



Piedmont Chapter
Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution

The Piedmont Piper

Wreaths Across America

Message From Chapter President Walt Woliver

The Piedmont Chapter year 2013

What a wonderful and productive year we have had with nearly every member contributing or participating in one way or another. Carl Bham is tabulating all of our activities to submit for the year, and there are many. This has been a difficult year for me and my family, and I can't thank all of you enough for the outpouring of

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More Than 8,000 Graves Marked at Marietta National and at Roswell Presbyterian Church Cemeteries

On December 14, members of the Piedmont Chapter, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution joined with members of other organizations, including Veterans of Foreign Wars, Daughters of the American Revolution, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Sons of Union Veterans and Boy Scouts of America to participate in Wreaths Across America ceremonies at the Marietta National Cemetery and the Roswell Presbyterian Church Cemetery. Wreaths Across America is an annual event that honors our nation's deceased veterans by conducting coordinated wreath laying ceremonies on National Wreaths Across America Day at national, veterans, confederate, regional, private, and local cemeteries, and military bases throughout the country. Last year over 406,000 wreaths were laid on veterans' graves at eight hundred and fifteen locations. Fourteen cemeteries and facilities in Georgia participated in this year's WAA activities. The picture above was taken at the Marietta National Cemetery. Representatives of service organizations spoke of the sacrifices veterans paid, and Piedmont Chapter Compatriot Bill Kabel read a Proclamation from NAS-SAR President General Dooley. Although preceded by a steady deluge of rain which stopped shortly before the ceremony began, attendance for the event was still approximately two hundred and fifty.

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Message From the Chapter President
Walt Woliver

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love, prayers and support. I am so very proud of our Piedmont Chapter.

At the January meeting, we will have the Color Guard Change of Command Ceremony. You will not want to miss this! Bill Kabel will take over Command of the Color Guard from Paul Prescott. We owe Paul a great debt of gratitude for the professionalism he has shown as Color Guard Commander and his extensive tenure in that role. Thank you Paul!

President Elect Bill Lusk has been hard at work putting together his team for next year and his slate of Piedmont Chapter Officers and Committee Chairmen to serve. This slate will be voted on at the January meeting and then those approved officers will be inducted at our annual meeting, February 15th at 6:00 pm at the Holiday Inn. This will be a great dinner and awards ceremony you will want to put on your calendar and plan to attend. Invitations will be going out in January.



The Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution Annual Conference is January 24-25, 2014 at the Sonesta Gwinnett Place. Registration was encouraged by December 31, but you can still register for a \$20 late fee. Please consider attending these meetings to show support for President James Stallings and our Piedmont Chapter. Awards and swearing in activities will be Friday evening and the GASSAR Board of Managers Meeting will be Saturday morning.

I want to personally thank Paul Prescott for his attentive ear and sound advice, George Thurmond for his support, encouragement and tremendous dedication to our chapter, Bill Lusk for his support, encouragement and willingness to fill in when I needed help the most, Bill Kabel for the tremendous work he has done to help our chapter, our community and our veterans, Bob Shaw for his talented work with awards and tremendous support for our chapter, Shep Hammack for all the great work he has done as Treasurer, Al Finley for the great work done as our Chaplain, and Tom Chrisman for the great work done as our membership chair. I want to thank Tom Davis for the exemplary work he has done as our Sergeant at Arms; also, I appreciate the great work done by our Chancellor Eric Thorstenberg, the great attempt to organize our history and archives by our Historian Bob Walker, and the exceptional work done by Gerald Breed on the Piedmont Piper. It is truly a work of art. Don McClanahan has done an exceptional job keeping up with our website. Thank you, Don! Our June picnic keeps getting better and with more attendance each year due to the great work by Jim McIntire. This is one of the few times that we get together with the entire family and in a more relaxed setting.

It has been an honor to serve as your chapter President this last year. We have such great talent and leadership in our chapter that it is very humbling to serve, but deeply gratifying knowing you have the genuine support of our great and talented members. May God continue to bless our chapter, our community, and our great country!

A Note from the Editor

It's a new year and we have a new banner for The Piedmont Piper. Gerald Breed, editor of the Piper presented a proposal to the Piedmont Chapter Board of Managers who have approved the change. As we move more toward electronic distribution of the Piedmont Piper through email and the internet, the new banner and format will allow us to use more color and variations in style. The old banner served us well and allowed the Piedmont Chapter to receive awards at the national and state levels. It is anticipated that the new banner and variations in style will allow the Piedmont Chapter to continue to be recognized as one of the leading chapters in the GASSAR and the NSSAR.



November Chapter Meeting Highlights



Mr. Al Bocchicchio was the guest speaker at the November chapter meeting. Mr. Bocchicchio is the Director of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) at the Region Office in Atlanta. He presented a very informative overview of the VA Regional organization responsible for benefits, compensation, pension, education, home loan guaranty, vocational rehabilitation and employment.

Al Bocchicchio was appointed Director of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Regional Office in Atlanta, GA, on April 13, 2008. Prior to this appointment, Al served as the Executive Management Officer in the Office of Field Operations in the VA’s Central Office. In that role, Al was responsible for assisting the Associate Deputy Under Secretary for Field Operations, Area Directors, Regional Office Directors, and Central Office staff with the oversight of 57 regional offices. VA regional offices employ over 13,000 employees and administer benefit programs that annually pay over 31 billion dollars to Veterans and their dependents. In his current position, Mr. Bocchicchio is responsible for administering federal benefits to 800,000 Veterans and their families living in Georgia. The Atlanta VA Regional Office administers approximately \$1.4 billion in annual benefits. These benefits include compensation, pension, education, vocational rehabilitation and employment, and loan guaranty. The Atlanta Regional Office is one of four Regional Processing Centers to handle education benefits, and is one of nine Regional Loan Centers within the VA.

Mr. Bocchicchio received a Bachelor of Science degree from LaSalle University and began his career with the Department of Veterans Affairs in 1990, where he has held progressively responsible management positions. Mr. Bocchicchio is a graduate of the One VA Senior Executive Service Career Development Program. Al, his wife, Jada, and their two children reside in Atlanta.

Other highlights of the November meeting included the welcoming of new members William Floyd and Mike Chrisman and a special tribute to veterans. See pages 4, 5 and 7 for additional details.

December Chapter Meeting Highlights



Piedmont Compatriot Bill Kabel was the speaker at the December chapter meeting, and he gave a very informative power point presentation entitled “A Revolutionary Christmas” which depicted the beginning and evolution of Christmas Holiday traditions. A part of this presentation showed various gifts and toys as well as the festivities of meals and other celebrations of Christmas from the 1500s until today. He spoke about the Twelve Days of Christmas and the traditional celebration which usually occurred on the Twelfth Day. In was on such an occasion that General Washington surprised the Hessian Troops in 1776. General George Washington crossed the Delaware River on Christmas Day of 1776 and the captured Trenton, New Jersey, and this was an important victory for the patriots. At the conclusion of his presentation, Bill led the group in singing two Christmas Carols which were written and sung during the colonial era. In the photo, Vice President Lusk on the right is shown presenting Compatriot Kabel with a Speaker’s Certificate of Appreciation.

In the photo, Vice President Lusk on the right is shown presenting Compatriot Kabel with a Speaker’s Certificate of Appreciation.

Upcoming Events

Chapter meeting Saturday January 18, 2014
Holiday Inn 909 Holcomb Bridge Road Roswell, Georgia
8:00 am Breakfast
8:30 am Meeting
Mr. Grant Butler will give a presentation entitled:
“The Importance of Education in the Early Republic”

Piedmont Chapter’s Annual Banquet, Award Presentations and celebration of George Washington’s Birthday
Saturday February 15, 2014
Holiday Inn 909 Holcomb Bridge Road Roswell, Georgia
6:00 pm

Delta Airlines Honor Guard recognized for Service to Veterans



The Piedmont Chapter honored Delta Air Lines and the Delta Air Lines Employee Honor Guard with its “Outstanding Citizenship” award for their concern and patriotism in memorial tribute and honor of our country’s fallen heroes at the November chapter meeting.

The Delta Air Lines Employee Honor Guard is comprised of volunteer employees who took it upon themselves to form their Honor Guard and to pay tribute to deceased American service members passing through Atlanta’s Hartsfield-Jackson Airport on the way to their final resting place. The awards were presented by Chapter President Walt Woliver after those attending the meeting viewed a heart-warming video of one of the ceremonies where the Honor Guard paid tribute to two service members

whose remains were being returned from abroad.

Receiving the award for the Delta Employee Honor Guard was Brian McConnell, head of the Honor Guard, along with Honor Guard members – Ura Bryant, Art Ortiz, Harold Milles, Siosia Mataele, and David Wilkinson. Receiving the award for Delta Air Lines was Hussein Berry, Managing Director – Below Wing Customer Service, Operations. The “Outstanding Citizenship” Award is one of the highest awards given by the SAR to non-members.



Guests are Always Welcome at Piedmont Chapter SAR Meetings

Piedmont Chapter meetings continue to be held at the Holiday Inn at 909 Holcomb Bridge Road in Roswell on the third Saturday each month. The meetings begin at 8 am with an optional buffet breakfast. The program usually starts at 8:30 am. Guest are always welcome. In 2014 we hope to increase our attendance and membership. The monthly meetings offer a time to develop lasting friendships.





Veteran Awards Presented at November Chapter Meeting

Bill Kabel, chairman of the Veterans Committee, read a salute to veterans, and, with the assistance of Chapter President Walt Woliver and Vice President Bill Lusk, he presented the following awards: **Military Service Medal and Certificate** to Kermit Breed, accepted by Jerry Breed, and to Rick Reese. The Military Service Medal is presented to a SAR member who has served in the Armed Forces of the United States or a country that was an ally of the United States, or in a United Nations Peace Keeping Force, and who was not awarded a campaign medal for participating in a hostile action.

War Service Medals and Certificates were presented to Harold McPheeters, William O'Neal, accepted on his behalf by Kebler O'Neal and his wife Alicia, and to Rusty Redding. The War Service Medal may be awarded by a chapter to an SAR member who has served in the Armed Forces of the United States, or a country that was an ally of the United States, or in a United Nations Peace Keeping Force and fought against a common enemy of the United States in a war or action for which a campaign medal is authorized.

Tom Davis was presented with a **Korean Service Veterans Corps Certificate of Patriotism** for service to his country and the defense of the Republic of Korea. Bill Kabel, Bill Lusk, Jared Ogden, and Rusty Redding were honored with a **Vietnam War Veterans Corps Certificate of Patriotism** for their service to their country in the Vietnam War.

The Service to Veterans Medal and certificate was awarded to GASSAR Past President Bob Sapp for his long and exemplary service to veterans. Volunteer hours served, visits to confined veterans, support of local, state and national SAR initiatives to better serve veterans, participation in veteran funerals and grave markings, participation in veteran related educational, historical and patriotic activities, and helping veterans document their family genealogical record constitute the criteria for this award. Compatriot Sapp was absent but the membership recognized his service with a standing ovation. For their service to veterans beyond the receipt of their initial Service to Veterans award Bill Kabel and Bill Lusk were presented an Oak Leaf Cluster.



Military Service Medal Recipients



War Service Medal Recipients



Korean Service Veterans Corps Certificate of Patriotism

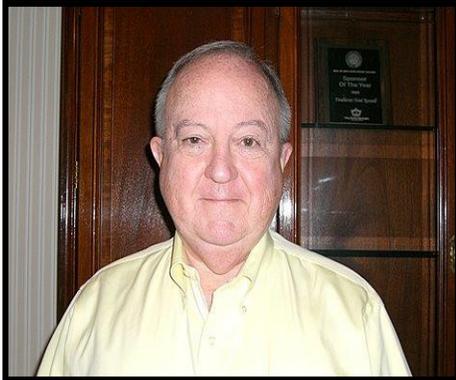


Vietnam War Veterans Corps Certificate of Patriotism



From

Allen Finley
Piedmont Chapter Chaplain



Happy New Year 2014

“We’re all brothers and sisters celebrating this happy time of year.”

When our country was founded and the US Constitution was written guaranteeing freedom of religion, there were Christian churches of different denominations and there were Jewish congregations worshipping God. Thank God that the founding fathers had the wisdom to include the Bill of Rights as part of our Constitution.

With the “War on Christmas” in some of our communities, I am reminded of the interview Ben Stein gave with Charles Osgood on CBS Sunday Morning show a few years ago. Here are some of Ben Stein’s remarks:

“I am a Jew and every single one of my ancestors was Jewish, and it does not bother me even a little bit when people call those beautifully lit-up, bejeweled trees Christmas trees. I don't feel threatened. I don't feel discriminated against. That's what they are — Christmas trees. It doesn't bother me a bit when people say 'Merry Christmas' to me. I don't think they're slighting me or getting ready to put me in a ghetto. In fact, I kind of like it. It shows that we're all brothers and sisters celebrating this happy time of year.

It doesn't bother me one bit that there's a

manger scene on display at a key intersection at my beach house in Malibu. If people want a creche, fine. The menorah a few hundred yards away is fine, too. I do not like getting pushed around for being a Jew, and I don't think Christians like getting pushed around for being Christians. I think people who believe in God are sick and tired of getting pushed around, period. I have no idea where the concept came from that America is an explicitly atheist country. I can't find it in the Constitution and I don't like it being shoved down my throat. Or maybe I can put it another way. Where did the idea come from that we should worship Nick and Jessica and aren't allowed to worship God as we understand Him? I guess that's a sign that I'm getting old, too. But there are a lot of us who are wondering where Nick and Jessica came from and where the America we used to know went to.”

Ben Stein, a lawyer by training, has also served as a speechwriter for President Richard M. Nixon, has to date authored dozens of books (both novels and non-fiction efforts), and continues to write editorials and columns for a number of publications.

Mr. Stein has also offered occasional commentaries for the CBS Sunday Morning news program, and the item quoted above is based on one such commentary, titled "Confessions for the Holidays" and delivered by Mr. Stein on that program on 18 December 2005, one week before Christmas.

As members of the SAR, we pledge that we will defend our Constitution against every foe. One way we can do this is to defend our constitutional rights to worship and, with that thought,

MAY EACH OF YOU HAVE A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR, and MAY GOD BLESS YOU AND MAY GOD BLESS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN 2014.

The Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution will hold the Annual Conference on January 24-25, 2014 at the Sonesta Gwinnett Place.



TAKE NOTICE!

This is to Proclaim to the citizens of Georgia and to Other Colonies.....

Revolutionary Days
February 7, 8 and 9, 2014 at Washington, Georgia and the Kettle Creek Battlefield

9:00 a.m. to 12 Noon Saturday Morning, Feb. 8th

Thirty Historical performers in the Town Square, Mary Willis Library, Robert Toombs House & Washington Historical Museum. Parade will start at 11:30 am behind the Courthouse at Fort Washington Park and end there.

A dramatic portrayal of the Battle of Kettle Creek will be presented in Fort Washington Park at 12:00 noon. Courtesy of the GASSAR.



New Members Welcomed at November Chapter Meeting

Piedmont President Woliver along with Membership Committee Chairman Tom Chrisman inducted William (Bill) Floyd as the latest member in the Piedmont Chapter. Bill was accompanied by his wife Carey and son Chip. After taking the oath, Bill received the acknowledgement and welcome from the chapter's members in attendance. Also, Tom Chrisman accepted a membership certificate on behalf of new member Mike Chrisman. Shown below in the photo on the left from the left are Carey Floyd, Chip Floyd, Bill Floyd, Tom Chrisman and Piedmont President Walt Woliver.



William (Bill) N. Floyd, Jr. was born in Atlanta at St Joseph's Hospital on the eve of the premier of "Gone With the Wind" in December 1939. His family lived in the West End area of Atlanta, and he attended Joel Chandler Harris and Peoples Street grammar schools and graduated from Brown High. Bill attended Georgia State and graduated from the Candler School of Theology; he currently serves as pastor of Shiloh United Methodist Church located in Kennesaw, Georgia. This is thought to be the oldest church in Cobb County. Sherman used the original building as a hospital during the War Between the States. Prior to going into the ministry, Bill worked for several of Atlanta's largest automobile dealers as their comptroller, and he owned and operated a used car dealership, ABF Motors, in Douglasville. Bill is an author and has published a book, "Legacy of the Keys, Guardian of the Holy Key", and he is in the process of writing a second book. Bill married Carey Jones of East Point, GA in 1964, and they have four children and six grandchildren. She retired from the Georgia Tech Research Institute in 2001. Their two daughters are Carey Elizabeth Floyd Moncrief and Kimberley Jill Floyd Witter. Their two sons are William N. "Chip" Floyd, III and Michael Alan Floyd. Bill's Patriot Ancestor is Levi Phillips who was born in Germany in 1746. He enlisted in Leesburg, VA. Serving as a private, he fought in the battles of Trenton, Brandywine, Germantown, and Hanging Rock from 1777-1780. He was discharged at Camden, S. C. In 1784 he married Barbara Hough and settled on two hundred acres of bounty land near Athens, Georgia. He died in 1847 at the ripe old age of 101.



Michael Chrisman became a member of the Piedmont Chapter in November. He is the Chairman and CEO of Gutenberg Publishers, serves on the Executive Board of the German Bookbinding Museum, and is the founder of The Bookbinders Workshop, a company specializing in the restoration of rare books and manuscripts for clients like The Library of Congress, LDS, and other archives around the country. Mike and his wife Minnie live in Korea and New York. Mike's Patriot Ancestor is Johan George Rinker who lived near Woodstock in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. George was in the Virginia Militia and saw action in South Carolina and later at Yorktown with other members of the Rinker family.



A Call For Volunteers



Two able bodied Compatriots required to fill the open positions of Chairman of the Revolutionary War Graves and the School Poster Contest Committees.

Volunteers should be able to respond in a “minute’s” notice to serve in either of these important Chapter Positions. Duties are outlined in the Membership Directory. No prior experience required. These are great opportunities to serve the best Patriotic organization in the Colonies. Duty calls. Contact Piedmont Vice President Bill Lusk: bill@luskco.com or 678-458-4208

JROTC Committee



At the December Chapter meeting, Barry Herrin JROTC Committee Chairman updated the membership on the awarding of medals to outstanding Junior ROTC members. He described the high quality and dedication of students participating in the JROTC program. Additionally, he provided information regarding the program “Wreaths Across America”. He encouraged each member to consider contributing to this effort. It was noted that the Piedmont Chapter provided \$250.00 in funds to furnish twenty five wreaths this year and the Georgia Society, Sons of the America Revolution, has increased its financial participation five fold.

Scouting Committee



Mike Smith, Chairman of the Scouting Committee, updated the membership regarding the awarding of certificates for Scouts achieving Eagle status. Fifty-three certificates were presented at the Courts of Honor for these individuals. He estimates that in 2014 this number will increase. He requested assistance in publicizing the scholarship available to Scouts and the need to get this information out through the various Scout Councils.

Revolutionary War Patriots Honored

In the photo, Compatriots Shep Hammack on the left and Bill Kabel are shown at the gravesites of Patriots John Clark and John Hames, two Revolutionary War veterans buried at the Marietta Georgia National Cemetery. John Clark became a Major General and later served as Governor of Georgia. John Hames was a private serving in South Carolina. He died at the age of 96. The picture was taken on December 14 following the Wreaths Across America ceremony which honored all veterans who served our country.



Where Will You Serve in 2014?

The Piedmont Chapter continues to have interesting speakers and excellent attendance at our monthly meetings. As we begin the new year President Woliver has encouraged each of us to attend all of the meetings and sponsored events. If you are not active in one of the committees now is a good time to volunteer and get more involved to make our chapter stronger

Let’s make 2014 the best year in the history of the Piedmont Chapter.





Piedmont Chapter Supporting Schools and Educators

Little Mill Middle School Student wins SAR Award



Carter Hehir, 8th grade student at Little Mill Middle School in Cumming, Georgia recently received a first place award in the Sons of the American Revolution brochure contest for Middle School students. Carter produced a brochure on the national theme Francis Marion – The Swamp Fox. His entry was sponsored by the Piedmont Chapter and Carter received a check for \$50 along with a certificate. Carter's brochure will be entered in the state competition where he will be eligible for additional recognition. Brayden Paul Smith was the first runner up and he received a check for \$25 and a certificate. Ashley Goldsberry won 3rd place and a check for \$15 for her work. School entries were

made under the encouragement of their teacher, Dr. Jeffrey Woods, 7th Grade Social Studies and 8th Grade Georgia Studies. Students were encouraged through their research to exhibit knowledge and understanding of American history using American Revolution hero Francis Marion as the brochure theme. In the photo front row are left to right Ashley Goldsberg, Carter Hehir, and Brayden Smith. On the back row Dr. Woods, Piedmont Past President George Thurmond, Piedmont President Walt Woliver and Compatriot Rick Reese.



Traveling Trunk at Vickery Creek

On November 12, 2013 Piedmont Compatriots are shown preparing for the onslaught of over four hundred 8th grade students at Vickery Creek Middle School for presentation of the Traveling Trunk. Shown in the photo left to right: Compatriots Jared Ogden, George Thurmond and Paul Prescott. The students were attentive and appeared to enjoy the presentation. Photo compliments of Karen Yaryan, VCMS Media Center.

Piedmont Color Guard Schedule 2014

- 18 Jan – Chapter Meeting: Prescott, Kabel, Thurmond
- 18 Jan – Battle at the Cowpens, Chesnee, SC, 1000 hrs
- 24-25 Jan – GASSAR Annual Meeting: Prescott, Ferguson, Thurmond, Kabel
- 24 Jan – Home School, 2nd Grade, Perimeter Christian School, 1000 – 1200 hrs: Prescott, Thurmond, Kabel
- 8 Feb – Kettle Creek, Washington, GA: Prescott, Kabel, Thurmond
- 9 Feb – Colonial Church Service, Phillips Mill Baptist Church, Washington, GA, 0900 hrs.: Prescott, Kabel, Thurmond
- 9 Feb – Heroes of the Hornet's Nest Ceremony, Lincolnton, GA, 1100 Hrs: Prescott, Kabel, Thurmond
- 10 Feb – MSB Annual Mtg., 1000 hrs: Prescott, Thurmond
- 12 Feb – Roswell Ramblers, Roswell, GA, 1130 hrs Prescott, Kabel, Thurmond
- 14 Feb – INS, Atlanta, GA, 1100 hrs Prescott, Kabel, Thurmond
- 15 Feb – Piedmont Chapter Annual Meeting, Holiday Inn, Roswell, GA 1900 hrs: Prescott, Kabel, Thurmond
- 20 Feb – Fire Fighters of Cobb County, Olde Towne Country Club, Johnson Ferry Road, (2 Muskets & Two Flags), 1830hrs: Prescott
- 28 Feb - 1 Mar – NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting, Louisville, KY: Prescott, Thurmond
- 15 Mar – Chapter Meeting: Kabel, Thurmond
- 15 Mar – Battle at Guilford Courthouse, Greensboro, NC
- 21 Mar – Home School, 4th Grade, Perimeter Christian School, 0915 – 1115 hrs: Prescott, Thurmond
- 22 Mar – Compatriot Jacob Highsmith Grave Marking, Waynesboro, GA
- 29 Mar – Compatriot Tom Holcombe grave marking, Hickory Flat, GA
- 5 Apr – Patriot Jeremiah Sparks Grave Marking, Fair Play, GA,
- 11 Apr – INS, Atlanta, GA, 1100 hrs: Thurmond
- 12 Apr – Compatriot Kit Braselton Grave Marking, Braselton, GA
- 19 Apr – Frederica Days, St. Simons Island, GA: Prescott



The Piedmont Piper

Walt Woliver, Publisher
Gerald B. Breed, Editor
C.H. Hendry, MD, 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 March 1, 2014. 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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