

The Piedmont Piper



OUR INSPIRATION IS IN THE PAST
OUR DUTY IS IN THE PRESENT
OUR HOPE IS IN THE FUTURE

Edition LXXVII

www.piedmontsar.com

November 2006

From the President's Desk



Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness

The ideals of those patriots who achieved the independence of the American people; the patriots who opposed tyranny to give us our

freedom from oppression. This freedom is so great, so worthy, that hundreds of thousands have followed their lead by placing themselves in harm's way in order to preserve it. We dare not take this freedom for granted. As Sons of the American Revolution it is our goal to preserve the memory and the record of our country's Revolutionary Patriots. Through this we offer historical and educational programs designed to promote true patriotism!

What Are We?

The SAR is an historical, educational, and patriotic non-profit corporation that seeks to maintain and extend:

- the institutions of American freedom
- an appreciation for true patriotism

- a respect for our national symbols
- the value of American citizenship
- the unifying force of *E Pluribus Unum* that has created, from the people of many nations, one nation and one people.

We do this by perpetuating the stories of patriotism, courage, sacrifice, tragedy, and triumph of the men who achieved the independence of the American people.

What About You?

It is quite possible you have family members who are eligible for SAR membership. In fact, as a current member of the SAR, you already know the name of your patriot ancestor(s). Why not help a family member to become involved? The Award Winning Piedmont Chapter

Upcoming Events

Saturday, Nov. 18, 2006 November Chapter Meeting

Integrity Bank Building
8:00 a.m. Breakfast
8:30 a.m. Meeting

Speaker:
Phyllis Tanner
"Holidays in Colonial
America"

Color Guard Highlights

Grave Markings of Deceased Piedmont Members

Nov 4—James Colvin
and William Aimone
Nov 11—Jack Martin
Dec 2—Richard Titus

(See Details on Page 4)

Saturday, Dec. 16, 2006 December Chapter Meeting

Integrity Bank Building
8:00 a.m. Breakfast
8:30 a.m. Meeting

Speaker:
Virginia Lingelbach
"The Lost Colony
Of Roanoke"

of the SAR has many volunteer workers to guide prospective new members in the development of a lineage to their Revolutionary Patriot. Please contact Robert Sapp, Paul Prescott, or George Thurmond for additional information.

I am requesting that each member of the Piedmont Chapter present at least one new member to the chapter by the middle of November 2006. Please contact those family members or neighbors that you feel might be eligible for membership. As we advance in age, it is possible that we may soon lose our mental capacity to provide the information that could help our family members to complete their applications. The time for action is now!

The current national timeline and the critical need to recognize and support our returning vets are of utmost importance now. It's a timeless refrain sounded by generation after generation of soldiers returning from combat. But what sets Iraq war veterans apart is not just the kind of war they are fighting, but the mood of the country they are returning home to. It is not a United States unified behind the war effort, such as in World War II. There is no rationing, no sacrifice, no Rosie the Riveter urging, "We Can Do it!" Nor is it the country that protested Vietnam and derided many vets as baby killers. As a community group, it is important that we make every effort to support our brave men and women who are fighting to protect our way of life and our freedom.

As we welcome home the living, we need to remember those that made the ultimate sacrifice for us. It is my hope that we will be able to work with other community and veterans groups to institute a "Funeral Watch Program". This is a new program, where members of the chapter would be called upon to attend the funeral service of any veteran that has died in our area. I have asked our Veterans Committee to help establish this program for the Piedmont Chapter. Please plan on attending as needed.

This will be the first year that we will be involved in a Veteran's Day Proclamation Program. I encourage all members attend at least two of these functions. A schedule will be available on our web site or you may contact Walt Woliver, Chairman of the Americanism Committee.

I truly appreciate all that you do for our community and chapter. It is an honor to be associated with such noble men of the SAR. Thank you for your good work!

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REMINDER

Our Dues Are Now Due For 2007

Dues for regular members are \$53.00. Dues for life members are \$28.00. Dues for members emeritus are \$15.00.

Sending your dues in now will save our Chapter postage, relieving us of the expense of sending out individual statements.

Your check should be sent to:

**Bobby Shaw, Treasurer
Piedmont Chapter, SAR
2900 Barbara Lane
Marietta, GA 30062-1433**

At our October Meeting it was announced that 48 of our members have sent in their 2007 dues so far.



I'M FINE

There's nothing whatever the matter with me
I'm just as healthy as I can be.
I have arthritis in both my knees and when
I talk, I talk with a wheeze.
My pulse is weak and my blood is thin
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

My teeth will eventually have to come out
And my diet I hate to think about. I'm overweight and I can't get thin
My appetite's such that it's sure to win.
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

Arch supports I have for my feet
Or I wouldn't be able to cross the street
Sleep is denied me night after night
And every morning I am a sight.
My memory's failing, my head's in a spin.
I'm practically living on aspirin,
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

The moral is, as this tale is told
That for you and me who are growing old
It's better to say "I'm fine" with a grin
Than to let them know the shape we're in.

When I was young my slippers were red.
I could click my heels right over my head.
When I grew older my slippers were blue,
But I could still dance the whole night through.
Now I'm older, my slippers are black
I can walk to the corner and puff my way back.
The reason I know my youth has been spent
My "Get Up and Go" has got up and went.

But I really don't mind when I think with a grin
Of all the places my "Get Up" has been.

—Submitted by Eva Smith

Guest Opinion

The Piper welcomes articles from all SAR members, especially our own Chapter Members. The following article was submitted by Piedmont Chapter Secretary,

RUSS DEUTSCHMANN

African American Lives

PBS Shows An Interesting Genealogy Program. A few months ago, an interesting and informative program was broadcast on PBS. PBS replays the program regularly. For Society members who have not viewed the program, it is a documentary about genealogy and DNA tests on prominent African Americans. The celebrities included Oprah Winfrey, Chris Rock, (a comedian from DeKalb County, Georgia) Quincy Jones and others. All were presented as Patriotic Americans, whose families were interesting and productive.

There were wonderful and compelling stories about the descendant family members of all the celebrities. Oprah Winfrey's descendant was a prominent man who educated local children by building a schoolhouse on his property. The program producer, an African American, who works as a Harvard Professor, Dr. Henry Louis Gates, Jr., traced his ancestry to an American Patriot among other notable ancestors. The traditional (non DNA) genealogy for the study traced some of the celebrities to their arrival in America. Other interesting and unique methods were used as the genealogy was studied. From tax re-

ords to census records, most of the celebrities were able to trace at least part of their heritage.

The DNA studies actually traced the celebrity subjects of the documentary, to the approximate geographic location of pre American origin. Some of the celebrities were surprised by their pre American geographic data results from the DNA tests. Many of the people thought they were from one region, and were actually from another, because of preconceived notions regarding family history.

As many SAR members can attest, when researching genealogy, interesting things arise and often surprise. Of course the Sons Of The American Revolution does not have any interest or involvement in DNA genealogy. How many Compatriots have the fortitude to endure a DNA test and witness the results? The Sons of the American Revolution was chosen by Compatriot Gates, the program producer, as the organization to join upon identifying the link to his Patriot

ancestor. This choice by Compatriot Gates and other Notable Members, gives continuing credibility to the Sons of the American Revolution, as THE organization to join, when you identify a Patriot ancestor.

In the last issue of the National SAR magazine, Dr. Henry Louis Gates, Jr. was recognized as a distinguished, notable Compatriot, and was pictured while being welcomed into the SAR as a Massachusetts Compatriot. He joins a growing number of interesting and diverse Compatriots.

People like Compatriot Gates give the Sons Of The American Revolution a wonderful opportunity to show our diversity. The diverse Compatriots allow the organization to thrive as a place where all compatriots are equal upon proving their ancestor was a Patriot who fought in the American Revolution.

On a final interesting note, Quincy Jones has an ancestor of Caucasian descent, whose last name was Lanier. He owned large amounts of property at the time of the Civil War and could be related to a Patriot.



**ELECTION DAY
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7**

**Vote with your heart
And your conscience
And for your system of beliefs**

**—
BUT VOTE.**

By Jack Solomon

—Submitted by Norman Vaughn



MEET HAROLD MCPHEETERS

Compatriot Harold McPheeters was born in New York City in 1923 but moved with his family to the village of Garden City, Long Island the following year. He grew up and attended public schools there along with fellow Piedmont member, Bob Buck.

Beginning in 1940 Harold attended Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania until he was drafted into the Army in 1943. After basic training at Fort Bragg Harold was assigned to the Pre-Med program in the ASTP (Army Specialized Training Program) at the University of Kentucky and then to the University of Louisville Medical School. He received his MD degree there in 1948, interned in Springfield, Ohio, and then returned to Louisville for three years of residency training in psychiatry. During the Korean Conflict he served as a Lieutenant in the Navy Medical Corps at Annapolis Naval Hospital and at the San Diego Recruit Training Center.

Harold married Phyllis Merrill on Christmas Eve 1951. They met in a mental hospital where he was a resident in Psychiatry and she was an Occupational Therapist. Phyllis is a graduate of the Boston School of Occupational Therapy and Tufts University. They have two sons, two daughters and four grandchildren.

Following Board certification in Psychiatry Harold served as Assistant Commissioner and then as Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Mental Health for nearly ten years and then as Deputy Commissioner for Program Administration of the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene for a year.

Harold came to Atlanta in 1965 to serve for 22 years as Director of Health and Human Service Programs for the Southern Regional Education Board, An Interstate Compact Organization of the fifteen Southern States concerned with improving and sharing higher education programs. His responsibilities focused on manpower training programs and research in the health professions and human service programs such as psychology, social work and rehabilitation counseling.

Harold and Phyllis, who live close to Northside Hospital in Sandy Springs, have traveled the Nation researching all lines and variant spellings of the McPheeters family. He joined the Piedmont Chapter, SAR on the recommendation of his old friend, Bob Buck, tracing his line through John McPheeters, a Private in the Augusta County, Virginia Militia.

In 2004 Harold undertook a McPheeters surname DNA project to verify some of his genealogical findings.

Harold served as Historian of the Piedmont Chapter from mid-1998 through 2005, during which time his scrapbooks documenting the Chapter's activities enabled the Piedmont Chapter to receive three NSSAR President General's Cup Awards for the Chapter which submits a scrapbook documenting the greatest number and variety of programs and activities.

. . . .

Most people are willing to change, not because they see the light, but because they feel the heat.

Nothing is impossible to the people who don't do it themselves.

COLOR GUARD COMING EVENTS

4 Nov -- Grave Markings, Piedmont Members **James Colvin** and **William Aimone**, Arlington Memorial Park, Sandy Springs, GA, 1000 hrs.

5 Nov-- **William Ragland** and **J. Robert Selfridge** Grave Markings, McDonough, GA

6 Nov—Veterans Day, Alpharetta 1730 hrs.

8 Nov--Veterans Program, Perimeter Christian School, Duluth, GA 0930 hrs.

10 Nov--Veterans Program, Shallowford School, Marietta, GA, 0900 hrs.

11 Nov--Grave Marking, Piedmont member **Jack Martin**, Kennesaw Park Cemetery, Marietta, GA, 1000 hrs.

11 Nov--Veterans Program, Roswell St. Baptist Church, Marietta, 1200 hrs.

12 Nov—Piedmont Member, Wm. McAiley Grave Mkg, Chester, S.C.

12 Nov--Grave Marking, **Frederick Thompson**, Bethlehem United Methodist. Church Cemetery, Bethlehem, GA, 1400 hrs.

12 Nov—City of Milton Inauguration., Milton High School. 1600 hrs.

14 Nov--Veterans Program, Mt. Paran Church of God, Marietta, 2000 hrs.

18 Nov=Siege of Ft. Morris, Liberty County, GA, 1100 hrs.

2 Dec--Grave Marking, Piedmont Member **Richard Titus**, Ft. Mitchell, AL 1100 hrs.

2 Dec--Grave Marking, **John Phinazee**, Columbus, GA, 1430 hrs.

For additional details, contact Piedmont Color Guard Commander, Paul Prescott (770)360-5766.



Above: U. S. Senator Johnny Isacson of Georgia appearing as featured Speaker at the DAR Constitution Day Celebration on September 16 at the Ansley Golf Club. The Piedmont Color Guard and other Piedmont members were in attendance.

Below: Integrity Remembers 9-11. In September Our Piedmont Chapter participated in a ceremony at Integrity Bank commemorating the tragic events of September 11, 2001 including the Terrorist attack on the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon in Washington D.C. Also participating in the ceremony were members of the American Legion, the VFW and the staff of Integrity Bank.



SAMPLING HISTORY



**Fort Hawkins
1806—1822
Macon, Georgia**

Traveling through Macon down I-16 heading toward Savannah and the Georgia Coast perhaps you have noticed a large park to your left known as the Ocmulgee National Monument. Had you exited a little earlier at US 80 and traveled northward to the Emory Highway—Fort Hill Street area you would have arrived at the site of Fort Hawkins, one of Georgia's historical landmarks dating back to 1806.

In 1822 the fort was decommissioned and dismantled over the next century. In 1938 the Nathaniel Macon Chapter of the DAR and President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Works Progress Administration (WPA) built a replica of one of the two blockhouses on the site of the old fort. This structure is pictured above.

In 1806 this was part of the western frontier of the United States. Atlanta was still a wilderness deep within Indian territory. The City of Macon did not yet exist. The first settlers in the area arrived in 1821 from North Carolina and established Newtown at Fort Hawkins on the east side of the Ocmulgee River. In 1823 the Creek Indians ceded the land just west of the river for a new town known as Macon. The new city expanded rapidly. Newtown was annexed into Macon, and the city was

chartered in 1832.

According to an article published in The Atlanta Journal and Constitution of December 10, 2005, Archaeologist Daniel Elliott has been overseeing an extensive renovation of the Fort Hawkins site. This work has disclosed artifacts dating back to the Fort's beginnings including discarded tobacco pipes, potsherds, peach pits, rusty nails, fine china, lead bullets, buttons and brass buckles.

The fort was named for Benjamin Hawkins, a revolutionary War officer. Its purpose was to serve as a rampart against the Spanish in Florida and the French in Louisiana. It also served as a strongpoint against the British in the War of 1812 and during various Indian uprisings.

This article was based on the Atlanta Journal and Constitution Article mentioned above and "Encyclopedia Britannica" Volume 14 "Macon".

Great Truths That Adults Have Learned

Raising teenagers is like nailing Jell-O to a tree.

Wrinkles don't hurt.

Families are like fudge. . . mostly sweet, with a few nuts.

Today's mighty oak is just yesterday's nut that held its ground.

Laughing is good exercise. It's like jogging on the inside.

Middle age is when you choose your cereal for the fiber, not the toy.

Growing up is mandatory; growing old is optional.

Time may be a great healer, but it's a lousy beautician.

Alpharetta Festival Days

This festival held in September in Alpharetta was like a big country fair with exhibits set up under open tents. The Piedmont Chapter like many other organizations had its own exhibit. Below, Color Guard Commander Paul Prescott displays his musket to a young family and explains about our Chapter and the SAR.





Frank Darwin Grave Marking

On September 29 the Blue Ridge Chapter, SAR, joined the Piedmont Chapter in honoring the grave of Frank Darwin near Young Harris, GA. Compatriot Darwin was Piedmont's first President and one of our founders.

**Above: SAR members, friends and family gather at Frank's grave.
Below: Piedmont musketeers honor the gravesite with a four gun salute.**



The Piedmont Piper
2154 Greensward Drive
Atlanta, GA 30345

First Class Mail

The Piedmont Piper

Von Starkey, Publisher
Scott A. Ray, Editor

Skip Gray, Von Starkey and Paul Prescott, Photographers

This publication is the newsletter for the **Piedmont Chapter of the Georgia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution**. It is printed at least six times per year, January, March, May, July, September and November, and is distributed to current and prospective members of the chapter and to certain officers of the state and national organizations and officials of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

The Piedmont Chapter serves communities of the northern suburbs of Atlanta, Georgia including Cobb, Forsyth, Cherokee and Northern Fulton County. Meetings are held monthly throughout the year on the third Saturday at 8:30 a.m. in the Community Room of the Integrity Bank, 11140 State Bridge Road, Alpharetta, Georgia. Most members choose to arrive by 8:00 a.m. to enjoy breakfast together.

Prospective members are always welcome at monthly membership meetings. Men and boys who are interested in documenting their relationship to their American Revolutionary ancestors and in joining an active group with similar interests are urged to contact the **Chapter Registrar, Paul Prescott at 770-360-5766** or any other chapter officer.

(Youth Memberships are available for applicants under 18).

Please send all inquires and suggestions to the editor at the address shown below.

DEADLINE FOR MATERIAL TO BE INCLUDED IN THE NEXT MONTH EDITION:

The last Monday of the month preceding the date of issue. Please send all articles and photos as early as possible because the space available in the newsletter is often filled prior to the deadline date. Pictures will be scanned and returned to the sender.

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