

The Piedmont Piper



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

Winner of the Carl F. Bessent Award for the Best Chapter Newsletter 2010

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November 2012

From the President's Desk



In This Issue

Chapter Meetings, New Member and Upcoming Events

Chaplain's Column

Piedmont Chapter Members at Milton City Council Meeting

The Appling Sword Presentation

Constitution Week Celebration

Veteran's Day in Georgia Ceremony

Color Guard Schedule

A SALUTE TO VETERANS

As our nation remembers and pays tribute to its veterans every November 11, let us not forget that our forefathers were this nation's very first veterans. We honor them and their sacrifices in establishing this great nation every time we recite the Pledge of the SAR. But they are not alone. Just as they responded to a nation's call at Bunker Hill, Kings Mountain, and Yorktown so have so many others.

From the bombs bursting in the air over Fort McHenry; to Shiloh and Appomattox Courthouse; to Belleau Wood; to the shores of Normandy and Guadalcanal; to the Chosin Reservoir and Pork Chop Hill; to the rice paddies and jungles of Vietnam; to the oil fields of Kuwait, the Iraqi deserts, and the poppy fields and mountains of Afghanistan; this country has been blessed to have had so many look up and salute the stars and stripes. Many never came home to see their loved ones again. We say, "They paid the ultimate price." Sometimes, our tears keep us from saying more. We can never honor our brothers and sisters and fellow Americans enough.

Today, our nation faces difficult challenges on many fronts – the economy, unemployment, health care, and even questions about personal freedom. In spite of all that, let's hope and pray that we, as a nation, never forget to tip our hats and say, "Thanks" to those who proudly wore this country's uniform. They deserve more!

We can be proud of the Piedmont Chapter's efforts to serve veterans through the Veterans Committee led by Bill Lusk and Bill Kabel. We are about to honor thirty of our members for their service to our country by awarding them the Military Service Medal, or the War Service Medal. I'd like to point out that due to your generosity we have donated over 550 pairs of socks to the VA through our "SAR Socks for Vets" campaign. We've also donated to the VA nearly 350 personal care items, 600 books and magazines, and other items which have totaled over \$3,000. Thank You!

(Continued on page 7)



Piedmont Chapter Welcomes New Members

Piedmont Chapter President Prescott, with the assistance of Past President Bob Sapp and Chapter Registrar Tom Chrisman, inducted the new members at recent Chapter Meetings.

Shown below at the July Meeting: New member Thomas Abbott Smith, Mrs. Judy Smith and new member Thomas Hunter Smith.



Thomas (Thom) Abbott Smith was born and raised in Calhoun, Georgia and has lived in Alpharetta for over 25 years. He and his wife Judy have been married more than 38 years and have two children Sarah and Hunter. Thom and Hunter were inducted into SAR at the July meeting. Hunter graduated from Milton High school and is a recent graduate of Georgia College and State University.

Thom graduated from Berry College with a Business degree in 1979 and since has worked for only two companies – Southern Company Services (affiliate of Georgia Power) and The Coca Cola Company. He is currently employed as the Manager of Facilities Operations at the World Headquarters of The Coca-Cola Company.

While always considering himself a patriot Thom became intrigued in SAR when he stumbled across a hand written family tree his mother had compiled in the early 1980s, well before the internet and Ancestry.com. Since his mother had passed in 2000 his curiosity and the information on the tree lead him to his patriot Benjamin Abbott. Thom discovered after Benjamin's Revolutionary war service the Abbotts moved from southern Virginia to northern North Carolina, and then into north Georgia. After three years of on and off discussions with Mr. Bob Sapp and in honor of his late mother Thom made the commitment to follow through on SAR certification in 2012. In addition to his commitment to SAR he is an avid fly fisherman, outdoorsman, Georgia football fan and very novice America and north Georgia historian.

In the photo on the right, Past President Bob Sapp in uniform presents a New Member Certificate to Preston Poore at the July Meeting.

Others who were recently approved for membership are Donald Harvey Breed and his son Patrick Breed. They reside in Houston, Texas.



Upcoming Events

Saturday November 17, 2012

Chapter Meeting

Holiday Inn 909 Holcomb Bridge Road Roswell,
Georgia

8:00 am Breakfast

8:30 am Meeting

Speaker Al Bocchicchio

Director of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
Mr. Bocchicchio will present an overview of VA benefits

Saturday December 15, 2012

Chapter Meeting

Holiday Inn 909 Holcomb Bridge Road Roswell,
Georgia

8:00 am Breakfast

8:30 am Meeting

Speaker

To be announced



Piedmont Chapter Meeting Highlights

Piedmont Chapter Meeting for October 2012

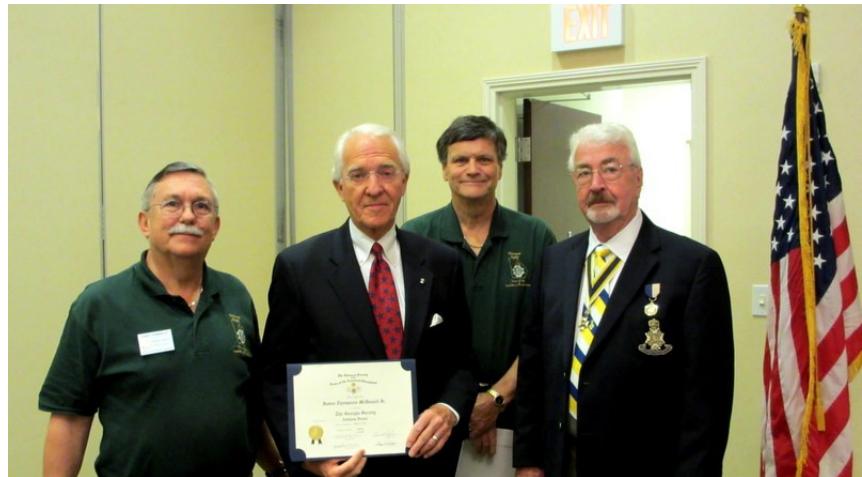
Vice-President Walt Woliver introduced Jack Ferguson, member of the Piedmont Chapter's speakers bureau who presented an interest-



ing talk on two topics of American History:

"The Pig War" and "How did we get where we are today?" The Pig War took place in the Pacific Northwest and it began with a dispute over a pig encroaching on a farmer's field and eating his potatoes. The dispute between America and England lasted for twelve years and centered on who owned the San Juan Islands off the coast of what is now Washington State. The boundary controversy was resolved by Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany. Compatriot Ferguson gave a historical review of the founding of America by those who were proud of independence and wished what was best for the country without regard to political involvement.

James T. McDonald, Jr. (Jim) was introduced as a new member at the October Chapter Meeting. Chapter President Prescott, Treasurer Shep Hammack, and Tom Chrisman inducted Jim and presented him with the Society's rosette pin. All of the chapter members present welcomed Jim as our newest member.



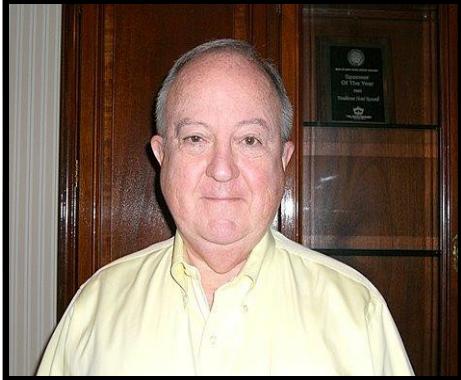
Jim McDonald is a Georgia native born in Atlanta and raised in Tallapoosa. Jim is a graduate of The Citadel and the University of Virginia Law School. Following service in the Air Force JAG Corps, Jim worked in Atlanta with Swift, Currie, McGhee and Hiers from January 1968 to March 2011. He was recognized as Defense Lawyer of the year in 2004. Jim is an elder in the Presbyterian Church and served as Clerk of the session at Peachtree Presbyterian Church. Jim is the father of two and grandfather of four. Jim's Patriot Ancestor is Anthony Foster who served in the Culpepper County, Virginia militia and provided supplies for the Army. As did many families of the time, the Fosters moved south making their home in Nashville, Tennessee and later Florence, Alabama. Anthony's grandson, George Washington Foster built a home in Florence which now is a part of the University of North Alabama campus serving as the alumni house and providing administrative office space. George Washington Foster's daughter Sallie Independence, married Sterling Paine McDonald the grandfather of James T. McDonald, Jr. (Jim)



From



Allen Finley
Piedmont Chapter Chaplain



HOW FAR HAVE WE MOVED?

SAR members honor General George Washington by displaying his uniform colors in the SAR rosette. Many members of the SAR Color Guard wear a uniform based on his design. As I reflect on the high esteem which the SAR holds for the first President of the United States, I must ask the following question: Have the members of the SAR moved away from his ideals or has the entire country moved from his beliefs?

George Washington went farther than any contemporary politician in leading the country in prayer and in the praise of God. Consider that on October 3, 1789, it was George Washington who announced;

“Whereas 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 humbly to implore His protection and favor; and

Whereas both Houses of Congress have, by their joint committee, requested me ‘to recommend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for the safety and Happiness’

“Now, therefore, I do recommend and assign Thursday, the 26th day of November next to be devoted by the people of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being who is the beneficent author of all the good that was, that is or that will be: that we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks for His kind care and protection of the people of this country and, in general, for all the great and various favors which He has been pleased to confer upon us.”

My next question is in regard to this national day which George Washington’s initiated. Do we remember why he proposed it, or do we sit and watch a nationally televised football game?

We need to be thankful for the leadership that our first President showed, his belief in living his tenants, and his lack of “political correctness” in his words and actions.

How far have we as a country moved when we are afraid to be known for our beliefs and instead choose to do what is politically correct?

As John Adams said, “ask me not whether I am a Catholic or Protestant, Calvinist or.....I wish to be a fellow-disciple with them all”.

May God Bless America, May God Bless the SAR, and may we all say thanks to God for our many blessings on this Thanksgiving Day.



Thanksgiving Day is an annual national holiday in the United States celebrating the harvest and other blessings of the past year. Americans generally believe that their Thanksgiving is modeled on a 1621 harvest feast shared by the English colonists (Pilgrims) of Plymouth and the Wampanoag Indians.

The First Thanksgiving, reproduction of an oil painting by J.L.G. Ferris, early 20th century.

Colonial Ball Announced

The Athens Chapter Georgia Society National Society Sons of the American Revolution requests the pleasure of your company at The Georgia Colonial Ball and Debutante Presentation on Saturday, the twenty-ninth of December Two thousand and twelve at half after six in the evening at the Milledgeville Country Club Milledgeville, Georgia.



Piedmont Chapter Members at Milton City Council Meeting

At a recent meeting of the Milton City Council representatives Piedmont Chapter presented framed copies of the United States Constitution and the Declaration of Independence to the Milton City Council.

Receiving these on behalf of the city was Mayor Pro Tem Bill Lusk, a member of the award winning Piedmont Chapter.

Mayor Pro Tem Bill Lusk and other members of the Council are shown in the photo with Piedmont Color Guard Members which included Chapter President Paul Prescott, Past Chapter President Allen Greenly, Jack Ferguson, Bob McCleskey and Past Chapter President George Thurmond.



Piedmont Chapter Members Participate in Presentation of Appling Sword

The photo below was taken on October 15, 2012 at the Georgia State Capitol during a presentation of a sword designed for Lieut. Colonel Daniel Appling, a Georgia War of 1812 hero. The sword was presented to the Governor of Georgia, Nathan Deal. The Appling Sword was recently purchased from an antique dealer and presented to the Governor at the State Capitol by the U.S. Daughters of 1812. The Georgia Society SAR made financial contributions towards the \$100,000 purchase of this artifact that will remain on display at the Georgia State Capitol.



The sword is an elaborate ceremonial sword which was originally purchased by the General Assembly in 1814 to be presented to Daniel Appling, a hero of the War of 1812. Appling died before the sword could be presented, so the legislature voted to keep the sword and display it in the Governor's Office "as a lasting monument to Appling's fame, and a grateful proof of the sensibility with which Georgia cherishes the recollection of the patriotic services of her citizens." The sword was forged by the finest craftsmen and contains the inscription, "PRESENTED, by the State of Georgia, to her son, the brave and gallant Lieut. Colonel Daniel Appling, of the U.S. Army, for his cool and deliberate valor dis-

played throughout the action of the 30th of May, 1814, at Sandy Creek, when he succeeded in capturing a superior British force." Was the sword stolen? No one knows how the sword left state custody. It is possible that the sword was removed in a valid manner. The professional practices that govern how a museum or archives removes items from its collection were not developed until the 1970s, so the sword could have been removed from state custody in a way that was legitimate at the time.

Show in the photo are Piedmont and Georgia Society Color Guard Members who participated in the ceremony l-r: Past Chapter President George Thurmond, Bob McCleskey, Bill Kabel, Assistant Georgia Society Color Guard Commander Bruce Maney, Jack Ferguson, and Past Georgia Society President Ed Rigel Sr.





Piedmont Chapter presents Framed Copies of the United States Constitution to Schools

In recognition of the 225th anniversary of the signing of the United States Constitution on September 17, 1787, the Piedmont Chapter SAR presented framed copies of the Constitution to several area schools. The Piedmont Color Guard appeared before over 2,000 students at two schools on the anniversary date along with a presentation to the Milton City Council. At the South Forsyth Middle School, Cumming, GA, presentations were made to the School Principal and to the Assistant Principal. The school was presented with a framed copy of the U. S. Constitution and a copy of the Heroes of Kettle Creek for their media center. The flag and certificate were donated by the Martha Stewart Bulloch DAR Chapter.

Each student signed a rolling copy of the Constitution following their lunch period while returning to their class room. Overall, over 1,000 signatures were obtained, assisted by Piedmont President Paul Prescott and George Thurmond. The overall program was coordinated by Melissa Danielsson, whose son is a member of the Piedmont Chapter. Photos courtesy of Melissa Danielsson.



Piedmont Chapter Color Guard and representatives of the Martha Stewart Bulloch Chapter DAR visited The Wood Acres School and presented a framed copy of the U.S. Constitution to Judy Thigpen, Head of School, in celebration of Constitution Week. The presentation was made by Past Chapter President Allen Greenly.



In the photo below, Principal Debbie Sarver (right) and Social Studies teacher Amy Atkins (left) receive a copy of the U.S. Constitution and Heroes of Kettle Creek publication for their media center. Also participating in the presentation were representatives of the Piedmont Chapter Color Guard.



Northwestern Middle School Principal, Jasmine Kullar proudly displays the framed copy of the U.S. Constitution. In the photo on the right, from left to right: Past Chapter President George Thurmond, Principal Jasmine Kullar, Bob McCleskey, Chapter President Paul Prescott and Jack Ferguson.





Piedmont Chapter Color Guard Participates in Veteran's Day in Georgia Ceremony



As shown above, The Piedmont Chapter Color Guard participated in the Governor's Veteran's Day in Georgia Ceremony which was held at the Georgia State Capitol on November 8, 2012.

Piedmont Chapter Color Guard Schedule

- 17 Nov - Chapter Meeting, Roswell, GA, 0830hrs
- 1 Dec – Vann’s Creek, Elbert County, GA, 1100hrs
- 8 Dec – Battle of Great Bridge, Chesapeake, VA
- 7 Dec – INS, Atlanta, GA, 1100 hrs
- 8 Dec – Wreaths Across America:
- 15 Dec - Chapter Meeting, Roswell, GA, 0830hrs
- 20 Dec – VA Christmas Program, Atlanta VA Hospital



In the photo above l-r: Bruce Maney, Assistant Georgia Society Color Guard Commander, Paul Prescott, Piedmont Chapter President, George Thurmond, Past Chapter President, Bob Wylie, President of the Marquis de Lafayette Chapter, James Stallings, Georgia Society Senior Vice President, Robert Cruthirds, Veterans Chairman, Jared Ogden, and Bob McCleskey.

(Continued from page 1)

As our SAR Recessional states, "Let us remember our obligations to our forefathers, who gave us our Constitution, the Bill of Rights, an Independent Supreme Court, and a Nation of Free Men." Let us also remember those who carried on in the spirit of our forefathers to preserve those very same virtues to keep us a Nation of Free Men.

Thanks to Bill Kabel for his help in preparing this tribute to our veterans.

During the Veteran's Day in Georgia Ceremony at the State Capitol, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution Veterans Chairman Robert Cruthirds, and Senior Vice President James Stallings, presented Georgia Veterans Affairs Commissioner, Pete Wheeler, with a Silver Good Citizenship medal for his 45 years of service to the Veterans of Georgia. Commissioner Wheeler has served the state under twelve governors.





The Piedmont Piper

Paul I. Prescott, Publisher

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, Tom Chrisman** 404.310.3338 or any other chapter officer.

DEADLINE FOR MATERIAL TO BE INCLUDED IN THE NEXT EDITION:

The deadline for material for the next issue is January 1, 2013. In addition to the material, please include a copy of any photos to be included. Please direct all inquiries 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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