

The Piedmont Piper



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

Edition LXXX I (81st Issue)

www.piedmontsar.com

May 2008

From the President's Desk



James M. McIntire

On April 3 – 5, 2008 the Georgia Society, Sons of the American Revolution held a combined meeting of the South Atlantic District and the GASSAR Spring

BOM and Annual Meeting at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education in Athens Georgia. In attendance from the Piedmont Chapter were Vice President General Colonel George E. Thurmond, State Color Guard Commander Paul I. Prescott, Piedmont Chapter President James M. McIntire, Registrar Robert A. Sapp, Schools/Poster Contest Chairman Lytton Glynn Acree, III, Speakers Bureau Chairman Garnett L. "Jack" Ferguson, Jr. and their wives. Once again the Piedmont Chapter's "Award Winning" reputation was upheld.

The awards began to arrive quickly. At the Friday night banquet three Patriot Medals were awarded by

Compatriot Robert Turbyfill of the William Few Chapter. The first was given to our Piedmont Chapter Registrar, Robert A. Sapp. In presenting this award, Compatriot Turbyfill said "Our first Patriot Medal recipient has served his chapter in a variety of roles including President, Vice President and Registrar and as Chairman of the Americanism, Awards and Schools Committees and as Poster Contest Chairman. He is the recipient of the National Society Liberty Medal with 5 Oak Leaf Clusters and currently serves as Georgia Society Membership Chairman and as a member of the National Society Americanism, Genealogy, Membership and ROTC Committees.

In 2007 he received the Col. Stewart Boone McCarty award for

Upcoming Events

Saturday, May 17, 2008
May Chapter Meeting
Holiday Inn
909 Holcomb Bridge Rd
Roswell, GA
8:00 a.m. Breakfast
8:30 a.m. Meeting
Speaker:
Ray Williams
Tuskegee Airman

Color Guard Highlights

18 May—Patriot David
Meriweather Grave Marking,
Athens, GA 1500 hrs.

24 May—Scout Day at
Marietta National Cemetery,
Marietta, GA 0800 hrs.

Saturday, June 21, 2008
June Chapter Meeting
Holiday Inn
900 Holcomb Bridge Rd.
Roswell, GA
8:00 a.m. Breakfast
8:30 a.m. Meeting
Speaker:
Milton Crabapple



furthering the preservation of United States History and its traditional teaching in our schools. He is a Life Member of the National Society, has been attending National Leadership Meetings for several years and is an active member of the Georgia Society Color Guard. He played a major role in supporting the organization and chartering of the Patrick Carr Rangers chapter in Burke County and is currently serving his second term as the Georgia Society Genealogist while continuing his service to the Piedmont Chapter as its Registrar.

FOR LOYAL AND FAITHFUL SERVICE IN THE TRADITION OF OUR PATRIOT ANCESTORS THE GEORGIA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION PRESENTS THE PATRIOT MEDAL TO COMPATRIOT ROBERT A. SAPP.

The Awards Luncheon was held the next day at noon. Awards to the Piedmont Chapter continued to flow. They are listed below in the order in which they were presented.

Billy H. Thompson Americanism Award and President General Award –

The Piedmont Chapter received honorable mention. We were not eligible to win the awards this year because we have already won twice before.

Poster Contest –

The Piedmont Chapter entry by Jamies Nathalie of Mt. Bethel Elementary School won the Poster Contest receiving 65 out of 85 1st place votes. The poster will now represent the State of Georgia at the National Congress in Sacramento in July. This is the 2nd year in a row that the Piedmont Chapter entry has won.

Georgia Society Grave Marking Award –

The Piedmont Chapter received seven grave marking stars. We marked 4 patriot graves and 3 compatriot graves last year.

Color Guard Recognition –

Robert A. Sapp received a Bronze Color Guard Award. This award requires 36 months in uniform and the attending of at least 10 events. His wife, Joyce, received

the Camp Follower Award, presented to wives who attended at least 10 events with their husbands over a 36 month period of time.

Robert A. Sapp also received an Honor Guard Award for participating in over 100 National and State events.

The Piedmont Chapter received a Streamer for assistance that they have provided at events in other states.

South Atlantic District Awards –

Paul I. Prescott was presented with a Meritorious Service Medal (Oak Leaf Cluster). National Society President General Bruce Wilcox made the presentation. Paul was recognized for his continuous outstanding service to the ideals of the South Atlantic District during 2005 – 2008 while serving as Commander of the Georgia Society Color Guard. The citation read: “Under his leadership, the Georgia Society Color Guard exemplified the “Spirit of the SAR” to others in the district by continuing to lead Color Guards in numerous Historic Sites programs in several states. Such support greatly enhanced the image of the SAR within the District. His leadership skills and assistance provided to the Sons of the American Revolution clearly reflect outstanding credit upon himself, the Georgia Society, the South Atlantic District and the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. “

National Society Awards –

The Silver Color Guard Medal was awarded to Robert A. Sapp for attending 7 national events over a three year period of time.

very fortunate to have in our midst such dedicated members. They have provided leadership and direction to our Chapter for a number of years. It was quite rewarding to see them receive the recognition they so richly deserve.

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COLOR GUARD SCHEDULE
1 May—1 June 08

3 May—Ben Miller Grave Marking, 1130 hrs.

18 May—Patriot David Meriweather Grave Marking, Athens, GA 1500 hrs

24 May—Scout Day at Marietta National Cemetery, Marietta, GA 0800 hrs.

7 Jun—Ramsour,s Mill, Lincolnton, NC 1000 hrs.

—Paul Prescott

The Piper’s New Mode of Delivery: E-Mail

Commencing with the current issue, *The Piper* will be sent out to our Chapter membership by E-Mail to those with facilities to receive it. Members who do not have E-Mail will continue to receive our newsletter by ordinary mail, as in the past.

The primary reason for the change is to save money . In the past the cost of printing and postage has been running about \$250.00 per issue. We anticipate that the change over to E-Mail will result in substantial savings.

A second advantage to E-mail delivery will be that illustrations will appear in color. This has not been possible through the normal printing process.

In the event you prefer to continue to receive a printed copy by “snail mail” rather than E-mail, just notify the Editor and I will be glad to oblige.

—**Scott Ray, Editor**





**U.S. CONSTITUTION SUPREME
LAW OF THE LAND**

By: Aubrey Morris

(This article was written in 2001 and published in the Piper at that time.)

The kitchen calendar in our household has some extra printing and handwriting in the little box designated Monday, September 17, 2001.

A new moon rises on that day, the beginning of a new week. It's also "Citizenship Day." And, a note by my wife, in red ink reminds: "Income tax due."

Citizenship Day? Tax time again!

Paying more taxes while, on the same day, celebrating the virtues of the United States and counting our many blessings as U.S. citizens, native or naturalized, is just as American as eating apple pie.

Though many Americans grumble about paying tall taxes, persnickety politicians, and bungling bureaucrats, it's a good time to count our blessings.

But wait. What happened to "Constitution Day," long observed on September 17?

It was Harry S. Truman who, on February 29, 1952, signed the bill just passed by Congress giving the new name—Citizenship Day—to Constitution Day.

Though not an official holiday, Constitution Day, as we old timers remember, commemorated the signing of the United States Constitution. This important event occurred in Independence Hall, Philadelphia, on September 17, 1787, and there used to be discussions about such patriotic events in our nation's classrooms.

Citizenship Day, reflected on our modern calendars, instead of Constitution Day, is supposed to impress us Americans, natives as well as newcomers, with the "privileges and responsibilities of citizenship."



Compatriot Aubrey Morris
From a 2001 Edition of
The Piper

That we Americans have at least some inkling of what the United States Constitution is all about—and of its importance for each and every one of us in our daily lives.

It was that statesman from the land of the Magna Charta, William E. Gladstone (1809-1898), four times British prime minister, who called the U.S. Constitution "the most wonderful work ever struck off at a given time by the brain and purpose of man."

Well said, Mr. Gladstone. A plain spoken, yet ambiguous, document we're talking about here; albeit a work of true genius crafted by such stalwarts of the American dream as Washington, Madison, Franklin, and Hamilton, and—from Georgia—William Few and Abraham Baldwin—a mere 12 years after independence from the mother country. (The other Georgia delegates to the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia were William Houstoun, Nathaniel Pendleton, William Pierce and George Walton.)

Most of us have been able to recite the preamble since high school days. Let's do it again:

"We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common

defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution of the United States of America."

After the Preamble, Article I covers the Legislative Department; Article II, the Executive Department; Article III, the Judicial Department; Article IV covers the relation of the States to each other; Article V sets out the provision for Amending the Constitution; Article VI tackles the topic of National Debts; Article VII, the last, states, in part, "The ratification of the conventions of nine States shall be sufficient for the establishment of this Constitution between the States so ratifying the same..."

I must admit that I had to consult several sources to get the count on the number of Constitutional Amendments approved during the first 114 years of this exalted document.

The latest was Amendment No. 27, passed in 1992. It dealt with Congressional salaries. (Congressional salary changes voted by one Congress cannot go into effect until the beginning of the next Congress).

Now to "The Bill of Rights." The Federalists, the new political party in vogue in the United States' early days, probably would not have obtained ratification in several key states had they not promised to support amendments to the Constitution.

Of the first ten amendments, eight are known as "The Bill of Rights". The most discussed is probably Amendment 1.

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peacefully to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of Grievances--"

Also thoroughly debated, especially during recent years, Amendment 2:

(Con't on next page)



“A well-regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be abridged.”

In case you want to read, re-read, or even study it, the United States Constitution can usually be found, printed in its entirety, in most encyclopedias. In my aging encyclopedia, it appears Between “United States Congress” and “United States Debt”.

As a one-time police reporter, I suppose I’ve written about more people “taking the Fifth,” than in exercising any of the other “rights”, such as free speech. One provision in the Fifth Amendment of 1791 says: “...nor shall any person...be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself...”

Georgia Delegate William Pierce, after approval of the new U.S. Constitution in Philadelphia on September 17, 1787, started back lickety-split to Georgia. He arrived October 10, nearly a month later, though it isn’t known whether he returned by foot, horse carriage or boat. To deliver the hot news to the people in Savannah.

Three days after his arrival, the Georgia State Gazette published the document. Ratification came the last day of the year, December 31, 1787 in the Georgia General Assembly.

Why the big hurry? Remember the words “provide for the common

the new Constitution!

The Creeks were on the warpath in these parts in 1787, and Georgia needed help if she was to defeat the Indians.

The U.S. Constitution is the product of seven centuries of development in England, our Mother country, and our still youthful America. Much debated and much maligned, it is without doubt “the law of the land.” In the words of Chief Justice Hughes, “the Constitution means what the Supreme Court says it means.”

—**This reprint is one of my favorite Piper articles from the past,**
Scott Ray, Editor

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Teacher: Please tell me something important that didn’t exist fifty years ago.

Sam: Me!

Teacher: Can anyone give me the name of a liquid that won’t freeze?

Sam: Hot water.

Why isn’t there any difference between a “fat chance” and a “slim chance”?

A teacher had just discussed magnets with her class. At the close of the lesson, she said, “My name begins with *m* and I pick up things. What am I?”

Julia thought for a moment, then answered, “Mom!”

An English professor wrote the following words on the blackboard: “Woman without her man is nothing.” He then requested his students to punctuate the sentence correctly.

The men wrote: “Woman, without her man, is nothing.”

The women wrote: Woman! Without her, man is nothing.”

Jennifer: Are you in the top half of your class?

Laura: No, I’m one of the students who make the top half possible.

What starts with T, ends with T, and

Deputy’s Last Roll Call

The deputy stood and faced his God,
Which must always come to pass
He hoped his shoes were shining
Just as brightly as his brass.

“Step forward now, deputy.
How shall I deal with you?
Have you always turned the other
cheek?
To My church have you been true?”

The deputy squared his shoulders
and said,
“No, Lord, I guess I ain’t,
Because those of us who carry badges,
Can’t always be a saint.

“I’ve had to work most Sundays,
And at times my talk was rough,
And sometimes I’ve been violent,
Because the streets are awfully tough.

“But I never took a penny,
That wasn’t mine to keep...
Though I worked a lot of overtime
When the bills just got too steep.

“And I never passed a cry for help,
Though at times I shook with fear.
And sometimes, God forgive me,
I’ve wept unmanly tears.

“I know I don’t deserve a place
Amongst the people here.
They never wanted me around
Except to calm their fear.

“If you’ve a place for me here, Lord,
It needn’t be so grand.
I never expected or had too much,
But if you don’t... I understand.”

There was a silence all around the
throne,
Where the saints had often trod,
As the deputy waited quietly,
For the judgment of his God.

“Step forward now, deputy,
You’ve borne your burdens well.
Come work a shift on Heaven’s streets,
You’ve done your time in hell.”

—Author Unknown





From:
ALLEN RAY FINLEY
Piedmont Chapter Chaplain



**Traveling with our Ancestors to
The New World**

As one thinks about our namesakes (who came over to what is now the USA as mine did in the early 1700s), it must have been an epic journey to think what it must have been to leave everything and come across the pond. Trying to gain understanding of what this meant to them, I have started a journey. This journey involves looking at what each of our letters in the alphabet could have meant to them. As I arrive at the letter F, it makes me think of situations that all of our ancestral grand parents had to have had in their mind.

The **FAITH DOCTRINE** is really made up of 4 components. What that means to me, as we look back into what life must have been like in the early 1700s, we can only imagine.

The first component that becomes very obvious (based on all that I have read and what has been passed down to me via my family) is that there was a very strong *spiritual* belief. My S.A.R. connections were part of the clergy of the Presbyterian Church. And at no other point in time and in the history of the world has there been such a gathering of people who had the belief in the almighty.

The second component that seems to be

a part of this doctrine is that of *educational* issues. There had to be a large portion of their time spent in the educational aspect of and for their family members, and friends. Not only of learning how to live in this new land with all of the trials that came with moving into a land that was basically unknown to them, plus learning how to cope with a wide support group. The more formal side of this educational component was the development of schools so that their children could continue to have a better life than they were having. We are still addressing these same issues today.

Then there was a critical part of their time in just trying to survive *financially*. In the early times, it was just the basics of making sure they had enough food and clothing to last until they could replenish it the next week and or year (survive winter). Bartering and commerce began early.

The last part of their life that they tried to keep in balance was in the *recreational* aspect of keeping their family tied together. The role of humor, family centered games and contests were probably very limited due to the demands placed upon them in just trying to survive. Dual income parents, work out in the gym after work, no kids were not part of their thought process.

While we can look at these 4 items as separate and distinct issues, I feel that our namesakes must have tried to keep all this in balance. As we look at where we are today, I feel that the same 4 issues are still relevant. Even though the times have changed, it makes our role as members of the S.A.R. critical in keeping the efforts of our namesakes alive and functioning so that our country never forgets what it took to get us to where we are.



The thought that I leave for you is the following: It is in moments of decision that our destiny is shaped.

Next issue, we will look at the letter G. So please send me at arfinley@aol.com the word that starts with G that you think exemplifies our namesakes.

**2008 GASSAR Officers as
Elected April 5, 2008**

President: Col. Robert F. Towns

Sr. Vice President: Terry Manning

Northwest Region VP: Roger Lamb

Metro Region VP: Walker Chewning

Northeast Region VP: James L. Wilson

West Region VP: Hugh Rogers

Central Region VP: R. L. Bridges, Jr.

East Region VP: Ronald McCrosky

Southeast Region VP: Wm. Ramsaur

Southwest Region VP: James E. Willis

Secretary: Kline O. Pugh

Treasurer: James Carl Castle

Hornet Nest Editor: Open

Recording Secretary: Keith Larson

Registrar: J. M. Tomme, Sr..

Chaplain: Rev. Dan V. Gates

Genealogist: Robert A. Sapp

Sergeant at Arms: Charles L. Bausch

Historian: W. Charles Hampton

Chancellor: Gordon Smith

Board of Mgrs (new): Billy H. Thompson, William W. Whatley and Rev. Nelson Kittle



**National Museum of Patriotism
Proudly presents:
Congressional Medal of Honor
Luncheon
Hyatt Regency Hotel, downtown
Atlanta
May 16, 2008
11:00 am-2:00 pm**

This luncheon is a fundraising event to support the National Museum of Patriotism and its educational outreach. The new museum will open its doors downtown in Summer 2008.

The National Museum of Patriotism is a one of a kind, emotional journey through the American experience. America's museum asks the question: "What is patriotism?" and allows each visitor to form his own unique Definition.

Highlights of the event

- Emcee Fred Travelena, Hollywood Walk of Fame Star, Comedian.
- Banks & Shane, pre-even entertainment.
- Lee Greenwood, Country Music Star God Bless the USA.
- Over 20 Medal of Honor Recipients in attendance.
- Photographic and autographic opportunities.
- Book signings
- Medal of Honor Recipients
- Col. Charles Dryden, Tuskegee Airman
- Kimberly Dozier, War Correspondent
- Silent Auction
- National Museum of Patriotism exhibits on display

Cost per table: \$5000.00.

**Contact: Pat Stansbury
404-875-0691**



Cub Scouts at Integrity Bank
Compatriots Paul Prescott and Bob Sapp explain the musket and uniform on March 26. They also explained flag etiquette and proper retirement of a flag.



2007 Flag Retirement Ceremony
From left to right, Piedmont Compatriots George Thurmond, Thomas Davis, Paul Prescott and Jack Ferguson.



Jeremiah Lumsden Grave Marking, Shady Dale, GA
The Lumsden family, shown above, joined us at this ceremony on March 29, 2008.





**GUILFORD COURTHOUSE COMMEMORATION SERVICE
Greensboro, North Carolina**

The Annual Commemoration Service of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, sponsored by the North Carolina Society, SAR, was held March 15, 2008 at the National Military Park located near the center of Greensboro. The many participants include the Georgia Society Color Guard. The event is held each year on the Saturday nearest the anniversary of the battle. The park is our Nation's first national military park. The American forces were led by General Nathaniel Greene. The British were led by General Charles Cornwallis. The outcome of the battle is considered a draw, but the result was that Cornwallis was compelled to move his troops in disarray northeastward to Yorktown, Virginia, where he later surrendered.

Pictured above (l-r) Compatriot Sam Powell, President of the North Carolina Society, SAR, and Piedmont's own George Thurmond, Vice President General, South Atlantic District, SAR, lead the march of the participants through the park. The march began at the Park Service Office and proceeded to the statue of Nathaniel Greene, shown below.

In all there are 27 monuments within the park.





The Piedmont Piper
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Atlanta, GA 30345

First Class Mail

The Piedmont Piper

James M. McIntyre, 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 Double Tree Hotel, 1075 Holcomb Bridge Road, Roswell, Georgia. Most members choose to arrive by 8:00 a.m. to enjoy breakfast together. The cost is \$15.00 each.

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, Robert A. Sapp at 770-971-0189** 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 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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