



The Piedmont Piper

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

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Nov/Dec 2019

Message From Piedmont Chapter President Ron Redner



WOW....did our SAR Piedmont 2019 year go by fast or what! It seemed like we had a different SAR event every week which was very interesting and fun too!

We started the year by celebrating our SAR Piedmont Chapter 25th Anniversary with 75 people attending. Larry Guzy, SAR Past National President General and Past Piedmont President of our chapter was our speaker who talked to us on our first 25 year history. *In 2019 we had membership involvement in so many areas, here is some highlights:* Our membership at the beginning of January was 83 members and we end the year with 110 members. Thank you Jaime Ruff for writing up and turning in to SAR National 27 new member applications and making them new SAR Piedmont members! Jaime also headed up our Boy Scout Committee

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ROOTING HISTORY THE PLANTING OF THE FIRST LIBERTY TREE

In honor of the United States of America's 250th Anniversary, the Piedmont Chapter launched the "Liberty Tree Project" and were proud to plant the very first Elm Tree (Liberty Tree) at Milton, GA City Hall. On Tuesday, December 3rd, Chapter President **Ron Redner**, Chapter Members **George Thurmond**, **Bob Sapp**, **Paul Prescott**, and **Rick Reese, Jr.** joined Milton Mayor, Joe Lockwood, and members of the Milton City Council to dedicate the Liberty Tree sponsored compatriot **Tom Price**.



Milton Mayor Joe Lockwood, members of the Milton City Council, with Ron Redner, Bob Sapp, George Thurman, Rick Reese and Paul Prescott

The Liberty Tree is a Lace Elm tree and pays tribute to the original

Liberty Tree (1646–1775) which was a famous elm tree that stood in Boston near Boston Common, in the years before the American Revolution. In 1765, colonists in Boston staged the first act of defiance against the British government at the tree. The tree became a rallying point for the growing resistance to the rule of Britain over the American colonies.

The Piedmont Chapter sponsors a young Liberty Tree to be planted at schools and other community venues to create awareness of and sustain the history of our founding and the sacrifices of the patriots that won our independence.

If you would like to participate and donate to the Liberty Tree fund, please contact our Treasurer or President.



Plaque Inscription:

In honor of the United States of America's 250th Anniversary, the Sons of the American Revolution Piedmont Chapter planted a Elm Tree (Liberty Tree) The Liberty Tree (1646–1775) was a famous elm tree that stood in Boston near Boston Common, in the years before the American Revolution. In 1765, colonists in Boston staged the first act of defiance against the British government at the tree. The tree became a rallying point for the growing resistance to the rule of Britain over the American colonies, and the ground



Message From Piedmont Chapter President Ron Redner (continued)

which did over 50 Eagle Scout presentations! One new member **Joe Zimmerman** was asked to chair our Veterans Committee and what a great job he did! Joe got hundreds if not a thousand or two of the needed supplies that the Veterans requested like books, socks and personal care items! And he organized and honored our SAR Chapter Veterans at our meeting in November. Way to go Joe! Our SAR Piedmont Website got a new facelift thanks to **Rick Reese III** in January and I hope you have checked it out at www.piedmontchapter.org. Also it is up for a SAR State Award. Rick also developed from scratch a new social media platform for us on Facebook which he posted around 50 articles on for us. Thanks Rick! And even though his dad **Rick Reese Jr.** was out of action due to leg/foot problems most of 2019, Rick Jr. was actively typing away emails to our membership almost daily as our Communications Chair, besides directing where our Color Guard should go for us as our Color Guard Chair person. Glad Rick's leg/foot is well again! Then there is **Al Finley** our vice president that has supported us by doing all the fun stuff behind the scenes. He is the one that got all our amazing monthly speakers, got the article published in SAR National Magazine about our SAR Piedmont 25th Anniversary. And he stayed on as our Treasurer when Dick Anthony had to go in for cancer treatments. Best of all Al will be our President in 2020 and I can retire! Finally our Piedmont Chapter would not be the Top Award winning SAR Chapter in the state of Georgia and National if it wasn't for these three members: **George Thurmond, Bob Sapp** and **Paul Prescott!** These three do everything for us, like being there at every Color Guard event, Traveling Trunk program, Roswell Ramblers meeting, INS Atlanta programs, SAR National & GA State meetings and much more. And if I did not get an email a day from George, then I knew something was really wrong, which never was the case, because I always received one or two or three! Thank you for letting me serve another year in 2019 as your SAR Piedmont Chapter it was a lot of FUN and thank you to for all your support! - Ron

Piedmont Chapter Meeting Highlights

Saturday October 19, 2019



The Regular Chapter Meeting of the Piedmont Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution was held at the Roswell Recreation Center, Roswell Area Park, 10495 Woodstock Road, Roswell, Georgia on October 19, 2019. After the social hour and breakfast, President **Ron Redner** called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Vice President **Al Finley** introduced the guest speaker, former Sixth Congressional District Representative, and former Secretary of Health and Human Services, Piedmont Chapter Compatriot **Tom Price**. **Dr. Price**, a physician for many years, spoke on the topic, "Physician Leaders at Our Founding". Because only two medical schools existed in the U.S. (one in Philadelphia and one in New York City), at the time of the American Revolution, many early physicians became doctors



through apprenticeship. There were five physician signers of the Declaration of Independence: (a) Oliver Wolcott, who graduated from Yale in 1747, but did not actively practice medicine; (b) Josiah Bartlett, who opened his medical practice in New Hampshire in 1750 and who became the first member of the Continental Congress to vote for the Declaration of Independence and the second to

sign it; (c) Matthew Thornton, who emigrated with his parents from Ireland to New Hampshire in 1717 and became a surgeon in 1745, as well as a vocal opponent of the Stamp Act in 1765; (d) Benjamin Rush, who attended what became Princeton University and authored the first textbook on Chemistry and also served as Surgeon General to the U.S. Army in 1777; and (e) Lyman Hall who was born in Connecticut, graduated from Yale with a Theology degree in 1747, and moved to Sunbury, Georgia, a hotbed of anti-British activism and where he established his medical practice. He was also a close friend of Button Gwinnett, another Georgian and signer of the Declaration of Independence. Dr. Hall also became the first post-Revolutionary Governor of Georgia.



Al Finley presents a "Certificate of Appreciation" to compatriot **Tom Price** for his engaging presentation.



Piedmont Chapter Meeting Highlights

Saturday October 19, 2019 *continued*



President **Ron Redner** administers the oath to **Jacob Palm (L)** and **Addison Palm [R]** with their parents on hand during their induction to the Sons of the American Revolution.



President **Ron Redner** inducted new members **Addison Jeffery Palm** and **Jacob Charles Palm**, whose patriot ancestor was **Gideon Ramsdale**, a Mayflower descendant as well. Congratulations and welcome to our new members.



Registrar **Jaime Ruff** presented **Bob Sapp** with his eighteenth supplemental certificate, in recognition of his patriot ancestor, John Gorham.



Vice President **Al Finley** noted that the Chapter's Piedmont Fellows Fund has a total of 24 participants thus far. He also presented a George Washington Fellows certificate and pin to Compatriot **Robert ("Bobby") Shaw** in recognition of his contribution of \$1,000.00 to the Fund.

Treasurer's Report: Vice President **Al Finley** distributed additional copies of the Treasurer's Report for **Dick Anthony**. It shows an ending balance of **\$11,643.48** as of October 7, 2019.

Membership Report: Registrar **Jaime Ruff** informed the members that the Chapter membership now stands at **103**.

Color Guard Report: Color Guard Commander **Rick Reese, Jr.** reported that the Color Guard has had a very active season, with more activities upcoming.

Scouting Report: Chairman **Jaime Ruff** noted that Piedmont Chapter representatives, have, so far this year, attended **35** Eagle Scout Courts of Honor, with over **50** certificates, including mail-outs, having been presented. He encouraged all those present to attend a future Court of Honor, if they have not already done so.



Piedmont Chapter Meeting Highlights

Saturday November 16, 2019



Al Finley introduces his daughter Sonya as Guest Speaker

The Regular Chapter Meeting of the Piedmont Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution was held at the Roswell Recreation Center, Roswell Area Park, 10495 Woodstock Road, Roswell, Georgia on November 16, 2019. After the social hour and breakfast, President **Ron Redner** called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. The Invocation was led by Chaplain **Bob Allgood**. The Colors were displayed prior to the meeting, as several of the Color Guard members were in attendance at other events. Sgt-at-Arms **Rick Reese, Jr.** led the Chapter members in their Pledge of Allegiance and their pledge to the SAR. **President Redner** recognized the Chapter’s guests and visitors, who included President Redner’s nephew and the Chapter’s newest inductee, **Robert Tynan Redner**.

Vice President **Al Finley** introduced the guest speaker, his daughter, **Dr. Sonya Finley**, a retired colonel and also a professor at the National War College, which is located at Ft. McNair in Washington, DC. Dr. Finley gave a very informative presentation about “Veterans and Services Rendered”. She traced the roots of our veterans programs back to the historical context of the Winter of 1782-1783 wherein George Washington had to deal with senior officers, as well as enlisted men, who had not been paid for months. Washington reminded his men and officers of their duty to country and of the fact that each one of them swore an oath to protect and defend the country. In the modern era, as Dr. Finley noted, all of those officers who complete their training at the War College are, through their coursework,



instilled with a sense of and understanding of our country’s foundational principles, including liberty, service to country and the underpinnings of the U.S. Constitution.

In a appreciation of her presentation to the membership, **Vice President Finley** presented **Dr. Finley** with a Certificate of Appreciation and a \$2 bill.



Vice President **Al Finley** distributed additional copies of the Treasurer’s Report for Dick Anthony. It shows an ending balance of \$14,309.48.

President Redner presented the Membership Report for registrar Jaime Ruff. He noted that Chapter membership now stands at **103**, with over twenty new members having been inducted so far this year.

Color Guard Commander **Rick Reese, Jr.** presented the Color Guard Report, noting some of the upcoming events for December, including the I.N.S. ceremony December 13th at the Richard Russell Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse, local participation in Wreaths Across America on December 14th at the Roswell Presbyterian Church and the Marietta National Cemetery, and, also participation at the December Chapter meeting on December 21st. The Color Guard will also be participating in the observance of the Battle of Kettle Creek on February 8,



Piedmont Chapter Meeting Highlights

Saturday November, 2019 *continued*



Tom Price receives his "Liberty Tree" plaque for his contributions to the "Liberty Tree" Project by sponsoring 10 trees.

2020 in Washington, GA and the Patriot grave markings of John Clark, John Hames and George Bradford at the Marietta National Cemetery on April 4, 2020.

Scouting Report: President Redner presented the Scouting Report for Chairman Jaime Ruff. Ron encouraged all those present to attend a future Court of Honor, if they have not already done so.

Veterans Report: Chairman Joe Zimmerman reported that the Chapter will, in December, visit the veterans at the V.A. Hospital in Decatur, and also, at that time, take to them books, magazines, socks and other personal care items.



Roy Greene receives "Supplemental Ancestor" Certificate.



Our Chapter Veterans in attendance of the chapter meeting receiving recognition. (left to right) **Bill Lusk, John Wassell, Rick Reese, Jr., Jerry Breed, Bob Sapp, Bob Allgood, Bob Shaw, Joe Nichols, Paul Prescott, Bob Redner, Dale Miller**

In honor of Veteran's Day, Veterans Chairman **Joe Zimmerman** showed a movie honoring our Veteran members. Our most senior Veterans, **Bob Sapp** and **Bob Allgood**, were given a copy of the video and a personalize Veteran Medallion, and a \$25.00 gift certificate to Longhorn Steak house. Two veterans were awarded a \$25 gift certificate to Reveille, along with a copy of the video. Those two members were **Rick Reese, Jr.** for his help in collecting the other pictures and **Gerald Breed** for leading the charge and submitting the first request for his uniformed picture. The remaining 16 Veterans received a gift certificate to Starbucks along with a copy of the veteran video of the piedmont chapter.



President **Ron Redner** was proud to inducted new member **Robert Tynan Redner**, and Ron's nephew, whose ancestor was **Gideon Ramsdale**, a Revolutionary War Patriot and also a Mayflower descendant.



Vice President **Al Finley** presented Chapters members **Bob Allgood** and **Eric Thorstenberg** with their green pins in recognition of their recent contributions to the Fund.



Piedmont Chapter Meeting Highlights

Saturday December, 21, 2019



Santa Claus "Neal Cobb" and his Elf "Mary" brought the Christmas spirit to the meeting

The Regular Chapter Meeting of the Piedmont Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution was held at the Roswell Recreation Center, Roswell Area Park, 10495 Woodstock Road, Roswell, Georgia on December 21, 2019. After the social hour and breakfast, President **Ron Redner** called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. The Invocation was led by Chaplain **Bob Allgood**. The Colors were displayed prior to the meeting, as several of the Color Guard members were in attendance at other events. Sgt-at-Arms **Zach Miller**. led the Chapter members in their Pledge of Allegiance and their pledge to the SAR.

Vice President **Al Finley** introduced the guest speakers, fellow Piedmont Chapter members **Bob Sapp**, and **George Thurmond**.

Compatriots Sapp and **Thurmond** gave an engaging presentation on the "10 Critical Days in December". The period surrounding the crossing of the Delaware River that turned the tide of the Revolutionary War is often called **The Ten Crucial Days**. From the crossing on December 25, 1776, through the Battle of Princeton on January 3, 1777, Washington and the Continental Army achieved three vital victories, ensuring the continuation of the Revolutionary War. The state of the Revolution at the end of 1776 was summed up by Thomas Paine on December 19, 1776, when he wrote the immortal words in *American Crisis*, "These are the times that try men's souls,". The crisis was simple; George Washington's army had been



beaten and driven from Long Island, New York was in British hands, and many of his troop's enlistments would expire at the end of the year. After a long retreat across New Jersey, the only thing holding the British at bay was winter, and the Delaware River. The Revolution tottered on the brink of failure. On



the night of December 25, 1776, General George Washington led 2,400 troops of the Continental Army in a perilous crossing of the icy Delaware River. Beset by freezing rain, they marched nine miles to Trenton, and delivered a stunning surprise attack on the Hessian garrison early the next morning. In the ten days succeeding Christmas, Washington had engaged the enemy in three battles and by winning two had restored belief in the possibility of ultimate victory.

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Al Finley presents **Bob Sapp** with Speaker Appreciation Certificate.





Piedmont Chapter Meeting Highlights

Saturday December, 21, 2019



President **Ron Redner** inducted new members **Ryan Hollenbeck**, **Conner Hollenbeck**, and **Jim Harris**.



Jim Harris was born in Lawrenceville, GA, retired from his career as an automobile dealership owner in 2005. Jim and his wife Marian live in Hoschton and are now empty nesters and in their second careers with a group of fitness related businesses. Jim's Patriot ancestor is James Milwee (also spelled Millwee). Born in York, PA in 1755, he volunteered in the Laurens District, South Carolina in 1777, and served as a Captain in the South Carolina

Militia in Colonel Anderson's (Robert Anderson's) Regiment for the term of six years. He died in Anderson, SC in 1813.



Ryan Hollenbeck is a passionate fan of history, enjoys reading about and experiencing first-hand historical events and sites. As a tech person his entire career, he spends a lot of his time launching and evaluating new technology, including as the current Chairman of Tech Alpharetta. He and his wife, Nancy have been married for 31 years -- and she continues to put up with his historical obsessions!



Conner Hollenbeck is from Alpharetta Georgia. I went to Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia, played football there and majored in Computer Science. I work for Cisco



Jim Harris having his rosette pinned at his induction ceremony



Bob Shaw and **Shep Hammock** greeting newly inducted member **Ryan Hollenbeck** as our custom.



Conner Hollenbeck displays his certificate at his induction to the Sons of the American Revolution.



Piedmont Chapter Color Guard



The Piedmont Chapter color guard has a long and proud history of representing our chapter and promoting patriotism throughout our community by presenting the Colors several times a month and for a wide variety of events and institutions. The color guard consist of Colonial uniformed members and Militia. If you are interested in joining the Piedmont Chapter Color Guard please speak with Rick Reese, Jr Color Guard Commander. Here are a few events they participated in recently.



The Piedmont Chapter Color Guard regularly presents the colors for the Roswell Ramblers monthly meetings. The Roswell Ramblers are a membership organization of active individuals who are interested in developing recreational programs and activities for the mutual benefit of citizens aged 50 and over. Color Guard Member, **Bob Sapp, George Thurmond, Paul Prescott,** and **Rick Reese, Jr.** recently presented the Colors for the Ramblers Annual Thanksgiving and Christmas lunches. These well attended events also included local entertainment and deliciously catered food for its membership.

Piedmont Color Guard Schedule

- 18 Jan Piedmont Chapter Meeting 8 AM
- 24 Jan INS Ceremony, 23rd floor, Richard Russell Federal Bldg Atlanta
- 24 Jan GASSAR Annual Meeting – Member Awards Banquet, Sonesta
- 25 Jan GASSAR Annual Meeting – Winter BOM mtg, officer election
- 25 Jan GASSAR Annual Meeting – Chapter and Youth Awards Lunch
- 29 Jan Traveling trunk – Amana Academy, 8:30 AM
- 08 Feb Kettle Creek “Heroes of the Hornets’ Nest” Elijah Clark Park
- 09 Feb Kettle Creek “Revolutionary Days” – Washington, GA
- 12 Feb Roswell Ramblers 11:30 AM
- 20 Feb Piedmont Chapter Annual Banquet, 6 PM

- 21 Feb INS Ceremony, Strom Auditorium, Federal Bldg, ATL
- 27-29 Feb NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting, Louisville, KY
- 11 Mar Roswell Ramblers, 11:30 AM
- 20 Mar Piedmont Chapter Meeting, 8 AM
- 04 April 3 Patriot Grave Markings, Marietta Nat. Cemetery
- 10 April INS Ceremony, Strom Auditorium, Federal Bldg, ATL
- 11 April Roswell Ramblers, 11:30 AM
- 13 May Roswell Ramblers, 11:30 AM
- 10 June Roswell Ramblers, 11:30 AM
- 12 June INS Ceremony, Strom Auditorium, Richard Russell Federal Bldg, Atlanta, Present Colors





Members of the Piedmont Chapter Color Guard, **George Thurmond**, **Bob Sapp**, **Rick Reese, Jr.**, **Ron Redner**, and Vice President **Al Finley** presented the Colors for the ceremony honoring Veterans at Mount Bethel Christian Academy on Tuesday 12 November 2019 in Marietta, GA.



Rick Reese, Jr. joins the panel discussion and Q&A with the other invited veterans to speak to the students and answer their Questions during the November ceremony.



The Piedmont Chapter Color Guard presented the Colors for the annual meeting of the GA Society of CPA's on Monday November 11th, 2019 at the Hotel at Avalon in Alpharetta, GA. The color guard was led by GASSAR President **Scott Collins**, who is also the president of the GA Society of CPA's. Compatriots, **Bob Sapp**, **George Thurmond**, **Ron Redner**, and **Rick Reese, Jr.** made up the rest of the color guard. It was a great event complete with a delicious breakfast.





The city of Milton, GA, honored Veterans Day with a proclamation from Mayor Joe Lockwood at the City Council Meeting on Monday, Nov 4th. A copy of proclamation was given to the members of the Piedmont Chapter present. The Piedmont Color Guard was invited to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.



Piedmont Chapter members George Thurmond, Bob Sapp, Bill Lusk, Paul Prescott, and Rick Reese pictured above with the Milton City Council, and other Veterans in attendance to the Nov City Council Meeting. At the right, Piedmont Color Guard and Vice President Finley Lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Compatriot **George Thurman** hosted a Christmas party for the AXO's at his house for his daughter Lynn and her sorority sisters. Word has been passed around about our strong support of Veterans.

Two years ago, an AXO (Debi Cipriani) donated over 700 personal care items for Vets and received a certificate at our January meeting. last year, one member (Sandy Yeary) brought in from Chicago a number personal care items and also received recognition from our chapter.



This year, Sandy again provided 179 personal care items along with all Sisters providing 114 pairs of Socks for Vets.

Amazing support by these sorority sisters who graduated in the late 1970's from Brenau University in Gainesville, GA. Go AXO!.



Eagle Scout Activity

The Piedmont Chapter is proud to recognize the hard work and commitment of these young men in achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. It is always an honor to attend and participate their courts of honor.

On November 2, 2019 Rick Reese, Jr. presented Riley Todd of troop 484 with a certificate of achievement on behalf of the Piedmont Chapter Sons of the American Revolution on the occasion of his Eagle Scout Court of Honor.



Eagle Scout Chairman and our registrar, Jamie Ruff's stepson and our compatriot John Jenness completed his Eagle Scout project in November.

It's a display of bird wingspans that he installed at Autrey Mill Nature Preserve in Johns Creek.

He led 15 volunteers from school, his football team, his scout troop and family over two days (and months of planning) to get it done. He did an outstanding job and his family and our chapter are real proud of him.





Eagle Scouts *continued*

The National Society Sons of the American Revolution offers annual scholarship awards for deserving Eagle Scouts. The competition begins at the Chapter level, with each chapter participating in this program selecting the most outstanding Eagle Scout from those who the chapter has evaluated. Next the winners from each chapter compete against each other at the state level. One state winner is selected by the State Society. Each State society winner competes against each other at the National level, where First, Second, and third place winners are selected.

Our Chapter winner is **W. Foster Michaelis**. As our Chapter winner, Foster will receive an award of \$150.00

W. Foster Michaelis, a young man on the autism spectrum who has been accepted by Oglethorpe University for college! Foster said: I have Autism, and My Parents Advice kept me pushing for greatness. "Do the things you have to do before the things you want to do". I've heard those words so many times they make me want to scream. All of these years, I have heard my Mom tell me the same advice over and over again. "Do the things you have to do before the things you want to do".



Walter Foster Michaelis—Eagle Scout

"Now I'm graduating high school and heading off to college to pursue my degree in history. Perhaps I'll study abroad for a semester. Maybe I'll get a cool internship somewhere. Maybe I might get a master's degree in creative writing, city planning, or political science. Maybe Mom was right the whole time."

Below is the essay submitted by our Chapter winner, W. Foster Michaelis

The Mad General

Many Revolutionary War leaders are household names across America because of their heroics. One patriot who does not get as much credit as he deserves is General "Mad" Anthony Wayne. He should be celebrated as one of our country's heroes, because he represents the American ideal of perseverance.

Anthony Wayne was born in Pennsylvania. In 1765, Benjamin Franklin sent him to survey land in Nova Scotia. He returned home, but when the Revolutionary War began, he raised a militia to fight for the colonies' independence. He rose through the military ranks and became a general.

In his first major battle, the Battle of Brandywine, his regiment was attacked by British forces, was outnumbered, and retreated. He set up camp in a nearby village on orders from George Washington, but he was ambushed again by the British at the Paoli Massacre. Wayne requested to be court-martialed for his role in the incident, but was unanimously found not guilty.

In another battle, British and American troops met in Monmouth, New Jersey. Wayne suggested to Washington that American troops should attack before the start of the battle, and Washington agreed. However, General Charles Lee disobeyed Washington's orders and retreated. Wayne and Washington were successful in attacking the British flanks during the battle, but Lee's error turned what would have been a great success into a tactical stalemate.

Wayne would find success during the later years of the war. In 1779, Wayne devised a daring plan to capture the crucial outpost of Stony Point. The fort was an important location because it was located on the Hudson River upstream from NYC. The British had occupied the city since the start of the war, and had used the outpost to solidify their position. Wayne gathered about 500 men to assault the fortress. Even though he suffered a severe wound during the fight, he led the raid to victory. This battle was the origin of his nickname, "Mad Anthony," because some suggested his plan to capture the fortress was insane. Wayne was commended by Washington for his role in the battle the very next day. Later on in the war, Wayne helped uncover Benedict Arnold's plot to surrender the nearby fort of West Point to the British.

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As a reward for signing a peace treaty with the Cherokee tribe, Wayne was later granted a plantation in Georgia. In 1793, President Washington called Wayne out of retirement to subdue Native Americans in the Northwest Territory. Wayne succeeded and signed the Treaty of Greenville, which established peace between Native Americans and American settlers until the War of 1812. It is this expedition which he is most famous for today, because he established a settlement which later became known as Fort Wayne, Indiana.

General Wayne is an example of the American story: he rose to the rank of general through hard work, and despite early setbacks in his military career, his patriotism and resiliency made him a great leader. He should be revered as a patriotic hero.

Piedmont Chapter Color Guard and the INS Ceremony

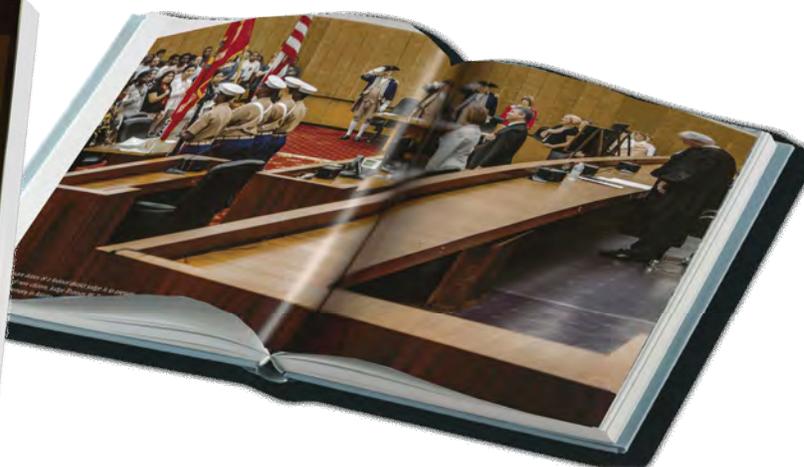
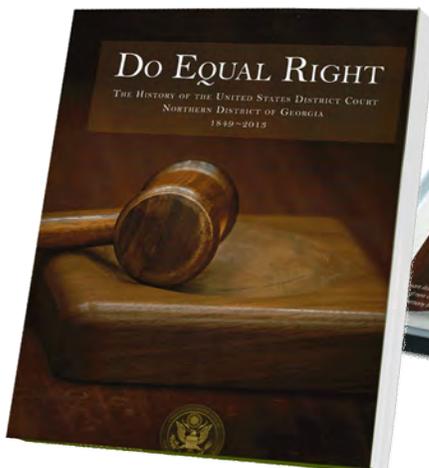


Piedmont Chapter members, George Thurmond, Ron Redner and Rick Reese, Jr. have their picture taken with a newly sworn-in citizen with her certificate.

The Piedmont Chapter began attending and presenting the Colors for the INS ceremony for the Atlanta Federal Court in the Richard Russell Federal Building in downtown Atlanta 15 years ago. **Paul Prescott, Bob Sapp, and George Thurmond** were our primary Color Guard members in the beginning. Over time other uniformed chapter members participated in the ceremony as we welcomed anywhere from 100 to 150 new citizens at each ceremony. Nearly all of the new citizens

wanted to have their picture taken with our chapter Color Guard members.

During the most recent INS ceremony on December 20th 2019 the presiding judge honored our Piedmont Chapter and the Color Guard members by presenting 5 members (Bob Sapp, Paul Prescott, Ron Redner, and Rick Reese, Jr. with a copy of a coffee table sized book (Do Equal Right) about the history of the United States District Court, Northern District of Georgia.



We were pleased to see that the “centerfold” picture in the book showed our Color Guard members **Paul Prescott, Shep Hammack, and George Thurmond** at an INS ceremony in 2013.

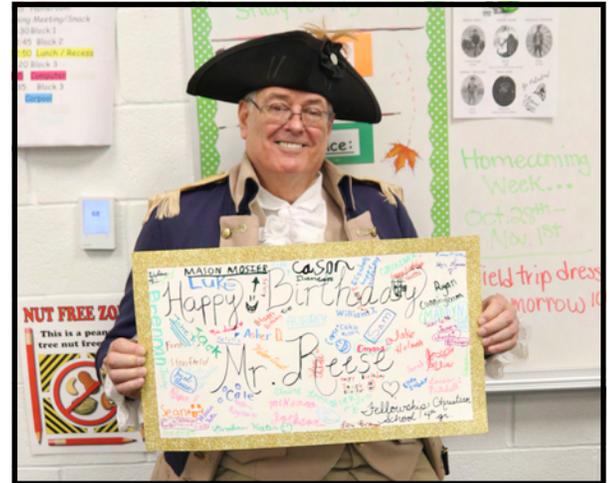


Traveling Trunk

As a part of our educational outreach the Piedmont Chapter regularly presents the very popular “Traveling Trunk” Program at local elementary schools around the community. The “Traveling Trunk” contains replicas of items that are typical of life in the time of the American Revolution. The presenter, dressed in Colonial or Militia Uniform, gives demonstrations, history lessons, and stories to give the students a glimpse into the past and how people lived



On October 22, 2019 at a presentation of the “Travelling Trunk” at Fellowship Christian School in Roswell, GA, compatriot **Rick Reese, Jr.** was surprised with the Birthday Card made by and signed by all the students.



At another program at State Bridge Crossing Elementary, in Johns Creek, GA,. **George Thurmond**, and **Rick Reese, Jr.** conducted the program for over 85 students. The assembly includes some hands on experience. The students are treated to their teacher Amy Clifton attempting the ball and cup game, a game that was popular during the time of the American Revolution.



A favorite American pastime for generations, it can still be found in many forms, although it is usually made of wood. This toy's origins can be traced back to early India and ancient Greece, with it being the fashion in late

16 th-century Europe for both children and adults alike to be skilled cup-and-ballers. It traveled from there to the New World, being one of the earliest games played in America.



The Significance of the Battle of Kettle Creek



Battle of Kettle Creek Marker
Photo by Rick Reese

One of the most important battles of the American Revolutionary War to be fought in Georgia occurred in Wilkes County, some 12 miles from present-day Washington, Georgia. Here on February 14, 1779, a force of 400 patriots, in a surprise attack, defeated a force of Loyalists twice their number. Savannah, Georgia, had recently been captured by the British on December 29, 1778, as part of the British “southern strategy” to pacify the South and separate it from the Middle and Northern rebellious colonies. Southern Loyalists welcomed the British arrival, while Southern patriots began to prepare for battle. Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Campbell, captured Savannah for the British with 3,500 men, soon came under the command of Brigadier General Augustine Prevost. Savannah had been defended by the American General Andrew Williamson from South Carolina, but he withdrew from the city when Campbell approached, fighting a rear-guard action with his roughly 1,000 Georgian and South Carolinian militia men.

The morning of Sunday, February 14 (St. Valentine’s Day) 1779, Colonel James Boyd and his roughly 650 British Loyalists recruited from North and South Carolina broke camp and continued towards their rendezvous with 80 Tory (British Loyalists) horsemen under Captain John Hamilton, one of the

most prominent Tories of the American Revolution, who they believed were waiting at Little River, not far away. Boyd was apparently unaware the men he was to rendezvous with had already retreated to the British Army.

At 10 A.M., the Loyalists hoisted their flags and beat their drums for the first time since they had entered Georgia. Hearing their drums, Colonel Andrew Pickens (later a U.S. Congressman), Col. John Dooly and Lt. Col. Elijah Clarke ordered their 400 patriot frontiersmen to “pick and prime” their weapons, which they checked, and then ordered those who had food to share it. Captain James McCall was sent forward to reconnoiter Boyd’s movements.

Boyd and his Loyalists marched two miles further and halted on the north side of Kettle Creek, where some cows had been found for food. Not suspecting any danger, the Loyalists left their horses to graze and began butchering the cattle. Pickens, learning of the Loyalists’ actions from McCall, who had come within view of the Loyalists without being detected, ordered an attack. His order of battle, planned that morning, would see Lt. Col. Elijah Clarke, commander of one wing of about 50 men, crossing the creek to attack the Loyalists on the left, while Col. Dooley would do the same on the right with another 100 men. Pickens, who would make the attack from the center with the remaining men, was preceded by an advanced group 150 yards in front of him which had orders not to fire on the enemy. Pickens plan, had it been executed, would have surrounded the Loyalists and attacked them by surprise from three sides. However, the plan failed.



Patriot Re-Enactors
at the Battle of Kettle Creek
Photo by Rick Reese, III

Three of the Patriots were separated from Clarke’s forces and found themselves near Boyd’s Loyalists. They fired upon Colonel Boyd. As Boyd fell, mortally wounded, the Loyalists panicked and ran. Pickens and his men pursued the fleeing Loyalists to their main group and captured the

dying Boyd. Dooly and Clarke, meanwhile, did not cross the creek as ordered, but were stuck in the cane swamps on either side of the Loyalists. When the three wings of Pickens’ attack finally reached the main body of Loyalists, many of them had already crossed the creek and were reforming on a hill to their right. Lt. Col. Clarke ordered a charge across the creek to attack the Loyalists forces, but as he did so, his horse was shot from under him. He quickly remounted and crossed the creek at a ford that he found when he had fallen from his horse. However, no more than a quarter of his men heard him and followed.

On the other side of the creek many more Loyalists were reforming on one side of the hill under Loyalist Major William Spurgin when Clarke attacked from the other side. Clarke, now reinforced by Pickens’ and Dooly’s men, who had crossed through his swamp, finally forced the Loyalists to retreat in confusion after a half-hour struggle. The entire battle was less than two hours. Although accounts of the Loyalist casualties vary, only 270 of those roughly 700 men reached the British forces between Augusta and Savannah. In addition 600 horses and a great deal of baggage were captured at Kettle Creek and Carr’s Fort, which had preceded Kettle Creek. After the battle, Pickens met with Boyd, who was still conscious, but dying from his wounds. One account states that Boyd gave Pickens a letter and some small items to send his wife. Boyd died early that evening.

The importance of the battle showed the determination of the Southern Patriots and was a reminder to the Loyalist forces that they were not safe in the open country, away from the British bases and army. In many ways the Revolutionary War was a civil war, with Loyalist militia forming whenever the British Army arrived in force. Loyalist units were particularly active in fighting in the Middle and Southern colonies. While never a majority of the colonial population, they consisted of a strong minority. After the Revolutionary war, an estimated 20% of Loyalists moved to Canada, where they were compensated for their losses by the British government.



Battle of Kettle Creek
Monument at “War Hill”
Photo by Rick Reese, III



NATIONAL SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION HEADQUARTERS

Located along Main Street's Museum Row in downtown Louisville, the Sons of the American Revolution is the leading male lineage society that perpetuates the ideals of the war for independence. As a patriotic, historical, and educational non-profit corporation, it seeks to maintain and expand the meaning of patriotism, respect for our national symbols, the value of American citizenship, and the unifying force of "e pluribus unum" that was created from the people of many nations.



National Headquarters Building
809 West Main Street, Louisville, KY

The historical buildings themselves, housing the SAR's administrative offices, Library, and Center Gallery, showcase a cast iron façade in the Modified Renaissance Revival style prevalent in American architecture in the late nineteenth century. The Soho district in New York City is the only place in the United States with more cast iron façades than Louisville's Main Street. The warehouse (located from 803 to 807 West Main Street) was occupied in the early years by a variety of tobacco brokers, including the Kentucky Tobacco Company.

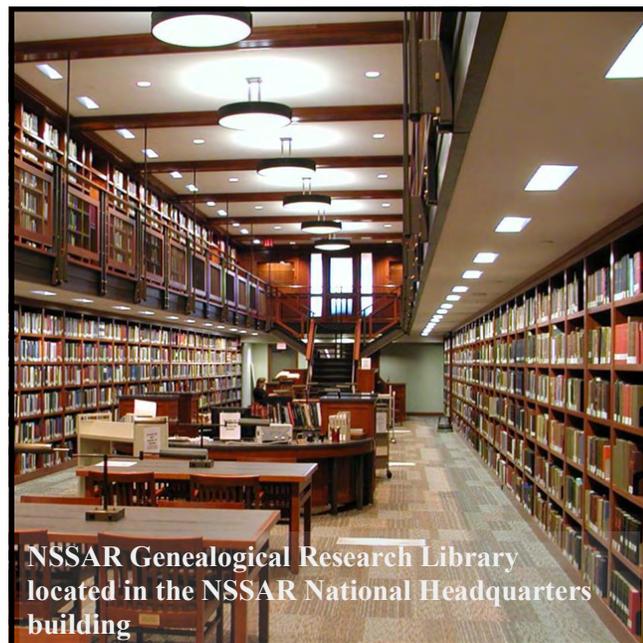


In the early twentieth century, its use had switched to grocery and coffee storage.

While Kentucky was not a cotton-growing state, the Brandeis & Sanders Building (located at 809 West Main Street) was a testament to the importance of the Ohio River for transportation, and Louisville as a distribution point, for the southern cotton commodity trade. On March 27, 1890, a class-4 tornado came through Louisville and heavily damaged the 800 block of Main Street. The Kentucky Tobacco Warehouse was "completely wrecked with the exception of a part of the front and back walls," according to the March 29 *Louisville Commercial*, and the top two floors were never reconstructed, leaving the current building shorter than its neighbors. During the years surrounding the start of the Great Depression, it was vacant. In 1936, A. J. Whitley purchased the building, and relocated Fulton Conway & Company, an automobile accessories business, from a location a few doors west on Main Street. In March 1974, the 800 block of Louisville's West Main Street was listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

On February 23, 2008, under the leadership of President General Bruce A. Wilcox, the SAR general officers, vice presidents general, and trustees voted to take the first step to relocate the SAR national Headquarters to West Main Street in Louisville. In October 2010, the Genealogical Research Library began operations in its new facility on West Main Street, with the full transition of the Headquarters to its current location occurring over the summer months of 2014.

The SAR Genealogical Research Library collection contains over 55,000 items including family histories; local, county, and state records; and online genealogical databases. The Mary & James S. Craik Special Collections Room also houses the miniature of Dr. James Craik by Charles Willson Peale, the George Washington book collection, and several artifacts of importance surrounding General Washington's life and early U.S. history.



NSSAR Genealogical Research Library
located in the NSSAR National Headquarters building



Piedmont Chapter Announcements

Dear Compatriots,

As we close out the year with the SAR I want to again thank everyone who supported scouting by helping to present SAR recognition certificates to recent Eagle Scouts. I also invite anyone who's interested in presenting to please let me know if you have questions. I will forward a final report for 2019 activity in the next few days and update our Americanism report soon thereafter.

In the meantime, we are off to a good start for 2020 already and have been asked to participate in a few upcoming ceremonies honoring Eagle Scouts. We need at least one member at each of the following courts of honor. All are for Troop 2000 and will be held at Johns Creek Presbyterian Church. Who's available on these dates?

- January 18, 1pm - 3 scouts
- February 22, 1pm - 1 scout
- March 7, 1pm - 3 scouts

Many thanks, I'm proud to be associated with you all.

Yours in Scouting...

Jaime Ruff
404-428-8040



Take Notice

241st Anniversary of the Battle of Kettle Creek Revolutionary Days

A National Society SAR Historic Sites & Celebrations Event
Sponsored by the Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution
February 7, 8 & 9, 2020 Washington, GA

The Piedmont Chapter would like recognize **Nicole McCann**, the owner of the **Reveille CoffeeHouse Café** for their generous donation to our Chapter of the gift cards that were presented to our veteran members during our Veteran program at the November meeting. Please visit one of their 2 locations in Johns Creek or Marietta. They are very veteran friendly and have specials for Veterans every month. The ongoing specials they support are the following.

1. Each Veterans day - Veterans will be provided a meal at no cost.
2. The 11th of each month is Veteran appreciation where the Veterans meal will be discounted at 50% for a party of two.
3. All active duty military received 50% discount every day.



Locations

1. Haynes Bridge; 9925 Haynes Bridge Road, Johns Creek, GA
2. Sandy Plains; 2960 Shallowford Rd., Marietta, GA



The Piedmont Piper

Rick Reese, Jr • 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 published 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 **Bill Johnson Community Activity Building Roswell Area Park Drive, Building A Roswell Area Park 10495 Woodstock Road, Roswell, GA**. 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 **Feb 1st 2020** 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.

Upcoming Events

Piedmont Chapter Meeting Saturday, Jan 18

Bill Johnson Community Activity Building
Roswell Area Park Drive, Building A Roswell Area Park
10495 Woodstock Road, Roswell, GA.
Breakfast at 8:00 AM, meeting at 8:30 AM

**Guest Speaker: Mary Williams, Regent Martha Stewart
Bulloch DAR**

Topic: Women and their Contribution to the Revolutionary War

Piedmont Chapter Meeting Thursday, Feb 20

Houck's Grille
Piedmont Chapter 26th Annual Banquet
10930 Crabapple Road, B130
Roswell, GA 30075
Social Hour at 6:00 PM, Dinner at 7:00 PM

Guest Speaker: Bill Dobbs
Topic: Planning for the SAR 2022 Congress in Savannah

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