

The Piedmont Piper



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

www.piedmontsar.com

March 2007

From the President's Desk



Carl Tanner, our new President, was installed in office at the Annual Banquet Meeting held February 17 at Founders Hall in Roswell. Carl joined our Chapter in 1995, and since that time has served two terms as Sergeant-at-Arms, two terms as Treasurer, and a term as Vice President.

Due to scheduling problems Carl has asked that he be excused from submitting the customary article from the President in this edition of the Piper. We look forward to publishing his column on a regular basis beginning with the May edition and throughout the remainder of his term.

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GASSAR'S WORK WITH EAGLE SCOUTS

The following is a summary of our State Society's work with Eagle Scouts from a report submitted by Charlie Newcomer, Chairman of the GASSAR Eagle Scout Committee:

The GASSAR Eagle Scout Recognition and Scholarship Committee completed another successful year, distributing certificates and scholarship packets to

eligible Eagle Scouts in Georgia, whose names were furnished by the state's Scout Councils. Sixteen chapters participated in the program, and scholarship entries were received by seven chapters with some of the chapters receiving multiple entries.

Judging of the seven statewide entries was held following the January BOM meeting with the state chairman and three other compatriots from Georgia chapters determining the best qualified Eagle for the state scholarship. Ric Newsom, whose entry came from the Lyman Hall Chapter was named the Georgia Scholarship winner, and his application was forwarded to SAR headquarters for national judging at the Spring Leadership meeting in Louisville.

This year's national competition was keen, and the top three winning entries came from Connecticut, New York and Minnesota, respectively. Georgia's

Upcoming Events

Saturday, March 17, 2007
March Chapter Meeting
Double Tree Hotel
1075 Holcomb Bridge Rd.
Roswell, GA
8:00 a.m. Breakfast
8:30 a.m. Meeting
Speaker:
Judge Maurice Hilliard
"North Fulton's Legal System"

Color Guard Highlights

March 23—Naturalization Ceremony
Russell Bldg. Atlanta
March 24—Four Grave Markings
Bogart and Watkinsville, GA

Saturday, April 21, 2007
April Chapter Meeting
Double Tree Hotel
1075 Holcomb Bridge Rd.
Roswell, GA
8:00 a.m. Breakfast
8:30 a.m. Meeting
Speaker:
Dr. Harold McPheeters
"DNA Genealogical Projects"

(Con't from Page 1)

Eagle Newsome scored fourth in a field of 33 entries, representing GASSAR well. Eagle Newsome will receive the state trophy and a \$600 scholarship at the Georgia SAR State Awards luncheon in March. Joshua Stevenson, the Cherokee Chapter's entry, was named state runner-up. He received the Chapter medal and GASSAR's \$400 runner-up award at the chapter's annual banquet in early February. State Chairman Newcomer participated in the awards program.

Since assuming the Chairmanship in late fall, Compatriot Newcomer has promoted the SAR Eagle Program by participating in scouting events, including an Eagle Scout Court of Honor, a local scout training session, and a demonstration of period dress and firearms at a scouting event in Rome.

Two GASSAR members, Compatriots Larry Wilson and Robert Hale, have qualified for the Eagle Scout Fund-Raising Medal in 2007.

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**GEORGIA SOCIETY
COLOR GUARD
SCHEDULE
As of March 1, 2007**

1. 3 Mar - Leadership Workshop (Schedule to follow) (no uniforms): Paul Prescott, Robert Cruthirds, Mark Webb, Larry Guzy, William Ramsaur, George Thurmond, Larry Wilson, Richard Ramsaur, Terry Manning, Bob Sapp

2. 10 Mar - Last Naval Battle of the Revolutionary War, FLSSAR, Cape Canaveral, FL, 1000 hrs: Paul Prescott, Bill Ramsaur, Charlie Newcomer, George Thurmond, Ted Smith, Richard Ramsaur

3. 17 Mar - 226th Anniversary of the Battle at Guilford Courthouse, Greensboro, NC, (Schedule to follow): Paul Prescott, Mark Webb, George Thurmond, Larry Wilson, Jack Ferguson ,

Walker Chewning, Richard Ramsaur, George Wheelless, Rhett Williamson, Mike Tomme, Ted Smith, Bob Sapp, Brett Osborn

4. 24 Mar - McLeroy Grave Marking, Bogart, GA, 1100hrs: Paul Prescott, Robert Cruthirds, John Mortison, George Thurmond, Walker Chewning, Richard Ramsaur, Ted Smith, Bob Sapp, Jack Ferguson

5. 24 Mar - Daniell, Crow and Stroud Grave Markings, Watkinsville, Oconee Co., GA, 1400 hrs: Paul Prescott, Robert Cruthirds, John Mortison, George Thurmond, Larry Wilson, Walker Chewning, Richard Ramsaur, Ted Smith, Bob Sapp, Jack Ferguson

6. 30-31 Mar - Georgia Society Annual Meeting, Athens, GA: Paul Prescott, Robert Cruthirds, Mark Webb, Larry Guzy, William Ramsaur, George Thurmond, Larry Wilson, Walker Chewning, Richard Ramsaur, Terry Manning, Bill Hay, Ted Smith, Bob Sapp, Jack Ferguson, Billy Templeton

7. 14 Apr - Halifax Day, Halifax, VA, (Schedule to follow)

8. 14 Apr - Grave Marking (reserved for Clayton Penhallegon) (for Color Guard from West and Central Georgia): Paul Prescott

9. 14 Apr - Elberton Granite Festival, Elberton, GA, 1130 hrs: (for Color Guard from East and North Georgia):

10. 19 Apr - Georgia Patriots Day, St. Simons (Schedule to follow): Paul Prescott, Richard Ramsaur, Larry Wilson?, George Thurmond, Ted Smith, Bill Ramsaur, Jack Ferguson

11. 21 Apr - Samuel Moseley Grave

Marking, Jos. Habersham Chapter, Eastanollee, GA, 1100hrs: Paul Prescott, Robert Cruthirds, John Mortison, Larry Wilson, Richard Ramsaur, Ted Smith, Jack Ferguson?, George Wheelless

12. 28 April - Richard Christmas, Columbus, GA 1100hrs & Alston Massey Harris Co., GA 1400hrs Grave Marking, Coweta Falls Chapter: Paul Prescott, Bob Galer, Bill Hay, Ted Smith, Jack Ferguson

13. 5 May - Jordan Holcombe Grave Marking, Gainesville, GA, (Schedule to follow): Paul Prescott, John Mortison, George Thurmond, Larry Wilson, Richard Ramsaur, Ted Smith, Ron & Connie Aylor, Jack Ferguson, Billy Templeton

14. 26 May - Boy Scout Day at Marietta National Cemetery: Paul Prescott

15. 28 May - Blue Star Salute, American Village, AL: (Details to follow)

16. 2 Jun - Grave Marking (Reserved by Casimir Pulaski Chapter): George Thurmond, Paul Prescott, Ted Smith, Jack Ferguson?

17. 9 Jun - Ramsour's Mill, Lincolnton, NC, (Schedule to follow): William Ramsaur, George Thurmond, Larry Wilson, Jack Ferguson, Richard Ramsaur, Larry Wilson?, Ted Smith, Bob Sapp, Jack Ferguson, Billy Templeton

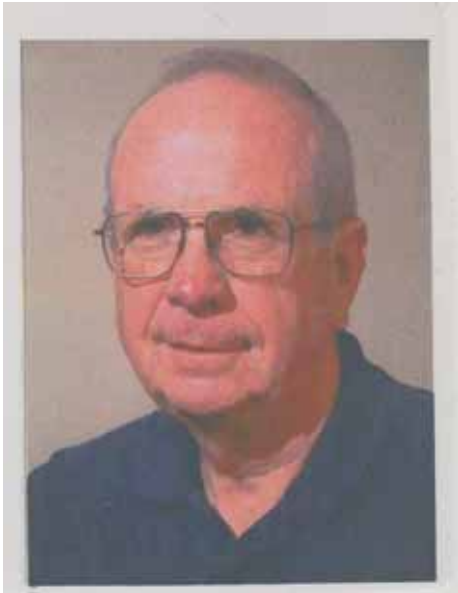
For more information about the Piedmont Chapter Color Guard contact Color Guard Commander Paul Prescott at 770-360-5766 or by E-mail at prescotp@bellsouth.net



Christians are sometimes like straight pins. . . pointed in one direction but headed in another.

It is not success that God rewards, but faithfulness.

Happiness is like jam. You can't spread it without getting some on yourself.



MEET BOB SHAW
Piedmont Chapter Treasurer

Bob Shaw was born on June 20, 1934 in Henry County, Georgia to Leo and Candace Shaw. His father was a farmer and a school bus driver.

He graduated from McDonough High School in 1950 and went to work for the Western Electric Company in the mail room. Due to his age, 16, he came under the child labor laws of the State of Georgia whereby he could not work more than 8 hours per day or 48 hours per week. Every six months a report had to be filed with the State certifying that no employee under 18 years of age was working more than 8 hours per day. While actively employed, he attended The Atlanta Division of the University of Georgia, now Georgia State University, at night and earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in 1956. He was drafted into the Army in December 1956 and served two years as an accounting clerk in the Ranger and R.O.T.C. training facility at Fort Benning. After his army service, he returned to work at Western Electric and retired in 1989 as a District Manager from AT&T with over 38 years of service.

He has been active in community service for many years. He was elected to the Cobb County Board of Education where he served for 10 years, when he decided not to run for another four year

term in 1989. In 1991 he went to work for the Cobb County School System as Cash and Investment Manager and retired from this position in 2001. He has been actively involved in the East Cobb Lions Club where he held several leadership positions including President. He is currently on the Board of Trustees for the Cobb County Educational Foundation where he is, also, the secretary. In the Piedmont Chapter he is known as the “money man” or Treasurer.

In his leisure time, he enjoys reading, traveling, internet surfing and, on a limited basis, vegetable gardening.

Bob and his wife, Beth, have been married for 53 years and have two children, Mika, 47, of Marietta and Brian, 44, of Murphy, Texas. They have 6 grandchildren, including twins, and one great grandson. One of the twins, Austin Chatham, is a junior member of the Piedmont Chapter and is featured in the activities portion of the Chapter’s web page at the marking of his fifth great-grandfather’s grave.

Bob and his grandson, Austin, were accepted as member and junior member in November 2004 under the service of Revolutionary War Private Zachariah Kitchens who fought in South Carolina. Bob enjoys the camaraderie of the Piedmont Chapter Compatriots and participating in grave marking.



Snapshots from the
Piedmont Annual Banquet
Meeting



Our guest Speaker, Peter F. Zerzakos, Principal of Northview High School, greatly encourages the Junior R.O.T.C. Program and patriotism generally among his students.



Compatriot Paul Simpson receives the Certificate of Distinguished Service for excel-



Skip and Rita Gray receive the Paul Vonley Starkey Patriot Award on behalf of Integrity Bank as a business that has provided outstanding service to our Chapter.



CAMELIA SIMS

www.zanaworld.com

Many of our readers will immediately recall that Camelia Sims has been a frequent visitor to our Chapter Meetings. On April 16, 2005 she was the speaker at our meeting with a very interesting presentation on George Washington.

Perhaps you never would have guessed that Camelia was born in Rumania and came to this country when she was 13 years old. Her original family name is Siminescu, later shortened to Sims. She recalls that she learned to love history when a child living in Rumania. While growing up in the U.S. she continued to love history and became fascinated with the history of our country. While living in Washington, D.C. for a while she became interested in the life of George Washington, making frequent visits to Mount Vernon and doing considerable research.

Camelia is the editor of the newsletter HISTORY TIDBITS, which she sends to E-mail subscribers. She is the co-author of the book **GEORGE WASHINGTON: A TIMELESS HERO**. She makes many personal appearances and speaking engagements with various civic organizations in the Atlanta area. She has held radio interviews on stations in Plymouth, Minnesota and Los Angeles, California.

Camelia has given us permission to reprint articles from HISTORY TIDBITS, the first of which follows.

GEORGE WASHINGTON'S FAMOUS CHARACTER

By Camelia Sims

George Washington's remarkable life and great accomplishments profoundly impacted the American Revolution, as well as the founding of the United States of America. As we celebrate his official birthday this February 19, it is important to know more about this man who was highly respected by his contemporaries as well as by succeeding generations.

While some leaders of the American Revolution were known for their writings or intellectual brilliance, George Washington was known primarily for his courage, good character and reputation. Those qualities paved his way to high positions, first the commander-in-chief of the Continental Army, and later the first President of the United States.

Washington was not born with an impeccable character, but he worked at it and developed a life-long respect for duty and honor. In his youth, George Washington exhibited a quick temper and a lot of ambition. He was a young man in a hurry. At twenty-one he became a major in the Virginia militia, and for the next few years fought the French and their Indian allies on the frontier. He proved himself courageous in action, and by the time he retired from the military about five years later he was considered a hero. Colonel Washington's name had come to be known throughout the colonies and even in London.

At what he thought was the end of his military career Washington entered Virginia politics when he won a seat



In the House of Burgesses. For the next sixteen years he gained political and legislative experience that served him well later in life.

When the members of the Continental Congress searched for a commander-in-chief, they chose Washington because his good reputation was well known. They knew of his integrity, courage and dedication to the cause of liberty. Their trust was well placed. During the eight and a half years of the War of Independence, when Washington held more power than any other man in America, he respected their civilian authority over the army. At the end of the war some urged him to hold on to power as other successful generals had done throughout history. Yet he relinquished his power willingly. The ambition of his youth was long before tempered by his respect for duty and careful attention to personal character, reputation, and honor.

As a new nation, the United States, needed him again for the presidency, but he was a very reluctant candidate. Washington was the only president elected unanimously, not once, but twice. It was George Washington, the hero of the Revolution, who by his presence, his leadership, and his character built the legitimacy of the presidency. He practically invented the office and the role of the President, and left his mark on the institution.

With the passage of time came legends about Washington, but a glimpse of the real person can be found in his letters and the writings of those who knew him personally. Tobias Lear, who was Washington's private secretary for several years, wrote to a friend, "...General Washington is, I believe, almost the only man of an exalted character who does not lose some part of his respectability by an intimate acquaintance... I declare I have never found a single thing that could lessen my respect for him.

Colonel David Humphreys, who was one of George Washington's aides and later one of his secretaries, left this

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Record about him. “He had too much magnanimity to feel jealousy... He did not prefer an opinion on account of its having originated with himself, nor was its value diminished in his estimation because it had originated with another...He loved truth, and sought it unceasingly and endeavored to regulate his actions by that standard.”

Some of Washington’s own letters shed some light on his character by showing us what he considered important. In a 1797 letter to a young relative who was beginning a diplomatic career, Washington advised that without virtue and integrity neither the finest talents nor brilliant accomplishments would mean much.

Regarding himself, in 1788 he wrote to Alexander Hamilton, “...I hope I shall always possess firmness and virtue enough to maintain (what I consider the most enviable of all titles), the character of an honest man.” In 1799, the last year of his life, writing to another friend Washington described himself as someone “...who always walked on a straight line and endeavored as far as human frailties, and strong passions, would enable him, to discharge the relative duties to his Maker and fellowmen, without seeking any direct or left handed attempts to acquire popularity.”

Washington’s words and actions reveal the strength of his character and the greatness of the man who spent so much of his life in the service of the nation he loved. Although he left the scene more than 200 years ago, George Washington’s example still shines across the ages to inspire and motivate.

“...the strongest characteristic of this respectable man (George Washington) is the perfect harmony which reigns between the physical and moral qualities which compose his personality...Brave without temerity, laborious without ambition, generous without prodigality, noble without pride, virtuous without severity...”
The Marquis de Chastellux, French General during Revolutionary War



The Double Tree Hotel
1075 Holcomb Bridge Road, Roswell, GA

Pictured above is our Chapter’s new headquarters for our monthly breakfast meetings. Our initial meeting was held there in the Board Room on January 20. Our arrangements call for us ultimately to meet in the Goulding Room, but due to pre-existing scheduling by the hotel, that room was not available for our first meeting.

Our meetings will continue to be held on the third Saturday of each month with breakfast beginning at 8:00 a.m. and the business meeting beginning at 8:30 a.m. The cost of breakfast will be \$13.00 plus change, covering the meal, tax and a tip. There are no plans to change the location of our annual banquet meetings in February, which will continue to be held at Founders Hall, also in Roswell.



Can you guess where the above photo was taken?

**From
BOB BUCK
Piedmont Chapter Chaplain
1998-2003**

(The following is a reprint from The Piper which appeared in the June 2001 edition, three months before the attack on 9/11.)

With probably more involvement in them than most United States citizens, as members of the SAR, we have just completed a period of time when we observed and participated in a number of patriotic events, I.e. Memorial Day, Armed Forces Day and a number of grave site dedications. Upcoming events are flag day (6'14) and Independence Day (7/4). From then until Labor Day, holidays (as well as ourselves) take a holiday —nothing to observe: a good time to stop and look back at what our founding fathers had to say about the new nation and the importance of its relationship to God.

We start with words from the Declaration of Independence: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal. That they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." (1776)

These words from Thomas Jefferson in 1781: "God who gave us life gave us liberty. And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are a gift of God? That they are not to be violated but with His wrath? Indeed, I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just, that His justice cannot sleep forever."

Did Jefferson see things to come? Maybe Benjamin Franklin did as well. Here's what Franklin said at the Constitutional Convention in 1787: "We have been assured, Sir, in the Sacred Writings, that except the Lord build the House, they labor in vain that build it. I firmly believe this; and I also believe that without His concurring aid we shall succeed in this political building no better than the builders of Babel."

George Washington on October 3, 1789, proclaiming a National Day of Prayer and Thanksgiving stated: "It is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the Providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and to humbly implore His protection and favor."

Daniel Webster sounded a warning in 1821: "If we abide by the principles taught in the Bible, our country will go on prospering and to prosper, but if we and our posterity neglect its instructions and authority, no man can tell how sudden a catastrophe may overwhelm us and bury all our glory in profound obscurity."

In declaring a National Day of Prayer and Fasting following the Battle of Bull Run, Abraham Lincoln expressed sentiments similar to those of his Revolutionary predecessors: "It is fit and becoming in all people, at all times, to acknowledge and revere the Supreme Government of God; to bow in humble submission to His chastisement; to confess and deplore their sins and transgressions in the full conviction that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; and to pray, with all fervency and contrition, for the pardon of their past offences, and for the blessing upon their present and prospective action."

The significant commonality about these quotes is their reference to God and our country's dependence on this continuing relationship. So for the next couple of months when we may have some time for soul searching, here are some appropriate things to keep in mind:

A lot of kneeling will keep you in good standing.

Don't wait for 6 strong men to take you to church.

Give God what's right, not what's left!

God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage.

Having truth decay? Brush up on your Bible.

He who angers you, controls you!

He who kneels before God can stand before anyone!

Kindness is difficult to give away because it keeps coming back.

"Pray" is a four letter word t that you can say anywhere.

Prayer— Don't give God instructions — just report for duty!

Most people want to serve God, but only in an advisory capacity.

. . . .

"The Wisdom of Children"

A little girl was talking to he teacher about whales.

The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though it was a very large mammal its throat was very small.

The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale.

Irritated, the teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human; it was physically impossible.

The little girl said, "When I get to heaven I will ask Jonah."

The teacher asked, "What if Jonah went to hell?"

The little girl replied, "Then YOU ask him."

. . . .

One reason the school of experience is so tough is that you get the test first and the lesson later.

If you are given to making fun of someone, be sure it is of yourself.



Piedmont's Annual Dinner Meeting, Founders Hall, Roswell, February 17, 2007

Seated to the left at the Head Table, above, are our newly installed President, Carl Tanner and his wife Phyllis, together with our honored guests.

Pictured below is a portion of our Banquet Room at Founders Hall. Our members and their guests completely filled the room.



The Piedmont Piper
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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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