



# The Piedmont Piper

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

Edition CXXXI (131th Issue)

[www.PiedmontChapter.org](http://www.PiedmontChapter.org)

September 2016

## Message From Piedmont Chapter President Rick Reese



With the summer months now a fond memory, and Labor Day festivities in our rear view mirror, it is time to focus on the new school year and our Piedmont Chapter youth programs. Do you have school aged family members, or have friends who do? Did you know that we have an **Elementary School** poster contest for 4<sup>th</sup> grade students. We have a **Middle School** trifold brochure contest for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. We also offer our interactive **“Traveling Trunk”** classroom presentation for students in these same grades, where our Revolu-

*Continued on page 2*

## In This Issue

- Old Soldiers Day Parade
- July and August Meeting Highlights
- Eagle Scout Court of Honor
- Revolutionary Medicine
- Reconstruction of William Brockett’s Cabin
- Message from President Reese
- Message from our Chaplin Bill Floyd
- Color Guard Schedule

## Old Soldiers Day Parade—Alpharetta, Ga



On Saturday, August 6th Alpharetta held its 64th annual Old Soldiers Day parade.

The Piedmont Chapter SAR sponsored a float representing the Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution. The Georgia SAR Color Guard presented the colors and led the parade.



Marching color guard members included NSSAR Secretary General **Larry Guzy**, GASSAR President **Allen Greenly**, GASSAR Sr.

Vice President **Wayne Brown**, Mount Vernon Chapter President **Shep Hammack**, Button Gwinnett Chapter President **Bill Palmer**, Button



Gwinnett Chapter member **Mike Watkins**, GASSAR Membership Committee Chairman **Gordon Woodard**. Piedmont Chapter member **John Mortison** played his bagpipes at the opening ceremony to begin the parade. The Piedmont Chapter float was

manned by chapter members **Bob McCleskey**, **George Thurmond**, **Paul Prescott** and **Rick Reese**... who passed out candy to the assembled crowd of adults and children along the parade route.



The float was provided through the efforts of Piedmont Chapter members **Bill Lusk** and **Walt Woliver**.



### Message From Piedmont Chapter President Rick Reese

tionary War uniformed speakers bureau members bring colonial times to life for the audience. Our education outreach does not end there. For **High School** students in their freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior year we have the **George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay contest**, with essays based on topics or people relevant to the Revolutionary War, Declaration of Independence, or the US Constitution. We have more to offer for those **High School** students in the same grades. The **Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest** tasks the student with public speaking. **High School** students are also recognized for their extracurricular activities. Our **Eagle Scout Recognition and Scholarship Program** rounds out our support youth activities. We have cash awards at the chapter, state, and national levels for all of the programs. Visit our chapter website [www.PiedmontChapter.org](http://www.PiedmontChapter.org) and click on the "Youth Programs" tab for more detailed information about these contests and programs.

**The Piedmont Chapter is committed to our community support focus, as well as the education of our future leaders.**

## Piedmont Chapter Meeting Highlights

Saturday July 16, 2016

The Piedmont Chapter held our recent monthly meeting on Saturday July 16th. Chapter members and guests enjoyed selections from the breakfast table prepared by Martha Stewart Bulloch Chapter DAR member **Linda Reese**, as they gathered together in fellowship before the meeting began.



Vice President **Tim Dunn** introduced our guest speaker for the meeting, **Paulette Snoby**. Paulette is a Registered Nurse, with an undergraduate degree in Nursing and a master's degree in Public Administration, both from the University of Pittsburgh. She is an accomplished author and a student of medical history. She is currently a Docent at Barrington Hall in Roswell, and has previously been a Docent at the Teaching Museum of Fulton County North and a Docent at the Roswell Historical Society. Her topic for the meeting was **"American Medical Care During the American Revolution through the Civil War."**



President Reese conducted the ceremony to induct **Kevin James Abernathy-Cornelius** into the Piedmont chapter and induct our newest junior members, **Luis Javier Jimenez, Mario Francis Jimenez, and David Miguel Jimenez.**



Then Compatriot **Ross Glover** made a special presentation to his friend and long-time Piedmont Chapter member **George Thurmond**. Ross had a picture of George in his color guard uniform made into a mounted canvas portrait to honor his friend.



**George Thurmond** and **Bob Sapp** spoke to the members about their recent attendance at the 2016 SAR Annual Congress in Boston. George made the point that certain expenses for congress attendees are tax deductible for compatriots who elect to be name as delegates to the Congress. The Piedmont Chapter BOM had authorized the purchase of a \$250 SAR Youth Awards Medal for the chapter, and **Bob Sapp** presented our check to the SAR at the annual congress. Compatriot Sapp presented the medal set to President Reese to be worn at SAR events during his presidency, and passed along to the succeeding Piedmont Chapter



Past President **Bill Kabel** came to the podium to present a check to the chapter representing an honorarium in the amount of \$150.00 for the Piedmont Color Guard's participation in the "Honor Our Heroes" ceremonies conducted by the World Harvest Church on July 3, 2016. President Rick Reese also presented the chapter with an honorarium check for \$100.00 for the Piedmont Color participation in the annual Windward Children's Parade held on July 4, 2016. **Bill Kabel** also presented numerous streamers to the chapter that had been awarded to the Piedmont Chapter Color Guard earlier in the year. These streamers were given to Sergeant-At-Arms **John Wassell** to attach to the staff of the already crowded Piedmont Chapter flag.





# Piedmont Chapter Meeting Highlights

Saturday August 20, 2016



The regular meeting of the Piedmont Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution was held on Saturday, August 20, 2016, at the Roswell Recreation Center, 830 Grimes Bridge Road, Roswell, Georgia.

President **Rick Reese** recognized guests and visitors who attended the meeting.



This meetings guest speaker was our own Piedmont Chapter President **Rick Reese** gave a presentation on, "The reconstruction of the home of William Ebenezer Brockett", his patriot ancestor. The presentation outlined the discovery and acquisition on the home, its restoration, and a

trip **President Reese** and with his family to Tennessee to celebrate the completion of the home complete with a authentically prepared meal in the cabin using recently restored cooking fireplace. An in-depth description of the presentation published on page 6 of this issue of the Piper.



Compatriot **George Thurmond** presented **President Reese** with a Certificate of Appreciation for his presentation to the chapter.



### My Patriot Ancestor Program

Members were encouraged to give presentations regarding their patriot ancestors at upcoming meetings.

Posters printed by the Piedmont Chapter were made available for members to disburse to schools and libraries. These posters outline the various counties in Georgia named in honor of Revolutionary Patriots. Members were asked to distribute these posters to schools in the area. To date 70 of these posters have been delivered. These posters are part of Piedmonts commitment to education and Americanism.



**Show and Tell** - actual pieces of the Brockett Cabin were passed around for all to see.

### Piedmont Color Guard Schedule

- 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 24 (S) Mount Vernon Chartering Ceremony 6 PM
- Sept 30 (N) NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting, Louisville, KY
- Oct 1 (N) NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting, Louisville, KY
- Oct 7 (N) Kings Mountain
- Oct 9 (S) Savannah
- Oct 12 (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 , 10A

- Nov 11 (S) Atlanta History Center Veterans Day ceremony
- Nov 16 (P) Roswell Ramblers, Thanksgiving Lunch, 11:30AM
- Nov 19 (P) Chapter Meeting, 8:00 AM
- Nov 19 (S) Fort Morris
- Dec 3 (S) Vann's Creek
- Dec 5 -16 (S) Governor's Manson Tours
- Dec 17 (P) Chapter Meeting
- Jan 17-28 (S) GASSAR Annual Conference
- Feb 10-11 (S) Kettle Creek
- Feb 20 (P) Piedmont Chapter Annual Banquet





## Reverend Bill Floyd Piedmont Chapter Chaplain



### Get in the Wheel Barrow

Wonder what our founding fathers would think of our election antics today. Oh, I am sure there were some of the same things going on then as there are now. The difference for most of us who consider ourselves Christian and still think of this as a Christian

nation have to wonder what is going to happen to this country under the next administration. It is quite apparent that God has been put on the back burner in our society, not only personally but in politics as well. Jesus was all about transforming the lives of those with whom he came in contact. This was always for the better, never for the worst. Those running today also are wanting to transform our lives into their idea of what the country should be like. Personally, some of the transformations they would like to make do not fit in with my beliefs or tenets.

We are being pulled from so many different directions it is hard to get a bearing on what to believe or who to trust. Our patriot ancestors were pretty much in accord in the direction this new nation was headed. There was no doubt that God was to be a major part of this new nation. In a sermon a couple of weeks ago, I talked about Charles Blondin who was a tight rope walker in the 1890's. In fact, he was one of the first to walk across the Grand Canyon. Many people witnessed his feats. He could lie down half way across the tight rope, even balance on one leg of a chair. He was even known to cook and eat an omelet while on the tight rope. All who saw him were amazed at what he could do. One day he asked those there if anyone would trust him to carry them across the tight rope on his back. He only got one taker. It was his manager who had know him for a long time and trusted his life to him. Without hesitation, he climbed on Charles' back and Blondin carried him safely across to the other side. One day Charles brought a wheel barrow to the show and pushed it across the tight rope several times with different weights in it. When asked, many of those in the crowd were sure that he could push someone in the wheelbarrow safely across to the other side, but he got no volunteers.

We are not a lot different from those watching Blondin that day. We are amazed, dismayed, disappointed, and aghast at the things we see in politics today. It will be a hard choice for me to get into one of their wheelbarrows today and feel safe. Now two hundred years ago, I would have jumped in the wheelbarrow of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin and many more and felt safe, but that was another time. Today there is only one wheelbarrow for me. We say to God that we believe that you can transform our lives. We say that we trust that God will take care of us and our nation, but we hesitate to get into the wheelbarrow that God is offering to carry us across this narrow tight rope of life, so why aren't we willing to get into the wheelbarrow? Let me ask you a question, "Are you willing to trust God or are you determined to cross the tight rope on your own?" Depending on the answer, I would ask, "Just how good are you at walking a tight rope?"

Our founding fathers put their trust in God. Our nation is dangling precariously on that thin narrow line, and there is no safety net. My prayer is that God will provide us with a good tight rope walker.

## 2016 Recipient of the General William C. Westmoreland Award

Congratulations to **Martin William ("Bill") Kabel** ~ 2016 Recipient of the SAR's General William C. Westmoreland Award. The award is given each year in recognition to an outstanding SAR Veterans Volunteer. Bill's unwavering commitment to the VA and especially to the Atlanta VA, was recognized by the National SAR at this years 126th National Society Congress in Boston, MA. Great job Bill!



George Thurmond receiving the General William C. Westmoreland award from President General Lawrence on behalf of Bill Kabel

Bill is the Piedmont Chapter Veterans Committee chairman and is a strong supporter of the Atlanta VA hospital with his "Socks for Vets" program. He is a past recipient of the "Service to Veterans Medal" in 2012 for his efforts.

Bill is a US Army Veteran of the Vietnam War, and General William C. Westmoreland served as President Johnson's Army Chief of Staff of the United States Army.

The award is given each year in recognition to an outstanding SAR Veterans Volunteer. This award was authorized by the National SAR in 1996.

## Eagle Scout Court of Honor

On Sunday, July 31, 2016 **Bill Kabel** and Piedmont Chapter President **Rick Reese** attended the Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Paul Lee. The ceremony was held by the Atlanta Area Council, Northern Ridge District Troop 3143 at the Johns Creek United Methodist Church. Paul's scout troop, family, and friends were all in attendance.



Our chapter continues to honor many Eagle Scouts in the Atlanta area, as a result of the efforts of our Eagle Scout committee chairman, Michael Smith. Whenever possible we make the presentation of the SAR certificate honoring these Eagle Scouts in person at their respective Courts of Honor.



## SAR Members Out in the Community

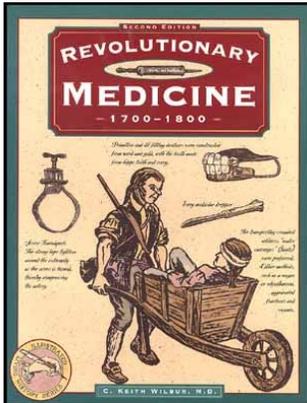


Congressman and Piedmont Chapter member **Tom Price** stopped to spend a little time with Piedmont President **Rick Reese** and his wife, Martha Stewart Bulloch Chapter DAR member **Linda Reese**, at the recent Centennial Celebration for the National Park System. The gathering was well attended and was held locally at the Island Ford Park in Sandy Springs on Friday, August 19th.



# Revolutionary Medicine

Summary of Paulette Snoby's presentation at the July Chapter Meeting



**American Revolutionary War:** Many surgeons during this time were not licensed practicing physicians, 400 out of 3,500 doctors were fully licensed, in fact only two universities offered medical degrees which was King's College in New York, and the College of Philadelphia. At this time there were very few doctors that had equal knowledge as their European counterparts. They also were not able to produce many remedies for illnesses, only scurvy, malaria, and smallpox. Most deaths occurred not from battle injuries, but from disease, and surgeries. Surgeons lacked proper techniques and not having proper sterilization. The majority of the procedures were blood letting and amputations. One study shows that around 50% of surgeries were fatal. The prominent diseases of the day were, Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, Smallpox, Yellow fever, Malaria, Cholera, Pulmonary tuberculosis, Dysentery, and Typhoid Fever.



To appreciate fully the practice of medicine in the Revolutionary War, the state of health and disease control, and the medical practitioners in the colonies during the latter part of the 18th century, must first be considered. Life expectancy was only thirty-five years.

There was a universal ignorance of the principles of contagion and sanitation. Polluted earth and marsh gases were felt to be the prime factor. Lice flourished as bathing was considered by many to be dangerous. Epidemics were for the most part unchecked, and regular ravages of diseases such as smallpox, typhus, yellow fever and a variety of other fevers, measles, and dysentery (flux) abounded.

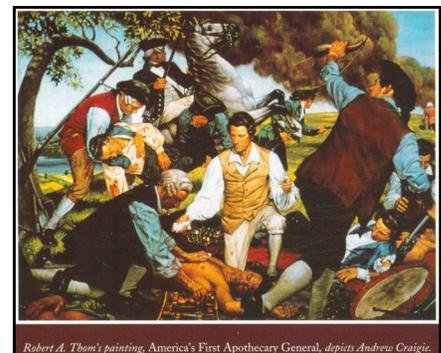
By 1776, 3000 to 4000 individual practitioners of medicine were available in the colonies, of which 300 to 400, largely located in urban areas, had medical degrees. Most of the physicians with degrees were graduates of Edinburgh College, the model for the first two medical schools to be established in America during the colonial period.

Philadelphia was better supplied with physicians than any other town. Between 1740 and 1775, 82% of them had studied in Europe, and most of them had degrees.

During the colonial period, two medical schools were established in the colonies - the Medical Department of the College of Philadelphia (later the University of Pennsylvania) in 1765, and The Kings College (later Columbia University) in New York City in 1768. By 1776 only 51 degrees had been conferred by these schools, and then classes were suspended because of the war.

Hospitals first appeared in America early in the 18th century. They were hastily built to confine contagious diseases during epidemics, primarily in seaport towns such as New York City, Philadelphia, Newport, Rhode Island, and Charleston, South Carolina.

The foundation of colonial medical theory was the Grecian theory of Humors, based on bodily fluids - blood, phlegm, black bile, and yellow bile -which must remain in balance for good health. An excess or deficiency of any one would lead to disease. An excess was relieved by bleeding, purging, and sweating. A deficit was made up by rest, diets, and medicinals.



Robert A. Thom's painting, America's First Apothecary General, depicts Andrew Craigie.





# My Patriot Ancestor - The Reconstruction of William Brockett's Cabin

By Rick Reese Jr.

## The House of William Ebenezer Brockett Reconstructed



In April of last year I made a presentation about my patriot ancestor, my 4th great grandfather William Ebenezer Brockett who was born on 26 June in 1748 in Wallingford, CT. He left home early in life, settling in New Bern, NC where he married Martha (Patsy) Ives, the daughter and only heir of Thomas Ives, on 1 October 1771. He was 22 at the time. He enlisted in the Revolutionary War on 17 November 1774, serving until its close in North and South Carolina, a

total of 7 years. He began his military service as a Lieutenant, and was afterward promoted to Captain.

This What the Home Looked Like When Sold



Work Began With the Siding Removed



The Walls Begin to Take Shape



I was at home one evening in March of this year when I received a call on my cell phone which began "you don't know me, but I would like to speak with you regarding your ancestor, William E. Brockett. I would appreciate getting to talk to you more about his life and service." The caller was Jeff Page, and he told me that he was involved in the reconstruction of William Brockett's family home, and had found my name on our Chapter website while doing historical research on the

Then Windows are Framed



View with Fireplace Opening on Right



Building the Roof Trusses



Brockett family. Jeff said: "The house and property were auctioned last summer in Smith County, TN and purchased by a member of the Brockett family. He sold the logs to us and we had it dismantled and moved to Mt. Juliet, TN. We began the task of rebuilding the house

Roof Shingles & Mortar Joints Installed



Back Porch of the House



Construction of the Cooking Fireplace



in October of last year and hope to have it finished within the next month or so. When finished, we plan to have a day to celebrate with old time music and food cooked in the colonial style fireplace of the Brockett house. You would certainly be welcome to attend." Well... in May of this year my wife Linda, son Rick, and I went to Mount Juliet, TN to see the reconstructed Brockett family

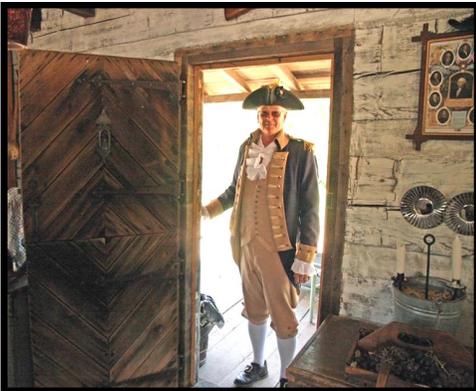
Building the Roof



Outside of the Smaller Fireplace



home and enjoy a celebration of the completion of this labor of love on the part of a number of skilled craftsmen. We also had the pleasure of meeting the sponsor of this project, Beverly Elliott. Beverly owns the property on which the house was rebuilt, and has sponsored the reconstruction of two other period houses on her land.



Front of the House



Interior View Toward Cooking Fireplace



Imagine an Evening by the Fireplace



With Thanks to Jeff Page!



### Memorial Gravesite Service for Revolutionary Soldiers Moses Ayers and Charles Walters



The Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution marked two Revolutionary War soldier's gravesites **September 3<sup>rd</sup>** in Hart County.

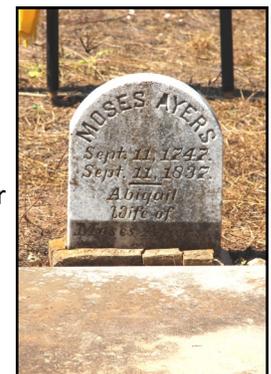


**1) RS Robert Walters (11:00 am) (GPS: N 34.467230), W 83.044966) or 1325 Shoal Creek Baptist Church Road, Lavonia Georgia. Walters settled in Franklin County and was buried in Franklin County just north of Hart County.**



**2) RS Moses Ayers (2:00 pm) (GPS: N 34.468571); (W 82.943096); or 686 Chandlers Ferry Road.**

These were Revolutionary War Soldiers – men who fought for your freedom even before this country was known as the United States! After the Revolutionary War, new lands were



opened up here in Georgia and Robert Walters and Amos Ayers won land in what was then known as Franklin County. After settling on their new land in Franklin County, Franklin County was divided up into smaller counties one namely known as Hart County (1853) named after Revolutionary War heroine Nancy Hart who was instrumental in helping Col. Elijah Clarke (Clarke County named for him) drive out the Tories and British soldiers from this area. (Nancy is well known for helping Capt. Stephen Heard escape from the gallows and who later became Governor of Georgia).



# 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 **Nov 1, 2016**. 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 Rick Reese III [rick@rickreese.com](mailto:rick@rickreese.com).

## **Upcoming Events**

### **Chapter meeting Saturday Sept 17, 2016**

Roswell Adult Recreation Center  
830 Grimes Bridge Road  
Roswell, GA  
8:00 AM Breakfast, 8:30 AM Meeting

Our monthly speaker for the month of September will be **Michael McKenzie, Attorney of Law**.

### **Chapter meeting Saturday Oct, 15, 2016**

Roswell Adult Recreation Center  
830 Grimes Bridge Road  
Roswell, GA  
8:00 AM Breakfast, 8:30 AM Meeting

## ***2016 Officers of the Piedmont Chapter***

President, Frederic M. Reese, Jr. 9141 Branch Valley Way Roswell, GA 30076 Phone 847.778.9235 [RickReese68@att.net](mailto:RickReese68@att.net)  
Vice President, Tim Dunn, 2090 Silversmith Lane Stone Mountain, GA 30087 Phone 678.428.2123  
Secretary, Dale Miller, 6845 White Oak Dr. Cumming, GA. 30040 Phone 678.321.6330 [wmdalemill@hotmai.com](mailto:wmdalemill@hotmai.com)  
Treasurer, Craig Benton, 4880 Hampton Lake Drive, Marietta, GA 30068 Phone 404.583.5196 [Krang1@comcast.net](mailto:Krang1@comcast.net)  
Chaplain, Rev. William N. Floyd, Jr. 692 Lakeview Trail Marietta, GA 30068 Phone 770.971.9651 [wnfloydjr@att.net](mailto:wnfloydjr@att.net)  
Registrar, Jamie Ruff, 12005 Compass Pointe Crossing Alpharetta, GA 30005 Phone 404.428.8040 [Ruff.Jam@gmail.com](mailto:Ruff.Jam@gmail.com)  
Editor, Frederic M. Reese, III. 9141 Branch Valley Way Roswell, GA 30076 Phone 678.404.7886 [Rick@rickreese.com](mailto:Rick@rickreese.com)  
Chancellor, Eric E. Thorstenberg 220 Enclave Court Roswell, GA 30076 Phone: 770.740.9321 [eetesq@gmail.com](mailto:eetesq@gmail.com)  
Historian/ Librarian, Bill Lusk, 1355 Summit Rd. Milton, GA 30004 Phone 770-754-4428 [bill@luskco.com](mailto:bill@luskco.com)  
Sergeant-at-Arms, John Wassell, 285 Gatsby Place John Creek, GA 30022 Phone 678.825.2881 [jobetwa@mindspring.com](mailto:jobetwa@mindspring.com)  
Webmaster, Charles R. Rann 9757 Hightower Road, Roswell, GA 30075 Phone 678.773.4721 [chuckrann@gmail.com](mailto:chuckrann@gmail.com)

**The Piedmont Piper**  
9141 Branch Valley Way  
Roswell, GA 30076

**First Class Mail**