

The Piedmont Piper



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

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July 2009

From the President's Desk



Bob Shaw

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Message from President Bob Shaw

“When in the Course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation. 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.”

These words rang out in the Garden Court of the Waverly Hotel on July 4, 2009, as they rang out in Philadelphia 233 years earlier. After months of planning and preparation, the 2009 Congress began as scheduled at the Waverly Galleria in Atlanta. Piedmont Compatriot George Thurmond said this Congress was the best he has attended. Over 500 registered for the Congress and there were many volunteers from the Georgia Society who were there to assist with registration, orientation and



Readers of the Declaration of Independence at the 2009 Annual Congress



Piedmont Chapter continues to have interesting speakers at the monthly meetings



Dr. Steve Terry History Teacher at Roswell High School was our speaker at May 16 meeting

Above Vice President Carl Bhome presents the Speaker's Certificate of Appreciation to Dr. Steve Terry of Roswell High School.

Dr. Terry gave a very interesting presentation on the American History Advancement Placement Course he teaches at Roswell High. In this course, he includes a review of the War Between the States. He spoke about the challenges he faced in gaining approval for the course and he shared some of the ways he interacts with students to challenge them in the study of American History. For example: Did you know that General Grant could not stand the sight of blood or that General Sherman was a red head with freckles?

Dr. Terry also shared with us some of the details of his ancestors who were from a pioneer family in West Georgia at the time of the War Between the States.

GASSAR President Terry Manning was our speaker at June 20 meeting

Above Vice President Carl Bhome "promises" to present a Speaker's Certificate of Appreciation to Terry Manning who was our speaker at the June 20 meeting.

Our June 20, 2009 Chapter Meeting was special as Mr. Terry Manning, GASSAR President spoke about the "*American Indian Wars (1620 - 1755)*". Terry presented an overview of the Indian wars that weakened the Indian nations and contributed to the European settlement of North America and their impact on Indian participation in the Seven Years War and the Revolutionary War. Terry is a graduate of Ohio State University and was a radar man for 4 years in the United States Navy. He is a retired Auditor-in-Charge for the Department of Veterans Affairs' Office of Inspector General where he specialized for over 20 years in reviewing hospital administration and construction projects undertaken by the VA. He and his wife Ginny live in Lilburn in Gwinnett County.

Upcoming Events

Saturday August 15, 2009
Chapter Meeting

Holiday Inn 909 Holcomb Bridge Road Roswell, Georgia
8:00 am Breakfast
8:30 am Meeting

Speaker

Ed Forte, Milton High School history teacher who will speak on the Colonial Light Infantry

September 19, 2009
Chapter Meeting

Holiday Inn 909 Holcomb Bridge Road Roswell, Georgia
8:00 am Breakfast
8:30 am Meeting

Speaker

Sally Bethea, Director of the Riverkeepers organization.



The Piedmont Chapter Conducted a Flag Retirement Ceremony on Flag Day June 14

Flag Day, more formally called National Flag Day, is celebrated on June 14 to commemorate the adoption of the flag of the United States of America by Resolution of the Second Continental Congress in 1777. On Flag Day 2009, The Piedmont Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, conducted a Flag Retirement Ceremony at the Northside Chapel Crematory in Roswell. The *award winning* Piedmont Color Guard participated in uniform along with other members of the chapter, a Boy Scout Troup, other patriotic organizations and many individuals from the Roswell, Georgia area.

Piedmont President Bobby Shaw indicated “that a flag may be a flimsy bit of printed gauze, or beautiful banner of finest silk. Its intrinsic value may be trifling or great; but its real value is beyond price, for it is the precious symbol of all that we stand for and all that we have worked for and lived for, and in some cases, died for – a free nation of free men and women, true to the faith of the past, devoted to the ideals and practice of Justice, Freedom and Democracy.” A number of unserviceable flags were presented to be retired by burning in a dignified ceremony – the proper way to retire a flag. The photos below show some of those participating.

Sergeant-at-Arms Tom Davis accompanied by Color Guard members Jack Ferguson (L) and Bob Allgood (R) bring the first flag for inspection and retirement.

President Shaw flanked by the Color Guard receives a flag for inspection and retirement



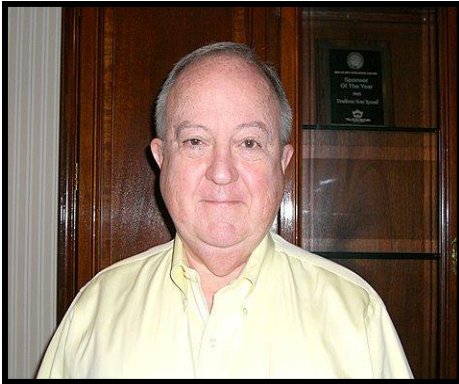
Compatriot Bill Lusk placing a flag for retirement

Boy Scouts providing support





From
Allen Finley
 Piedmont Chapter Chaplain



Our Journey

The journey continues... as we walk through what our forefathers must have experienced, what they were thinking, what drove them, and/or what they passed on that has continued through their families to reach us today. As we approach the letter “N”, the word that came to me was – **Negotiate**.

There are two meanings of this word:

First: To talk – to discuss – to collaborate – to reach a deal. These are some of the things that our forefathers must have done as they settled into this country in the 1600s and 1700s. My ancestral grandfather, Reverend James Finley would have had contacts with others from Ireland and the rest of the British Isles, and with other Europeans and Native Americans. It is hard to imagine the challenges of trying to negotiate in so many different languages; there was no “official” language in the colonies. How would my grandfather and others like him have communicated with someone from the European continent or with the Native Americans? The language barrier had to be negotiated in order to survive. Today, we complain about someone talking “Northern” or “Southern”! When my children were growing up, we were involved with the Marietta Sister City program which paired our city with Linz, Germany. We often heard that when the German children returned home after being here, they had some difficulties in

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Below are pictures of The National Congress Memorial Service which was held on July 5, 2009 at First Baptist Church Marietta, Georgia. The Georgia Society mustered 20 men in uniform for the Annual Memorial Service, which was reported to be the largest representation of a State Color Guard at the National Congress.



Allen Greenly



Allen Greenly



Allen Greenly



Soil from Battlefields of the nation was spread across the Parade Ground of the new National Infantry Museum at Ft. Benning

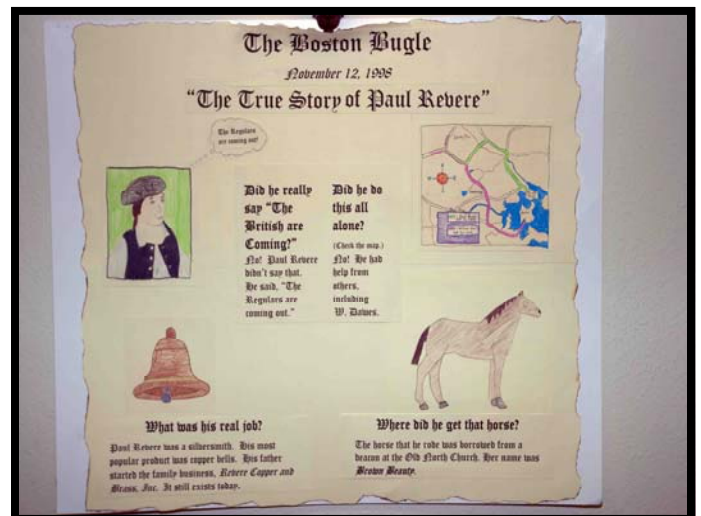
Samuel Parker Moss, nephew of Compatriot Paul Moss participated in the Ceremony

Members of the Georgia Society of the Sons of The American Revolution, the Coweta Falls Chapter, and other SAR members were privileged to attend the dedication of the Parade Ground adjacent to the new National Infantry Museum at Columbus, Georgia on March 19, 2009. The ceremony included spreading sacred soil on the Parade Ground from eight of the main battlefields where American forces fought: Yorktown/ Revolutionary War; Antietam/Civil War; Soissons, France/ World War 1; Normandy/World War 2; Corregidor/World War 2; Korean War; Vietnam War; Desert Storm/War on Terrorism. The sacred soil was spread by a hero or a descendant of a hero in that war -- for instance a fifth-generation grandson of Alexander Hamilton, the son of Sgt. Alvin York, a grandson of Theodore Roosevelt, etc. - accompanied by a soldier dressed in the uniform of that war.

Samuel Parker Moss, the nephew of Piedmont Chapter Compatriot Paul Moss, played an important role in this memorable occasion. The soil from WWI came from the battlefield at Soissons, France where Samuel Parker, Mr. Moss's grandfather, earned the Medal of Honor at Soissons with the 28th Infantry. He also earned the Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star and two Purple Hearts, becoming the most decorated officer of WWI. Also George York, son of Alvin York who earned the Medal of Honor in the Meuse-Argonne offensive, participated in this special ceremony. Below is a picture of the new National Infantry Museum.

President Shaw Presents award to Gracelyn Thrash at Mt. Bethel Elementary School

President Bob Shaw accompanied by members of the Piedmont Chapter Color Guard visited the Mt. Bethel Elementary School in Marietta, Georgia to recognize those who participated in the Georgia Society of the Sons of The American Revolution Poster Contest. Gracelyn Thrash won first place for her poster which was entitled The True Story of Paul Revere. Below President Shaw stands with Gracelyn and other students who participated in the contest. Also in the picture are members of the Color Guard in uniform from left to right Jack Ferguson, Glynn Acree, President Bob Shaw, Bob Sapp, Paul Prescott and George Thurmond. Shown below the group photo is a picture of Gracelyn's winning poster.



(OUR JOURNEY Continued from page 4)

school because they had learned to speak “Southern English” rather than the “British English” which was taught in their schools.

Second: To get past – to navigate – to cope with – are other skills they must have developed. My ancestor and others like him, moved west. It is not like saying take a right on I-85 and drive 600 miles. In some places, they had only paths made by the Indians; they had no maps to follow or bridges to cross rivers. Yet they still made it westward by walking and having the oxen / horses pull some sort of wagon with all their possessions. Reverend Finley settled in the terrain of western Pennsylvania – Washington county (named after General George Washington) – and from there into eastern Ohio. The Appalachian Mountains were negotiated.

As we think about this negotiation, they must have asked for help, for advice, and/or ideas in order to survive and make this country what it has become today. While the good Lord gave us two ends, our success or failure is a function of which one we use the most. I am sure that our ancestral grandparents used their brains in order to survive. This same principle still applies to us today since we can not sit and let others do what we must do. I am thankful that all our forefathers never negotiated away their character, their principles, their values, or their integrity.

As Sons of the American Revolution, we must never allow ourselves to negotiate away these same principles. We must teach our sons and daughters our values. And, we must demand that our friends and colleagues live by the integrity for which our forefathers stood. Our challenge is to never compromise who we are and what we stand for as a country, as well as who we are as a person.

Old Soldiers Day Parade, August 1 in Alpharetta, GA, 0900 hours.

Patriot Grave Marked in West Virginia with W.V. Chapter

On May 16, 2009 a ceremony was held in Enterprise, West Virginia to mark the grave of Patriot Jonathan Ogden, Private. The ceremony was conducted by WV Society and George Roger Clark Chapter, SAR. Jonathan Ogden is patriot ancestor of Robert Sapp who was in attendance. Below from left to right are Richard Brockaway, Robert Fish, Finley Coles, John Sauer, and Bob Sapp.



Past President General Nathan White Receives Medallion on behalf of Deceased Member Willie Walker

At the National Congress, President Bob Shaw presented the SAR Membership Medallion to Former President General Nathan White, who will deliver the medallion to Marilyn Walker, widow of Willie Walker, who held dual membership in the Piedmont Chapter and the McKinney Texas Chapter. Those participating are shown below left to right: George Thurmond, Carl Bhome, Paul Prescott, Nathan White, Bob Shaw, Tom Chrisman and Bob Sapp.



The Georgia Society recognized at National Congress

A preliminary count of the Georgia Society awards includes the following:

- The President General’s State Society Award went to Georgia in the category of 1000+ members.
- The Allene Wilson Groves Award was presented to the Georgia Society for presenting evidence of best implementing SAR resolutions and principles (i.e., Americanism points).
- The Admiral William R. Furlong Memorial Award went to Georgia as one of several states having over half of its chapters present at least one Flag Certificate during the year.
- A Partners in Patriotism Certificate went to the Georgia Society as one of the states working on joint activities with veterans organizations. Georgia chapters did very well with many chapters also receiving a certificate.
- The Georgia Society received the Children of the American Revolution Award (CAR) and Streamer for documenting its work with the CAR over the past year.
- The Georgia Society entrant for the Joseph Rumbaugh Oration was the third place winner nationally.
- Air Force JROTC, Chief Master Sgt. Thomas Treat, of Sandy Creek High School, Tyrone, Georgia, was the national third place winner of the Outstanding JROTC Cadet Award, sponsored by the Marquis de Lafayette Chapter.
- The Georgia Society received the Officers’ Streamers Award as one of the states whose President and National Trustees attended both preceding Leadership meetings and the last Annual Congress.



Shown below is GSSAR President Terry Manning in uniform with other Readers as each takes a turn reading their assigned part of the Declaration of Independence at the National Congress On July 4, 2009

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the Dutch Treat dinner at local restaurants. The Host (Georgia) Society Reception on Saturday night featured the reading of the Declaration Of Independence. A picture of those participating as "Readers" is included on the front page of this issue. Readers from the Piedmont Chapter were: George Thurmond, Marty Thurmond, Jack Ferguson, Billy Templeton, Paul Prescott and Bob Sapp.

Once again the Piedmont Chapter was among those receiving recognition and awards. The Liberty Bell Americanism Award went to the Piedmont Chapter in its size category for best implementation of SAR resolutions and principals.

The Robert B. Vance Award went to the Piedmont Chapter for the best chapter website based on established criteria.

Liberty Medals were awarded to Compatriots who are first line sponsors of 10 or more new members. Oak Leaf Clusters were given to Larry Guzy (Captain John Collins Chapter) and Bob Sapp (Piedmont Chapter) for each additional 10 members recruited.

It is a real privilege to represent the Piedmont Chapter at meetings such as this. Individuals from other Chapters were forth coming in their knowledge of the Piedmont Chapter and its members. The Congress was a tremendous success and I want to thank each of you who contributed to this important event.

The 2010 Congress will be held in Cleveland, Ohio and I hope many of you will plan to attend.



Georgia Society Color Guard Schedule

3 Jul – Four Patriots Grave Markings, Sponsored by the SC Society SAR and the Gen. Andrew Pickens Chapter SAR 1100 hrs

4-8 Jul – 119th National Congress, Atlanta, GA

18 Jul – Piedmont Chapter Meeting:

18 Jul – BOM, Forsyth, GA, 1000 hrs: Paul Prescott, Larry Wilson, Terry Manning, George Thurmond, Jack Ferguson, Robert Cruthirds

25 Jul – Patriot Lt. William Addington, re-dedication, Sponsored by the Samuel Elbert and Joseph Habersham Chapters, Georgia Society SAR, 66 Harrison Ave., Franklin, NC, 1000 hrs'

1 Aug – Old Soldiers Day Parade, Alpharetta, GA, 0900 hrs: Paul Prescott, Larry Wilson, Terry Manning, George Thurmond, Jack Ferguson, Bob Sapp, Jay Guest

15 Aug – Piedmont Chapter Meeting: Jack Ferguson, George Thurmond, Paul Prescott

5 Sep – Battle of Eutaw Springs, Eutawville, SC, 1030 hrs:

5 Sep – Compatriot Grave Marking, Sponsored by the Marquis de Lafayette and Ocmulgee Chapters, Liberty Hill, GA: (Tentative Date)

12 Sep – Patriot Nathan Arendall and Patriot LTC Laughlin Fannin Grave Markings, Sponsored by the Samuel Elbert Chapter, Franklin Co., GA, 1100 hrs:

19 Sep – Piedmont Chapter Meeting: George Thurmond

19 Sep – DAR Constitution Week Luncheon

19 Sep – Patriot William Ferguson Grave Marking, Sponsored by the Jos. Habersham Chapter, Mossy Creek Baptist Church Cemetery, White Co., GA, 1100 hrs.

19 Sep – Sycamore Shoals, TN: Bo Hill

25-26 Sep – Leadership Meeting, Louisville, KY



The Piedmont Piper

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Gerald B. Breed, Editor
Allen Greenly, Photographer

This publication is the newsletter for the **Piedmont Chapter of the Georgia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution**. It is printed six times per year, January, March, May, July, September and November. It is distributed to current and prospective members of the chapter and to certain officers of the state and national organizations and to certain 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. at the Holiday Inn 909 Holcomb Bridge Road Roswell, 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, eighteen years of age and older, 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, Bob Sapp, at 770-971-0189** or any other chapter officer.

DEADLINE FOR MATERIAL TO BE INCLUDED IN THE NEXT EDITION:

The deadline for material for the next issue is 31 August 2009. In addition to the material, please include a copy of any photos to be included. Please direct all inquires or suggestions regarding the Piedmont Piper to the editor at the following address: 3344 Thomashire Court Marietta, Georgia 30066 Phone: 770-579.1869 jcbreed77@hotmail.com

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