



The Piedmont Piper

bi-monthly newsletter for the Piedmont Chapter of the
Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution

Edition CXXIX (129th Issue)

www.PiedmontChapter.org

May 2016

Message From Piedmont Chapter President Rick Reese



As our chapter is beginning to enter the mid point of the calendar year, we should reflect back on what has been accomplished so far. What would be a good way to do that you might ask? Well, the answer is as close as your computer. All thanks to the tireless and creative efforts of our **Webmaster, Chuck Rann**. You need only go to www.piedmontchapter.org and explore our chapter website to see what your award-winning Piedmont Chapter members have been up to.

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Piedmont Chapter says goodbye to Compatriot Carl Bham



Carl Duane Bham of Sandy Springs, died on March 10, 2016 at his home surrounded by his loving family. After a valiant fight he succumbed to cancer. He was the son of the late Howard and Esther Bham of Harmony, Pennsylvania and his family included brothers Lee, Ray and Tom and sisters Lois and Louise. Carl is survived by his wife Linda, son William and his wife Natalie and their children Sydney, Adam and Alex as well as daughter Elizabeth and her husband Troy Spencer and their children Elizabeth, Haley and Madison, and also siblings Lee, Louise and Tom. Linda and Carl were



Carl's Interment • Arlington Memorial Park • Sunday, March 13, 2016



married for 60 years. Carl was graduated from Zelenople High School where he and Linda were both students. As a co-op student and graduate of University of Cincinnati he received a degree in Chemical Engineering. Then he attended the Graduate School of Industrial Administration at Carnegie Institute of Technology in Pittsburgh for his Masters of Science degree. He began his career as a civilian contractor with the U.S. Army Intelligence. Carl then moved to Atlanta in 1966 to work in business consulting and computer software industries where he became a pioneer in the field of supply chain management. He was a member of Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church and served there in many capacities. He had a special lifelong interest in music and was in the church choir and bell choir. He was a member of several professional organizations and authored a college text book. He was an avid tennis player and jogger who ran the Peachtree Race for many years, and thoroughly enjoyed the great outdoors including his picturesque farm in Madison, GA. Carl also enjoyed his membership in the Piedmont Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution where he served in several capacities including Chapter President and Registrar. He was honored of his lineage to the early Dutch settlers in New Amsterdam, now New York, and to those who fought in the American Revolution.

Mt. Vernon Presbyterian Church • Sunday, March 13, 2016



Uniformed GASSAR color guard members, including GASSAR state President Allen Greenly, presented Carl's wife Linda Bham with Carl's Silver Roger Sherman Medal in a ceremony during the reception after Carl's funeral service.



Message From Piedmont Chapter President Rick Reese

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Have you looked at our website lately?

As the school year is coming to a close, we have made award presentations to poster contest winners in elementary schools, brochure contest winners in middle schools, and JROTC awards to cadets in high schools. Chuck Rann captured all of that under "youth programs". Our uniformed Speakers Bureau members have made numerous "Traveling Trunk" program presentations to elementary and middle school students. In fact, we have been asked by NSSAR education Director, Colleen Wilson to provide a slideshow of pictures from our various "trunk" presentations to be displayed at the education open house held during the NSSAR National Congress this coming July. We have enjoyed guest speakers at our monthly meetings. And...we have worked with the DAR and the CAR for various Patriotic events and ceremonies. **In short, we have been busy... go to our website and see for yourself!**

Piedmont Chapter Meeting Highlights

March 19, 2016



Linda Reese, of the Martha Stewart Bulloch Chapter NSDAR, assisted with set up of our breakfast.

On March 19, 2016 the Piedmont Chapter held our first monthly meeting after the February Annual Chapter Banquet and awards ceremony. The meeting was well-attended, and enhanced by the efforts of Martha Stewart Bulloch Chapter NSDAR member **Linda Reese** who assisted with the set up of our breakfast. After President-elect **Rick Reese** called the meeting to order, Chaplain **Bill Floyd** opened the meeting with a moment of reflection for our departed compatriot, **Carl Bham**, who passed away earlier in the month after a valiant battle with cancer.



Piedmont color guard members presented the colors, followed by the pledge of Allegiance and pledge to the SAR led by Sgt-at-Arms **John Wassell**. We were privileged to have GASSAR Senior Vice President **Wayne Brown** join us for the meeting. Wayne proceeded to

Induct Chapter Webmaster **Chuck Rann** and Chapter President **Rick Reese**, both of whom were unable to attend the annual banquet in February. President Reese's wife Linda presented him with the neck ribbon symbolizing the chapter presidency.



Our guest speaker for the meeting was Compatriot **George Thurmond**, who gave a very enlightening and enjoyable talk about Carolina Day, also known as the Battle of Sullivan's Island. Afterwards Vice President **Tim Dunn** presented George with a speaker appreciation certificate.

Compatriot **Bob Sapp** presented compatriot **Shep Hammack** with the Jack M. Martin Membership Trophy for 2015 in recognition of Shep's SAR recruiting efforts.



Compatriot **Bob Shaw** presented several awards to chapter members:

- Webmaster **Chuck Rann** received the Certificate of Distinguished Service for his chapter website work.
- Compatriot **Don McClanahan** received the National Certificate of Patriotism for military service.
- Compatriot **Randy Pollard** received the National Certificate of Patriotism for military service.





Piedmont Chapter Meeting Highlights

April 16, 2016



On April 16, 2016 the Piedmont Chapter held its regular monthly meeting at the Roswell Adult Recreation Center. After President Rick Reese called the meeting to order, the assembled members and guests gave past President Bill Kabel a round of applause as he and his wife Carolyn attended the first meeting since his stroke occurred during the Kettle Creek ceremonial weekend in mid-February. Bill gave the members an update on his health status, still demonstrating his sense of humor..



Guest speaker, Gail Jennings, of the Martha Stewart Bullock, NSDAR, was introduced to the membership by Vice President Tim Dunn. Ms. Jennings spoke on the Navajo Code Talkers, of WWII. At the conclusion of her speech, Ms. Jennings was presented with a certificate of Appreciation by Vice President Tim Dunn.

Past President Bill Kabel recognized Mrs. Jane Walker and thanked her for the generous donation given by the family of recently deceased member, Bob Walker, in the form of the Serapis Flag to the Color Guard.



Past President then presented the Lydia Darragh Medal to his wife, Carolyn, in recognition of her service and assistance to him during his tenure as President of the Piedmont Chapter.



President Rick Reese was presented the gavel, SAR Medal and Ribbon as signs of his office as Chapter President, by Past Chapter President Kabel.



Chapter member Robert Forster was the winner of the drawing for the silver dollar at this meeting.



Piedmont Color Guard Schedule

- May 26 (P) Roswell Rotary Memorial Day Luncheon
- May 28 (N) Scout/Memorial Day, Marietta National Cemetery
- May 29 (S) Pearl Harbor Survivors Day
- May 30 (P) "Roswell Remembers"
- May 30 (N) Marietta National Cemetery Memorial Day Observance
- June 8 (P) Roswell Ramblers, 11:30 am
- June 10 (P) INS, 11:00am
- June 18 (P) Piedmont Chapter Flag Retirement, 8:45 AM
- June 18 (P) Piedmont Chapter Summer Picnic, 10:00 AM
- July 4 (P) Windward Children's Parade
- July 4 (S) Atlanta Braves, Present Colors
- July 8 (N) NSSAR Annual Congress, Boston, Through 7/13
- July 13 (P) Roswell Ramblers, 11:30 AM
- July 16 (P) Piedmont Chapter Meeting, 8:30 AM

- July 30 (S) GASSAR BOM Meeting, Barnesville, GA , 10:00 AM
- Aug 6 (S) Old Soldiers Day Parade, Alpharetta, GA, 10:00 AM
- Aug 20 (P) Piedmont Chapter Meeting 8:00 AM
- Sept 14 (P) Roswell Ramblers, 11:30 AM
- Sept 17 (P) Piedmont Chapter Meeting, 8:00 AM
- Sept 17 (S) DAR Constitution Day Luncheon, 11:00 AM
- Sept 23 (P) INS, 11:00 AM
- Sept 23 (N) NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting, Louisville, KY
- Sept 24 (N) NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting, Louisville, KY
- Oct 7 (N) Kings Mountain
- Oct 9 (S) Savannah
- Oct 14 (P) Roswell Ramblers, 11:30 AM
- Oct 14 (P) INS, 11:00 AM
- Oct 15 (P) Chapter Meeting, 8:00 AM
- Oct 16 (P) University of Phoenix Graduation, 2:00 PM
- Oct 22 (S) GASSAR BOM Meeting, Barnesville, GA , 10:00 AM





Reverend Bill Floyd Piedmont Chapter Chaplain



Not What the Founding Fathers Imagined

I think that the Founding Fathers would be turning in their graves if they could see what this great experiment called the United States of America has turned into. This Republic, much to the chagrin of those in charge in both of our political parties, was founded on Christian principals. Growing up in the fifties we were able to read the Bible in school and have a prayer before football games. That is not the case anymore. We all had a lot of pride in just being an American. This was before the advent of trying to separate us into ethnic groups. Political correctness was not a term that any of us had learned. When you got your feelings hurt, you were told, "That's life, get over it!" Our fathers fought and died so that we could enjoy the first amendment and have freedom of speech. Today that is not the case. I am always appalled that burning a flag is considered freedom of speech. There is a list of words that one cannot utter in public because it is offensive to one group or another, but it is all right to blaspheme the name of God. I am sure this is not what the Founding Fathers had in mind when they framed the Constitution. This, along with other freedoms, is fading away. We as a country are beginning to trade our freedoms for security. I can still remember the time when I could enter a court house without going through a metal detector or go to the airport and just get on the plane without the long security lines. Once a freedom is gone, it may be lost forever. The framers of the Constitution put in the second amendment as a safeguard to protect us if the government became oppressive. This amendment is constantly under fire.

One of our greatest gifts from our framers is the ability to cast a vote, to elect those who would govern us. Today I hear many people say that because of one reason or another they are not going to vote. I would like to remind those that this privilege, along with our other freedoms, is what made America the greatest country to have ever existed. Don't throw away what others have died to give you. If we want to continue to exist as a great country, we need to go back to the ideals that this country was founded upon. God has blessed this country because we as a country blessed and included God in all aspect of our lives, and we need to do that once again. We need to thank God every day that we were born in this great country. We need to teach our children and grandchildren about our history so that they will understand just how important our Constitution and Republic are to a free people. It is our responsibility to pass down to them what was passed down to us. God bless each of you, and God bless the United States of America.

Piedmont Color Guard attends Ceremony to Honor Vietnam Veterans



The Martha Stewart Bulloch Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution held a ceremony at the "Faces of War" monument located on the Roswell, GA City Hall grounds. The date of the ceremony was March 29th, which was the 43rd anniversary of the end of fighting in the Vietnam War (March 29, 1973). It was a ceremony to honor the Vietnam

Veterans and give them the welcome home that they never received at that time.



Representing the Piedmont Chapter Sons of the American Revolution, Rick Reese attended that ceremony in uniform and functioned as Color Guard Commander with members of our color guard Shep Hammack and Randy Pollard to present the colors (US and GA state flags) to open the event.



The event was attended by over 34 people, including four Vietnam Veterans and USMC Captain (ret) George Nelson. Captain Nelson spoke to the group about



the creation of the "Faces of War" memorial, which he oversaw during its construction.





Carolina Day aka The Battle of Sullivan's Island presentation given at the March 19th Chapter Meeting.

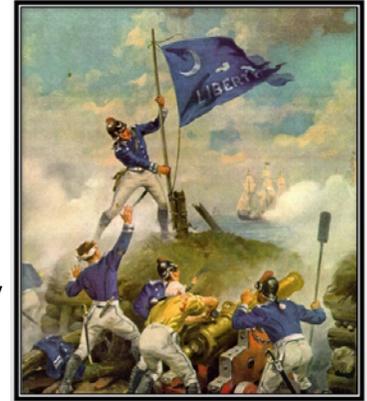
by George Thurmond



As our guest speaker for our March Chapter Meeting, Compatriot **George Thurmond** gave a very enlightening presentation on "Carolina Day".

CAROLINA DAY Battle of Sullivan's Island, June 28, 1776

Carolina Day is the annual commemoration of an important part of United States, South Carolina and Sullivan's Island history - the Battle of Sullivan's Island on June 28, 1776. The colonial's victory at the Battle of Sullivan's Island, fought on the site of what is now Fort Moultrie, was considered by many historians as the first significant American victory over the British during the American Revolution.



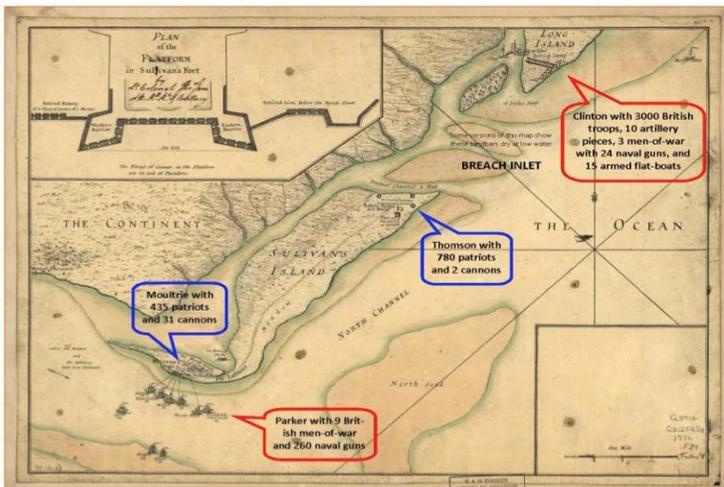
The colonists' victory was vital to South Carolina and the nascent American Revolutionary cause. Defeat on that fateful day would have given British troops control over the vital port of Charleston and, essentially, the entire state of South Carolina at a critical time. A mere six (6) days later the colonists issued their national Declaration of Independence (July 4, 1776). It would take four (4) years of battling South Carolinians before the British were able to occupy Charleston (1780). For these reasons, all South Carolinians consider Carolina Day as the state's "Independence Day."

Preparing for Battle

- British sail for Cape Fear, NC in January 1776
- Governor Rutledge organizes a defense force in Charleston.
- 1st Regiment of South Carolina commanded by Col. Christopher Gadsden of Gadsden Flag fame - to defend mainland Charleston.
- 2nd Regiment under command of Col. William Moultrie to prepare defense on Sullivan's Island—to protect the entrance to Charleston.
- Construction of defenses started in March 1776 using palmetto logs 16 feet long, covered with sand.

Battle - June 28th 1776

- The Patriots had only 28 rounds for their 26 guns.
- The tide literally turned against the British as the Pilots refused to bring the ships with their gunners as close as ordered in fear of running aground, three of which actually did.
- Inexperienced patriot gunners were pouring deadly fire into the British Fleet with terrible effect. Every person on the deck of the flagship was killed or wounded including Sir Peter Parker whose pants were torn off by a splinter.
- The British continued to bombard the fort with little effect as the palmetto logs absorbed the cannon balls.



After the battle of Sullivan's Island

- The British did not attempt to renew the battle and withdrew to participate in the New York Campaign.
- **FINAL RESULTS**
Patriots: 17 Killed, 20 Wounded
British: 64 Killed, 131 wounded and one lost ship
- Each Year June 28 is celebrated in Charleston as "Carolina Day"
- Following the battle, Congress converted the 1st and 2nd South Carolina Regiments into the Continental Line, promoted Colonels Gadsden and Moultrie to Brigadier General. Charleston would remain out of danger from the war for almost the next four years.



NAVAJO CODE TALKERS of WWII Presentation by Gail Jennings April 16, 2016

Martha Stewart Bulloch Chapter NSDAR member Gail Jennings gave a very informative and engaging presentation on the Navajo Code Talkers and their role in the winning of World War II at our April chapter meeting. Gail is the chair of the MSBDAR American Indian Committee.



In May 1942, the first 29 Navajo recruits attended boot camp. Then, at Camp Pendleton, Oceanside, California, this first group created the Navajo code. They developed a dictionary and numerous words for military terms. The dictionary and all code words had to be memorized during training.



Once a Navajo code talker completed his training, he was sent to a Marine unit deployed in the Pacific theater. The code talkers' primary job was to talk, transmitting information on tactics and troop movements, orders and other vital battlefield communications over telephones and radios. They also acted as messengers, and performed general Marine duties.



A two-man team of Navajo code talkers attached to a Marine regiment in the Pacific relay orders over the field radio.

Praise for their skill, speed and accuracy accrued throughout the war. At Iwo Jima, Major Howard Connor, 5th Marine Division signal officer, declared, "Were it not for the Navajos, the Marines would never have taken Iwo Jima." Connor had six Navajo code talkers working around the clock during the first two days of the battle. Those six sent and received over 800 messages, all without error.

The Japanese, who were skilled code breakers, remained baffled by the Navajo language. The Japanese chief of intelligence, Lieutenant General Seizo Arisue, said that while they were able to decipher the codes used by the U.S. Army and Army Air Corps, they never cracked the code used by the Marines. The Navajo code talkers even stymied a Navajo soldier taken prisoner at Bataan. (About 20 Navajos served in the U.S. Army in the Philippines.) The Navajo soldier, forced to listen to the jumbled words of talker transmissions, said to a code talker after the war, "I never figured out what you guys who got me into all that trouble were saying."

THE NAVAJO CODE TALKER'S DICTIONARY

When a Navajo code talker received a message, what he heard was a string of seemingly unrelated Navajo words. The code talker first had to translate each Navajo word into its English equivalent. Then he used only the first letter of the English equivalent in spelling an English word. Thus, the Navajo words "wol-la-chee" (ant), "be-la-sana" (apple) and "tse-nill" (axe) all stood for the letter "a." One way to say the word "Navy" in Navajo code would be "tsah (needle) wol-la-chee (ant) ah-keh-diglini (victor) tsah-ah-dzoh (yucca)."

Most letters had more than one Navajo word representing them. Not all words had to be spelled out letter by letter. The developers of the original code assigned Navajo words to represent about 450 frequently used military terms that did not exist in the Navajo language. Several examples: "besh-lo" (iron fish) meant "submarine," "dah-he-tih-hi" (hummingbird) meant "fighter plane" and "debeh-li-zine" (black street) meant "squad."



Peter MacDonald, Sr.
Navajo Code Talker

Peter MacDonald, Sr.
Born & Raised on the Navajo Reservation U.S. Marine Corps
Navajo Code Talker
Served from 1944 – 1946
World War II – 6th Marine Division
Served in South Pacific & North China
Joined at age 15
Awarded U.S. Congressional Silver Medal
Board Member of USMC National Education & Training Board
Bacone College, Bacone, OK
AA Degree – Social Science
University of Oklahoma
BSEE
Distinguished Service Citation
Engineering Hall of Fame
Hughes Air Craft Company
Project Engineer – Polaris Missile Project
Head of State
Unprecedented 4 term Chairman of the Navajo Nation Council
Served on several National Task Forces; Commissions under Presidents Nixon, Ford, Carter & Reagan Served on several Boards of Regent for Universities & Colleges





Piedmont Chapter Activities

Brochure Contest

Chapter Winners

Fellowship Christian School—Roswell Georgia



Cole Kroeber — 1st Place



Chloe Savan — 2nd Place



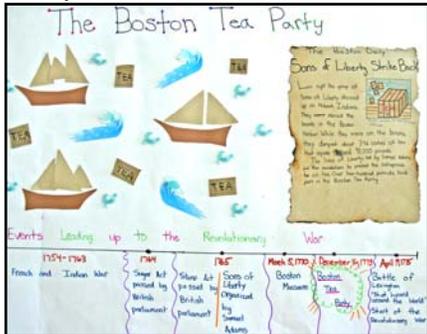
Alisha Benbow — 3rd Place

Crabapple Middle School—Roswell Georgia



Poster Contest

Chapter Winner



Mackenzie Crawford
1st Place
Timber Ridge Elementary



Mackenzie's poster went on to finish 4th in the state wide competition.

Chapter Runner ups



Ava Handler
1st Place
East Side Elementary



Meg Dahlby
1st Place
Mountain View Elementary



Piedmont Chapter President Rick Reese Presents Alyssa Fountain, of Centennial High School, SAR Outstanding Cadet Award at the JROTC award ceremony Thursday, April 21st.

Compatriots Shep Hammond and Bob Shaw of the Piedmont Chapter Color Guard take proudly represent the SAR at a Naturalization Ceremony.



On April 18th members of the Piedmont chapter color guard Paul Prescott, Rick Reese, George Thurmond, and Bob Sapp attended the Milton City council meeting along with members of the Martha Stewart Bulloch DAR, Patriots of Liberty DAR, and Martha Stewart CAR to recognize Patriots Day.



The Piedmont Piper

Rick Reese • Publisher | Rick Reese III • Editor/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, Cherokee and Northern Fulton County. Meetings are held monthly throughout the year on the third Saturday at 8:30 a.m. at the Roswell Adult Education Center 830 Grimes 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, Jamie Ruff 404.428.8040** or any other chapter officer.

DEADLINE FOR MATERIAL TO BE INCLUDED IN THE NEXT EDITION:

The deadline for material for the next issue is **JULY 1, 2016**. In addition to the material, please include a copy of any photos to be included.

Upcoming Events

Chapter meeting Saturday May 21, 2016

J. Christopher's
11725 Alpharetta Hwy
Roswell, Georgia
8:00 am Breakfast 8:30 am Meeting

Guest Speaker: GASSAR President
Allen Greenly

Flag Retirement Ceremony June 18, 2016

Northside Chapel and Crematory
12050 Crabapple Rd.
Roswell, GA 8:45 am

Chapter Picnic Saturday June 18, 2016

Roswell Area Park—Shelter #1
10495 Woodstock Rd.
Roswell, Georgia 10:00 am

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