manner to our youth and adult education outreach program as a member of the SAR. He is a member of the Georgia Society SAR Color Guard having participated in over 200 Color Guard Events at the state and chapter levels. In 2013 he received the Georgia Society Color Guard Rookie of the Year Award. He also received the Georgia Society Militia Member of the Year Award in 2013. He is a consistent participant in many of the following events: Kettle Creek (for 15 years), Brier Creek, Ramsaur's Mill, Sycamore Shoals, Kings Mountain, Yorktown, Cowpens, and Guilford Courthouse. Compatriot Thomas has also participated in over 90 Patriot Grave Marking ceremonies. He supports the Daughters of the American Revolution along with his wife, Patricia. He has assisted in helping to clean up the Nancy Hart cabin and Park a number of times. Compatriot Thomas has placed the Betsy Ross Flag on 67 Revolutionary War Patriot's graves on Memorial Day and Veterans Day. He also has placed American Flags on 33 various veterans graves. He has served on the Board of Directors for the Elijah Clark State Park. He currently serves as President of the Lincoln County Historical Society and has served on the Board of Directors for a number of years. Compatriot Thomas is a member of the Georgia Fellows. **Congratulations to you, Don Ray Thomas.**



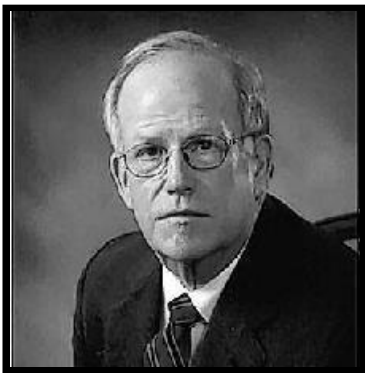
Memorial Service

Chaplain Bill Floyd led the Memorial Service with prayer and supplication for the families of the members of the Georgia Society, Sons of the American Revolution who passed on to eternal glory in the year 2021. Compatriot Shep Hammack and Compatriot Al Finley assisted in the reading of the members names. With each name, a sharp, ring of the bell tolled once for each Compatriot no longer with us.





**Georgia Society
Deceased Members
January 01, -
December 31, 2021**



Walter Louis HARRIS
Washington - Wilkes
10 Jan 2021



George Albert GAINES, Jr.
Samuel Elbert
01 Jan 2021



Derrell Eugene MAXWELL
Joseph Habersham
10 Jan 2021



Harold Lawrence MCPHEETERS
Piedmont
14 Jan 2021



William Joel McRAY
Athens
20 Jan 2021



James Leonard HARRIS
Four Rivers Patriots
21 Jan 2021



James Stuart LYLE, Sr.
Samuel Elbert
21 Jan 2021



John Gordon GOLDEN, Jr.
Joel Early
24 Jan 2021



Burton Eugene CARTER
Fall Line
29 Jan 2021



James Earl CLARK
Rome
30 Jan 2021



Daniel Beryl OLDS
Coweta Falls
31 Jan 2021



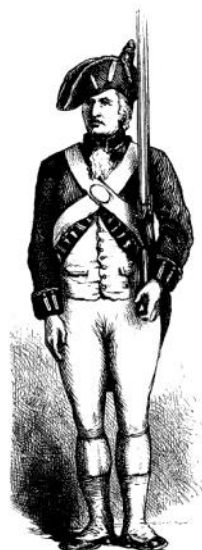
L. Chandler VREELAND
John Collins
12 Feb 2021



Jason Dexter QUICK
Brier Creek
02 Feb 2021



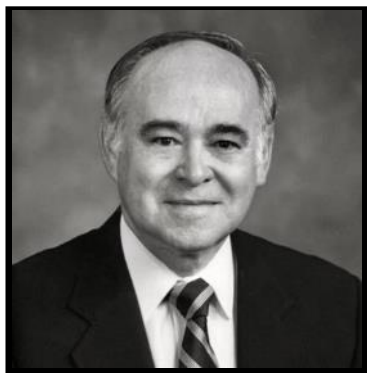
Giles McLees CHAPMAN
Rome
12 Feb 2021



Leroy Victor CRIST, Jr.
Piedmont
13 Feb 2021



Julian Dantzler KELLY, Jr.
Edward Telfair
15 Feb 2021



George Dewey WRIGHT, Jr.
Dalton
18 Feb 2021



Earl James HANNERS, Jr.
Lyman Hall Chapter
20 Feb 2021



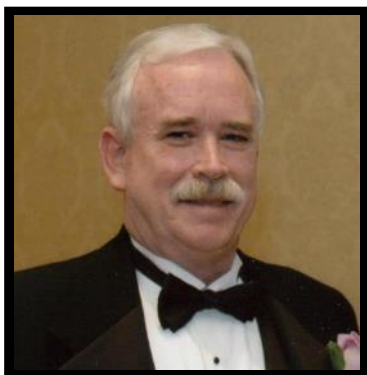
Robert Knox HERNDON
Marquis de Lafayette
13 Mar 2021



Thomas Dean DIXON
Samuel Elbert
28 Mar 2021



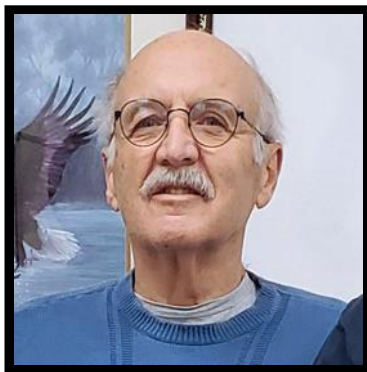
William Dean TERRELL
Ocmulgee
06 Apr 2021



William Robert WOODRUFF
Button Gwinnett
07 Apr 2021



James Arthur FISHER, Sr.
Button Gwinnett
09 Apr 2021



Stephen Douglas SCHROEDER
Atlanta
22 May 2021



Russell Luton SHREEVE, Jr.
Blue Ridge Mountains
27 Apr 2021



Gale Ezra HAUGHT, Jr.
Ocmulgee
28 May 2021



William Dale MILLER
Piedmont
03 Jun 2021



Lenis Caswell TARPLEY
Coweta Falls
04 Jun 2021



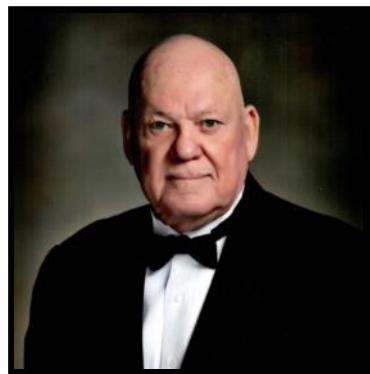
Robert L. "Buddy" BRIDGES Jr.
John Milledge
25 JUN 2021



Raymond Isaac PATTON
Atlanta
04 Jul 2021



Jimmy Ray FEWELL
Button Gwinnett
01 Jul 2021



Clifford Frazier DUNAWAY
Ocmulgee
08 Aug 2021



Arthur Stanford ADAMS
Ocmulgee
14 Aug 2021



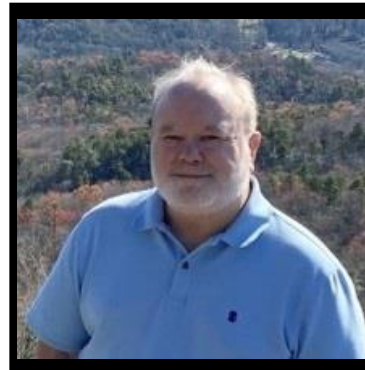
Donald Carl WEBB
John Collins
24 Aug 2021



Charlie Milford HUNTER
Blue Ridge Mountains
28 Aug 2021



Thomas Eldridge MAYO, Jr.
Fall Line
18 Sep 2021



Steven Lee MEMORY
Joseph Habersham
13 Sep 2021



Richard George BAUER
John Collins
27 Sep 2021



Walton Cossitt GLOVER
Marquis de Lafayette
11 Oct 2021



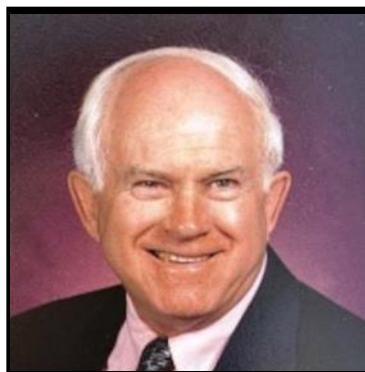
John Edwin MCCUTCHEON
 Coweta Falls
 22 Oct 2021



William Wayne WHATLEY, Sr.
 Coweta Falls
 11 Nov 2021



Robert Eugene BIGGERS
 Button Gwinnett
 01 Dec 2021

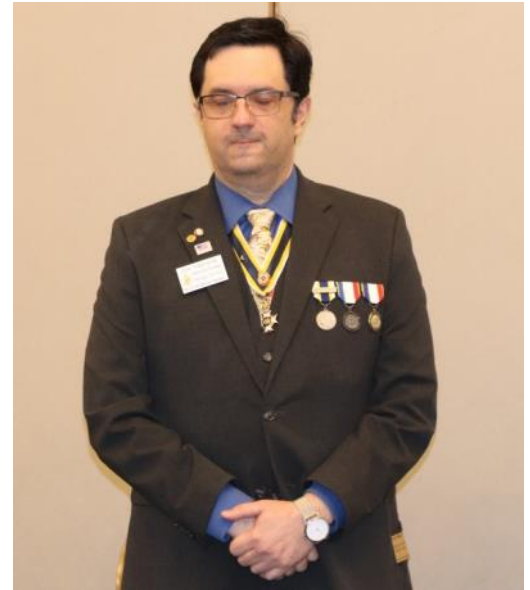


Edward Christian ROGGE, Jr.
 Atlanta
 23 Nov 2021



Wilbur Charles MULL
 Athens
 05 Dec 2021





Winter BOM was conducted after the Memorial Service. Guest were recognized, committee members allowed to update their reports, and a few special announcements were shared to update the board members. In other words, business was conducted as usual.

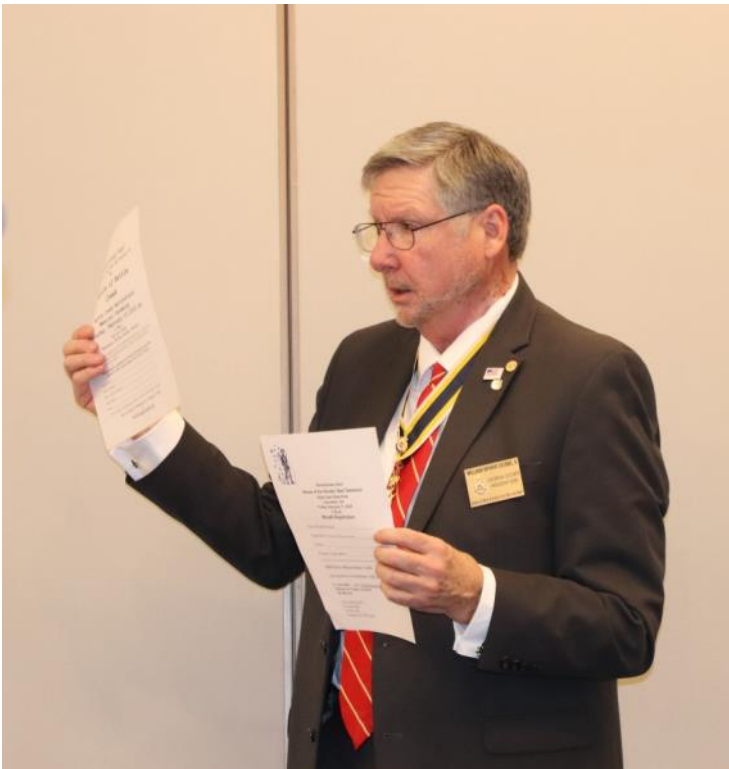


2022 Congress Planning Committee Co - Chair gave an update on the state of the fast approaching event, and called for all to volunteer.

Bill Dobbs, Historic Sites & Celebrations Committee Chair gave an update on the next event, namely Kettle Creek.

He then displayed the next raffle items being offered to help fund the National Congress. The "Cutting Edge" raffle will include another knife "hand-crafted" by Emory Fennell, as well as one donated by the widow of recently passed compatriot Durden.

Then Bill threatened us to make us buy tickets..... Just kidding.



Very few raffle tickets remain for the fantastic high value rifle being offered by Compatriot Dr. Ed Rigel Sr. Hurry and get your ticket, as the raffle will be held as soon as the last ticket is sold. There is a limited number for each raffle, and the time is now to buy.



Chapter & Youth Awards Banquet









C.A.R. Medal of Appreciation

Will Tims, State C.A.R. President

Nancy Tims, Sr. State C.A.R. President



Eagle Scout Award

Connor Burrell

Button Gwinnett Chapter



JROTC Award

C/Capt. Griffin J. DeFoor, AJROTC

Joseph Habersham Chapter



Knight Essay Contest

Maddox Lewis, Fellowship Christian School,

Piedmont Chapter



Knight Essay Contest Runner-up

Avery Scott, Tattnall Square Academy

Ocmulgee Chapter

Chapter Awards

Americanism Committee Awards

Americanism Chapters of Excellence (5,000 points +)

Button Gwinnett Chapter - 6,995 points

President General Chapter of Excellence (4,000 points +)

Atlanta - 4,490 points

President General Chapter of Distinction (20% increase from 2020)

Atlanta Chapter



Americanism Chapters of Distinction are:

Button Gwinnet Chapter

Brier Creek Chapter

Casimir Pulaski Chapter

Edward Telfair Chapter

Capt. John Collins Chapter

Little River Chapter



Education Committee Awards

Education Outreach Streamer (1,000 or more students, teachers and/or citizens)

Coweta Falls Chapter (over 1,000 students & teachers)

Mill Creek Chapter (1,000 students & teachers)

John Dooly Education Outreach Award

Thomas Miller of the Mill Creek Chapter

Nancy Hart Education Outreach Award

Tara Miller, wife of Thomas Miller

Flag Certificate Award

Joseph Habersham Chapter

(Presented 116 Flag Certificates

(A new record for the Georgia SAR)

Paul Prescott Award

Marshes of Glynn Chapter

Distinguished Chapter Award

Athens

Atlanta

Blue Ridge

Brier Creek

Button Gwinnett

Capt. John Collins

Coweta Falls

Edward Telfair

Joel Early

Joseph Habersham

Little River

Marshes of Glynn

Marquis de Lafayette

Mount Vernon

Ocmulgee

Piedmont

Robert Forsyth

Wiregrass



Georgia SAR / C.A.R. Awards

C.A.R. Distinguished Liaison Award for 2021

Button Gwinnett Chapter

C.A.R. Liaison Award for 2021

Coweta Falls Chapter

C.A.R. Certificate of Appreciation

Joseph Habersham Chapter



Membership Committee Awards

Membership Streamer for 90% Renewals

Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter - 100%

Casimir Pulaski Chapter - 100%

Dalton Chapter - 100%

Fall Line Chapter - 100%

George Walton Chapter - 100%

John Milledge Chapter - 100%

Little River Chapter - 100%

Rome Chapter - 100%

Valdosta Chapter - 100%

Wiregrass Chapter - 99%

Athens Chapter - 99%

Samuel Elbert Chapter - 98%

Washington-Wilkes Chapter - 97%

Altamaha Chapter - 97%

Edward Telfair Chapter - 96%

Marquis de Lafayette Chapter - 95 %

Joseph Habersham Chapter - 94%

Patrick Carr Rangers Chapter - 94%

Mount Vernon Chapter - 94%

Ocmulgee Chapter - 92%

Button Gwinnett - 92%

Joel Early Chapter - 91%

Capt. John Collins Chapter - 91%

Atlanta Chapter - 90%

Piedmont Chapter - 90%

Brier Creek Chapter - 90%

Public Service and Heroism Awards**Gold Streamer of Excellence**

Captain John Collins Chapter

Silver Streamer of Distinction

Joseph Habersham Chapter

Bronze Streamer for Honorable Mention :

Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter

Little River Chapter

Piedmont Chapter

Revolutionary War Patriot Graves Committee Awards

Washington-Wilkes Chapter - Four White Stars

Little River Chapter - Two White Stars

Button Gwinnett Chapter - One White Star

Capt. John Collins Chapter - One White Star

Col. William Few Chapter - One White Star

Lyman Hall Chapter - One White Star

Robert Forsyth Chapter - One White Star





James R. Westlake Communications Award

Best Chapter Newsletter Streamer

Piedmont Chapter

Best Chapter Website Streamer

Piedmont Chapter

**Veterans Committee Streamers
BG Robert L. Scott, Jr. Veterans Awards**

Chapter with 1-24 Members:

John Milledge Chapter

Chapter with 25-49 Members

Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter

Chapter with 50-99 Members

Marquis de Lafayette Chapter

Chapter with 100+ Members

Piedmont Chapter

Artistic Skills Certificate of Appreciation

Kenneth Baldowski

*[Accepting for Ken is a caricature of editor
Emil Decker]*



Color Guard Commander Change of Command

The position of Color Guard Commander is an exacting one. The Commander must respond to the requests for the State Color Guard to appear at events, inform the Color Guard members, including the Elijah Clarke Militia of the locations, times, specific requests, needs, etc. He must carry and coordinate the flags, stands and holders, survey the site to determine the correct equipment needs and their best utilization; consider host requests; organize the procession; and take accurate rolls of participants, Grave locations, GPS coordinates, and process appropriate medal requests from the active Color Guard and Militia. He gets the pleasure of awarding certain recognitions each year. The work is, as stated before, demanding. Several individuals have held the Color Guard Commander position in the Georgia Society.

As one Commander relinquishes command to another, a ceremony is often performed. The Guidon / Standard or pennant represents the Color Guard, and passing it from old to new has become a tradition. There is a military order to the exchange which basically involves the following: The Outgoing commander passes the guidon to his Subordinate, who grasps it with his right hand above his left hand at a 45 degree angle, then returns it to vertical. This procedure allows the guidon to be over the heart of each individual involved. The subordinate officer exchanges the guidon with the incoming subordinate, who then passes the guidon to the incoming commander. The Incoming commander then presents the guidon to the President, who returns it, installing the Commander. Rather involved, but the concept of changing command and accepting responsibility is never an easy or simple task.







The Gorget, a crescent shaped metal ornament, was the symbol of command. The Georgia Color Guard Commander wears one as symbol of his authority. The names inscribed on the back of the Gorget are:

- 1993 Samuel J. Padgett, Jr.
- 1994-1997 Benjamin F. Miller
- 1998-2003 G. Revis Butler, Jr.
- 2004 Terry P. Manning
- 2005-2010 Paul I. Prescott
- 2011-2016 Edward P. Rigel, Sr.
- 2017-2021 William H. Palmer
- 2022- K. Scott Collins



Outgoing Commander Bill Palmer received a gift on behalf of the Georgia Color Guard / Elijah Clarke Militia. A custom engraved powder horn commemorating his service.



2022 Officer Installation





Chancellor General Michael J. Elston (Virginia SAR) Swears in President Joe Vancura.

[Read President Vancura's address at the beginning of the newsletter.]





President Vancura
Congratulates Past President
David Jessel on a job well
done.

Under the direction of new
Color Guard Commander
Scott Collins, the Georgia
Color Guard retire the
Colors and end the Annual
Conference.

