



# The Piedmont Piper

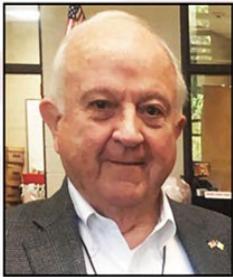
bi-monthly newsletter for the Piedmont Chapter of the Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution

Edition CXLIX (149th Issue)

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

June 2020

## Message From Piedmont Chapter President Al Finley



Allen Finley

**TO HONOR OUR ANCESTRAL FAMILY**  
We have over the last 26 years gone beyond

and above many chapters throughout the USA by spawning 6 new chapters and still ended last year with over 100 members.

If you wonder why, it is all due to the involvement of our chapter members. And, for those of you who are relatively new to our chapter, we cannot predict the future, but WE can make it happen! As we look forward to

*Continued on page 2*

## In This Issue

- Zoom Meetings
- Meeting Highlights
- New Member Bios
- Flag Retirement Ceremony
- Disease in the Revolution
- Poster Contest Winner
- Brochure Contest Winner
- The Great Garrison Flag
- Announcements

## MAKE ROOM FOR ZOOM ADAPTING TO THE "NEW NORMAL"



In light of the outbreak of COVID-19, and the restrictions of public meetings, along with the concerns of public health, Piedmont adapted and innovated the way our monthly meetings are conducted. In fact the Piedmont chapter has led the way with the online meeting. Compatriot **Rick Reese, Jr**, our "Zoom Czar" has developed the online meeting via ZOOM, the online cloud based virtual meetings service. Rick facilitates the meetings, complete with virtual presentations of our power point, speaker notes, visual aids, and videos. We have conducted 3 chapter meetings since our March meeting was cancelled due to the Corona Virus via the popular online meeting room. In fact as an interesting side note in the United States since March 18 Zoom's daily users spiked to 200 million in March, up from 10 million in December. In addition to the chapter meetings, we have held our Board of Managers meetings, and even live streamed our recent Flag Retirement Ceremony via Zoom as well, **with new webcam purchased by the Piedmont Fellow Fund.**

The new virtual meetings have not only provided a safe environment to conduct our meetings, it has also been an opportunity for many of our members who live out of state the ability to join and participate in our meetings as well.



In addition to our members from afar, we also have been fortunate to have our State President, former State Presidents, and many other guests now regularly attend our meetings.

The experiment has been so successful that once the 'all clear' is given we will be incorporating the ZOOM meeting into our in person gatherings. This will provide our out of state membership, and any others that may otherwise be unable to attend the ability to interact with the membership, both online and in person.



## Message From Piedmont Chapter President Al Finnley (continued)

2020, the Piedmont Chapters needs your involvement

HOW? Have heard some of you tell me that when they retire, they will get involved. But since I have been working for myself for 35 years, that thinking needs to be reviewed. We all are given 24 hours in each day, so please consider some of these ways to help your chapter.

**Our color guard needs more of you to get involved (there are both chapter and state stipends for uniforms or clothing).**

**We have a speaker's bureau that needs additional voices to help educate organizations and schools about our American History.**

**Extending our reach into the Eagle Scout programs to honor our upcoming leaders.**

**Honoring our military personnel thru our JROTC as well those Vets who have served. We are starting a new outreach thru the National Society to help disabled or PTSD veterans search their ancestral background to give them a new purpose**

**Helping locate and mark our ancestor's graves, as well as other patriots who served but have gone without recognition**

**We all can remember a Teacher who made learning wonderful, so you can join our commitment to the education of our younger generation by assisting in our educational outreach**

**Assist in our "traveling trunk" program**

**Poster contests for 4<sup>th</sup> graders**

**Brochure contests for 8<sup>th</sup> graders**

**Knight essay for High School students**

***NOTE:** winners of these that we hold locally by Piedmont then go onto state and then national with monetary awards being presented at each level.*

***NOTE:** we are trying to make American History come alive in an environment where it is really lacking.*

During these unprecedented times, we all have time to reevaluate our priorities and help the Piedmont Chapter make its commitment to expanding its reach into new areas and schools and the breath of our involvement to our existing program.

As Americans, we have fought many wars, and this is another war that will tell our children and grandchildren how we stood and fought. I have told my children that I want my grandchildren to remember our family stance, not the virus, when they are our age and are telling their grandchildren.

*God bless America and each of you,  
Thanks Al*



## Can't we all just get together? - A message from our "ZOOM CZAR" Rick Reese, Jr.

They say that necessity is the mother of invention. Well, experience with the COVID-19 virus certainly has given all of us reason to rethink what normal is, and how can we get on with our lives under these trying times while remaining safe and respectful of the safety of those around us at the same time.

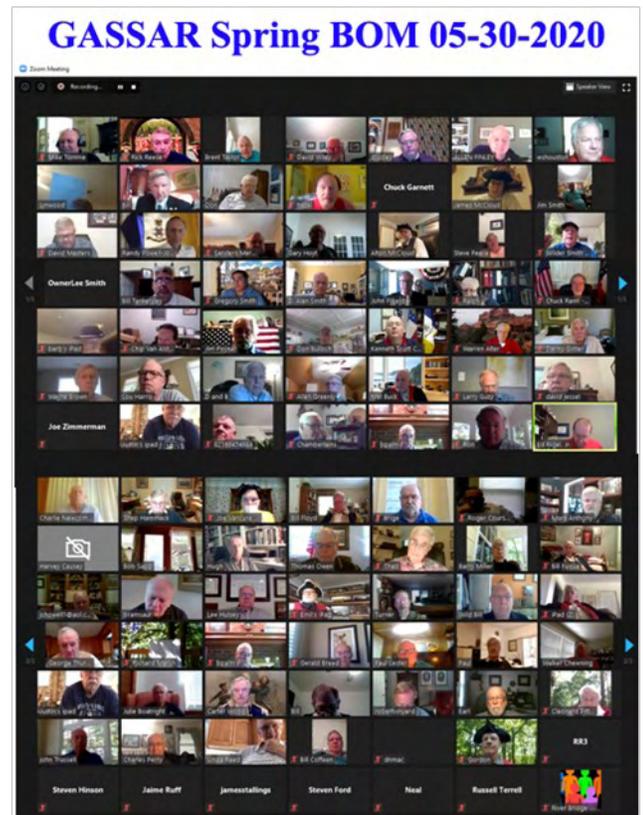
In the Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution where we have been accustomed to monthly in-person chapter meetings and interaction with the schools and community groups in our areas all that suddenly halted in March because of the virus issues. Parades and grave marking ceremonies which usually would have occurred were now cancelled. Is this going to be our new normal?

Since holding monthly meetings with our members is a major part of how we as a Chapter communicate and enjoy the camaraderie of getting together with our members, we felt it necessary to find a way to hold our meetings safely, and in a meaningful way.

The solution was to hold "virtual" meetings using **ZOOM**. After exploring a variety of software available to hold online meetings, it seemed that Zoom was the most user friendly software platform to accomplish our "virtual" online meetings needs.

We did reasonably well with our first virtual Piedmont Chapter meeting in April, and I learned a lot through that experience. Our chapter member and GASSAR Metro Regional VP **Ron Redner** encouraged me to work with the other chapters in the Metro region (Atlanta, Button Gwinnett, Robert Forsyth, and Mount Vernon) to hold a series of Zoom meetings with chapter Presidents or a representative of their chapter to acquaint them with the use of Zoom. That worked well. After that I hosted a Zoom meeting for the membership of Mount Vernon and Atlanta to get them started.

GASSAR President **Bill Dobbs** was a participant in our Piedmont Zoom meetings, as well as the Mount Vernon meetings. He felt that the Zoom platform would be applicable for the GASSAR Spring Board of Managers meeting on May 30, 2020, so we planned for that event. The GASSAR Spring BOM meeting worked well with a total of **100 participants** online line for the event.



## ZOOM HINT- How to Change Your Zoom Background

Before joining a meeting:

- Open the app and sign in.
- Click your profile picture, then click on Settings.
- In the left menu bar, click on the Virtual Background tab
- In the Virtual Background tab, select one of Zoom's defaults or upload your own image.
- If you have a green screen set-up, you can select that option.
- To add your own image or video, click the + icon to upload from your computer.



# Piedmont Chapter Meeting Highlights

Saturday April 18, 2020



The Regular Chapter Meeting of the Piedmont Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution was held via Zoom (due to the COVID-19 crisis) at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 18, 2020. This was the Chapter's first foray into Zoom technology and the meeting was attended by 36 participants.

President **Allen Finley** called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The Invocation was led by **Chaplain Steve Morrison**. Sgt-at-Arms **Rick Reese, Jr.** led the Chapter members in their Pledge of Allegiance and the SAR pledge.

**Meeting Purpose & Recognition of Guests:** President **Finley** noted that the Zoom technology being used to conduct the present meeting would probably be used for future meetings (so long as CDC guidelines preclude large in-person gatherings) and that the Chapter would also be examining the possibility of live streaming future meetings for those members unable to attend. He then introduced several guests who were attending, including GASSAR President **Bill Dobbs**, who noted that the State B.O.M. meeting scheduled for May 30th would probably be online as well.

**Membership Report:** Registrar **Jaime Ruff** presented the Membership report, noting that Chapter membership presently stands at 105, including two new members who will be inducted in the future. He also reported that the Chapter has one application in process at National and four at the State level, as well as four supplementals in process.

**Color Guard Report:** Color Guard Commander **Rick Reese, Jr.** noted that, unfortunately, due to the coronavirus pandemic, all of the Color Guard activities scheduled for the near term have been suspended.

**Veterans Report:** Chairman **Joe Zimmerman** reported that all visits to the Decatur V.A. Hospital have been suspended due to the pandemic, but reminded members to continue to collect items for future distribution.

**Historical Video: The Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge:** President **Al Finley** introduced the video presentation, noting that the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge occurred early in the Revolutionary War, on February 27, 1776, just north of what is now present day Fayetteville, NC. The Patriot forces, numbering about 1,050 men and comprised mostly of Scottish immigrants, removed planks from the bridge and greased the remaining girders. When the Loyalist forces, numbering approximately 3,500 men demanded that the Patriots surrender, they refused, held their ground and broke the Loyalist charge against them. The Patriots then replaced the planks on the bridge, pursued the Loyalists and captured 850 of them. Surprisingly, only one Patriot soldier was killed and one wounded. This destroyed the incentive of the North Carolina Loyalists to fight any additional battles in the state. After the presentation, President **Finley**, joined by **George Thurmond** and **Bob Sapp**, led a discussion of the historical significance of the battle.





# Piedmont Chapter Meeting Highlights

Saturday May 16, 2020



The Regular Chapter Meeting of the Piedmont Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution was held via Zoom (due to the COVID -19 crisis) at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 16, 2020. This was the Chapter’s second meeting using Zoom technology and the meeting was attended by 33 participants.

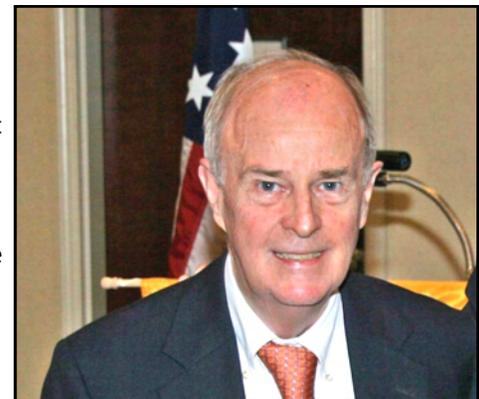
President Allen Finley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

The Invocation was led by Chaplain Steve Morrison.

Sgt-at-Arms Rick Reese, Jr. led the Chapter members in their Pledge of Allegiance and in the SAR pledge.

**Meeting Purpose & Recognition of Guests:** President **Finley** noted that the Zoom technology being used to conduct the present meeting would probably be used in future meetings (even upon the Chapter’s eventual return to a physical meeting place) to allow for live streaming of those meetings for members unable to attend. He then introduced several guests who were attending, including GASSAR President **Bill Dobbs**, as well as GASSAR secretary, **John Flikeid**.

**Introduction of Guest Speaker:** Vice President **Joe Zimmerman** introduced the guest speaker, Piedmont Compatriot **Gerald (“Jerry”) Breed**, whose patriot ancestor, Joseph Breed, served in the South Carolina militia. Jerry gave a very informative presentation about the Battle of Alamance, NC, which occurred on May 16, 1771. At this battle, Royal Governor Tryon’s forces defeated the Regulators, an organization of farmers and frontiersmen, at Alamance, which is located nine miles south of Burlington, NC. This defeat, which was a precursor to the outbreak of the Revolution, helped to dampen support for the Tories in the Carolinas. Governor Tryon was ultimately sent to New York as its royal governor by the Crown.



Gerald (“Jerry”) Breed

**Speaker Appreciation:** Vice President **Zimmerman** thanked Jerry and announced that he will receive a Certificate of Appreciation and a \$2 bill.

**President’s Challenge for Piedmont Chapter Members:** President **Al Finley** then reviewed the Chapter’s present status and challenged the members to not only continue their present award winning support of local activities and groups, but to become involved at the National and State levels, including, when possible, supporting the George Washington Fellows Fund and the National SAR Library Fund. President **Finley** noted that expanding technology will help the members (which now number over 100) to expand their outreach programs at both the State and National levels, as well as to continue their participation in local activities, such as Scouting, Education, the Color Guard and Travelling Trunk program, as well as support of local Veterans programs.

**Membership Report:** President **Finley**, filling in for **Jaime Ruff**, noted that Chapter membership presently stands at 106 members.

**Veterans Report:** Chairman **Joe Zimmerman** reported that Operation Ancestor Search, which originated at the National level, is being expanded at the local level to assist veterans, their family members and caregivers in performing genealogical research. Joe also noted that the Chapter has, thus far, donated \$2,500 for distribution of meals to V.A. staffers at their Duluth, GA facility during the covid-19 crisis and that more meal distributions are scheduled for May.

**New Business:** President **Finley** invited Dr. Ed Rigel of the Georgia Society to speak about the upcoming 2022 National conference in Savannah. Dr. Rigel noted that, in 2021, the Georgia Society attains its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and reminded the members of opportunities to purchase commemorative medals, pins, etc. through the Georgia Society website.



# Piedmont Chapter Meeting Highlights

Saturday June, 20, 2020



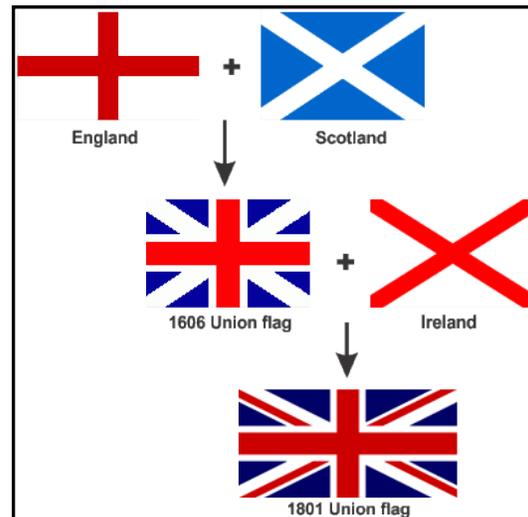
The Regular Chapter Meeting of the Piedmont Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution was held via Zoom (due to the COVID-19 crisis) at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 20, 2020.

President **Allen Finley** called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The Invocation was led by Chaplain **Steve Morrison**.

Sgt-at-Arms **Rick Reese, Jr.** led the Chapter members in their Pledge of Allegiance and in the SAR pledge.

**SPEAKER PRESENTATION:** Our speaker this month was Compatriot **Mark Anthony** who gave a very interesting presentation on Colonial America and Flag history. The story of the American Revolution as told by it's flags. Compatriot **Anthony** gave

an engaging and enlightening program focusing on the variety of revolutionary flags and the evolution of the American flag.



Anthony began with story of the earliest "Union" flag, and how it was a composite of

England (*Cross of St George c1277*), Scotland (*Cross of St. Andrew c800*), and Ireland (*Cross of St. Patrick c1601*), and how they to create the "Union" early militia and battle flags, to the birth and evolution of the American Flag.

We also conducted our first "Zoom" induction ceremony. We were proud to induct and welcome **Nikolas Cole, Al Benton, Dan Campbell, Ron Windsor, and Glen Kirk** to the Piedmont Chapter .

## We learned important takeaways after holding a number of these Zoom online meetings:

1. First, by opening the login process a half an hour prior to the start of each meeting we have most all participants online before the actual start of the meeting.
2. Second, and perhaps even more important, an early login allows the online members and guests to have an opportunity to all "see" each other and talk together before the meeting actually begins.
3. Recording these meetings and other events such as the Flag Retirement Ceremony allows participants to relive the experience, AND those who were unable to attend to enjoy the entire meeting experience at their leisure.



# Flag Retirement Ceremony

Saturday June, 27, 2020



The Robert Forsyth and Piedmont Chapters held their annual Flag Retirement Ceremony on June 27, 2020 at the Ingram Funeral Home in Cumming, GA. This was 6th ceremony since the flag retirement program began. Worn and unserviceable flags have been collected by both Chap-



ters throughout the year from 5 Flag retirement receptacles placed at Home Depot locations in Cumming, Dawsonville, Johns Creek, Alpharetta, and Roswell. These flags will be properly and respectfully retired during this annual ceremony. This year we collected and respectfully disposed of over 2100 flags.



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This event was conducted with social distancing, but since many members may have not been able to attend in person, we able to live stream the ceremony via Zoom. Compatriot **Rick Reese, Jr.** manned the controls so guests could enjoy the event remotely.



## HISTORY OF THE FLAG RECYCLING PROGRAM

In 2013, **Allen Greenly** (President of the Robert Forsyth Chapter in GA) and **John Flikeid** developed a project for the construction of a Flag Receptacle to be placed in partnering Home Depot store locations. Home Depot customers would be able to deposit their worn and unserviceable flags in the Flag Receptacle. Those flags would be collected by members of the sponsoring SAR chapter, and properly disposed of in an annual Flag Retirement Ceremony at a local funeral home and crematory to be held on a weekend close to Flag Day. The sponsorship of these Flag Receptacles was also shared by local DAR, C.A.R. societies, and local Boy Scout Troops. The initial Flag Receptacle was sponsored by the Robert Forsyth Chapter, SAR, the Martha Stewart Bulloch Chapter, DAR and Boy Scout Troop 1099. This flag receptacle was placed in the Cumming Home Depot on Flag Day 2013. The first year, the Robert Forsyth Chapter collected approximately 500 flags from this receptacle. Based on the success of this first receptacle, the Robert Forsyth Chapter installed a second Flag Receptacle in the Dawsonville Home Depot. This receptacle was also sponsored by the Martha Stewart Bulloch Chapter, DAR and the local Dawsonville Boy Scouts.



## Meet our New Members

Please welcome these newly inducted members of our chapter. The Corona Virus prevents us from meeting in person, we still encourage the membership to reach out and welcome our new members, thru email, and or phone until we can meet again in person.

### **AL Benton** - Patriot Ancestor is **Abner Seeley**, Captain, VT, "Green Mountain Boys"



**Al Benton** was born in Monticello, NY. He graduated from Syracuse University with a BS degree. He attended courses and seminars on a continuing basis, sponsored by the Appraisal Institute Counselors of Real Estate, and the Institute of Professional in Taxation.

**Licenses and Certifications:**

Licensed Real Estate Broker State of GA (1978-present)

GA State Certified General Real Property Appraiser.

**Professional Experience:**

**The Counselors of Real Estate**

Member (CRE) certificate No. 886

Present and Past Member of numerous national Committees, Vice-President—1996, Board of Directors, Vice-Chairman of the Board (2005), Chairman of the Board (2006).

### **DAN CAMPBELL** - Patriot Ancestor is **Daniel Evans**, Ensign, PA Militia

**Dan Campbell** is a Senior Advisor with ACA Compliance Group and provides compliance consulting services to investment advisers, including hedge fund, private equity, real estate, and other registered advisers. Prior to joining ACA in 2011, Dan served as an Assistant Regional Director at the SEC's Atlanta Regional Office, and previously earned his BBA from James Madison University and his MBA from Emory University's Goizueta Business School. Dan currently lives in Roswell with his wife Carey and two teenage sons, Wyatt and Beckett.



### **RON WINDSOR** - Patriot Ancestor is **Arthur Davis**, soldier, SC militia

**Ron Windsor** was Born in 1948 in Douglas, GA, Graduated from UGA 1969.

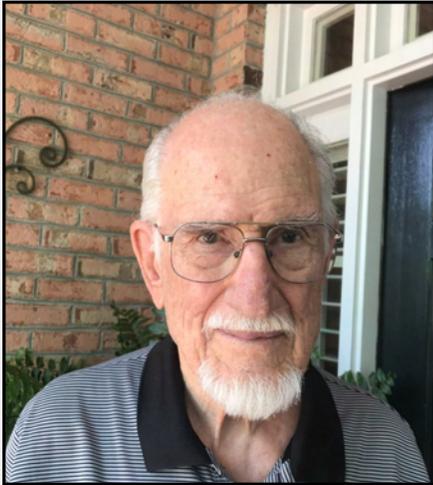
Married Meg Greenway in Atlanta and has 2 children, and 4 grandchildren. Ron enjoyed a career in real estate, initially finance/lending then developed numerous shopping centers throughout the southeast US

Ron is currently retired and enjoys golf, and fishing. Compatriot Windsor is a member of Alpharetta Methodist.



## Meet our New Members

**GLEN KIRK** - Patriot Ancestor is **William Edmondson**, Sgt., VA and NC militia.



**Glenn F. Kirk, Jr**, born in Atlanta on 24 Jan 1931, the only child of Glenn F. Kirk and Frantie Mae Morris. He attended elementary schools in East Point, New Orleans and Atlanta. Graduated from Brown Junior High, attended Tech High School and graduated from Brown High. Graduated from Georgia Tech with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. Attended the NYU Graduate School of Business.

Worked for Western Electric for 41 years as an engineer, supervisor and manager, retiring in 1995 as Installation Staff Manager.

Married Alberta Mass in 1960, had five children, four daughters and a son, and eight grandchildren. My wife died in 2012. My oldest daughter lives with me in the house in Roswell that I bought in 1966. Worked on a seasonal basis for H & R Block for eleven years preparing tax returns.

Raised as a Baptist, changed to Presbyterian in 1968, and have been a member of the Roswell Presbyterian Church for 52 years, serving variously as Sunday School teacher, deacon and elder. Enjoy golf, but knees have kept me away from it, lately. Have been pursuing my family's genealogy for several years, primarily on-line with ancestry.com and familysearch.com.

**NIKOLAS COLE** - Patriot Ancestor is **George Fry**, Captain, PA Militia and also continental line.

**Nikolas Cole** was born in Atlanta Georgia. I graduated from Rivers Academy. My accomplishments are Grand Champion Angler is Islamorada, Florida. Trained bird dogs and achieved Master Hunter certification in AKC trials. I work for PHTC managing a clinic.





## Piedmont Makes Donation to the Atlanta VA Hospital



We express our appreciation to Piedmont Veterans Committee Chairman **Joe Zimmerman**, and our Vice President, for organizing and implementing this project for our chapter to recognize and reward the heroic dedication of the health care staff at the VA Hospital during this pandemic.

The Piedmont Chapter members of the Sons of the American Revolution are grateful to the doctors, nurses, medical personnel, and hospital staff putting themselves on the front lines of the COVID-19 crisis in the Atlanta Veteran's Hospital. While the

members of our SAR chapter are doing our part by staying home, these health care workers are heading to the hospital every day, fighting around the clock to save lives.

The Piedmont Chapter salutes them for the incredible sacrifice they are making. Our members joined in unison to help thank those who are helping so many! In appreciation of these efforts our chapter donated \$2500.00 to support the creation of a box lunch meal for these workers. In coordination with City Barbecue, a locally owned restaurant group, our chapter provided assorted barbecue sandwiches and two homemade sides to the medical staff of the Covid-19 units within the hospital. We provided donated 500 meals to the hospital health care staff during the month of May.

Below is a "Thank You" letter from Anthony Cooper, Chief of Voluntary Services for the VA Health Care System in Decatur.

*Dear Supporter:*

*I wish to extend my personal thanks to Piedmont Chapter of Sons of the American Revolution on behalf of the Atlanta VA Health Care System (AVAHCS) patients and staff for your recent donation of 500 City Barbeque meal for hospital workers in response to COVID-19 pandemic. Your generous donation is a tremendous help as we adapt to these unprecedented circumstances. It is through the efforts of community partners like Piedmont Chapter of Sons of the American Revolution that allow us to continue the quality care and services that we seek to provide our deserving Veterans. We look forward to the opportunity to work with you again for future events. Thank you for your continued support.*



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
Atlanta VA Health Care System  
1670 Clairmont Road  
Decatur, Georgia 30033-9819

Piedmont Chapter Sons of the American Revolution  
(ATTN: Joe Zimmerman)  
228 Spaulding Drive No. 433  
Sandy Springs, GA 30022

Dear Supporter:

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Thank you for your continued support!

Sincerely,

*Anthony G. Cooper*  
Anthony G. Cooper  
Chief Voluntary Service



## Piedmont Speakers Bureau

Just before the Stay at Home Order went into effect, Piedmont Member, Rick Reese, Jr., was invited to speak at the Mount Vernon Chapter monthly meeting.

Rick's topic that evening was his patriot's cabin, which was recently relocated and restored to its original condition.



## The Brockett Cabin Restoration

Rick Reese, Jr.

One evening two years later I received a phone call...“You don't know me, but I want to talk with you about your 4<sup>th</sup> Great Grandfather, William Brockett”. That was Jeff Page. He had seen the Piper article and tracked me down. He told me of a project to find and relocate a Revolutionary War era cabin to Mount Juliet, TN. The property is owned by Beverly Elliott. The house they selected was my patriot ancestor's house, the Brockett cabin. The Brockett cabin was purchased for that purpose.

William Ebenezer Brockett was born on 26 June 1748 in Wallingford, CT. Later he married Martha Ives in New Bern, NC. He was a Revolutionary War Line Captain serving 7 years in the battles of Rocky Mount and Hanging Rock in North Carolina, as well as the battles of Fishing Creek, and Rugley's Mills in South Carolina.

After the War Captain Brockett moved with his wife to Smith County, TN, built the cabin in 1786, and raised 11 children in the house. The cabin was in Smith County, TN, with the Brockett Family Cemetery located across the road in Macon County, TN

I kept in touch with Jeff as the project proceeded. He emailed pictures of the disassembly of the cabin in Smith County, TN. He also sent me pictures of the reconstruction of the cabin in Mount Juliet. These were step by step images showing the fine work of the craftsmen participating in this effort to restore the historic cabin to its former stature

Building the Roof



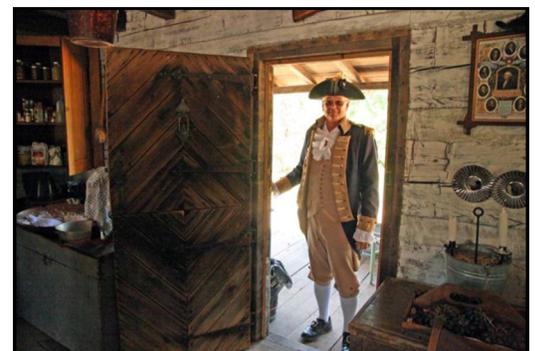
Front of the House



Mt. Vernon Chapter Vice President **Jim McDonald** presents **Rick Reese, Jr.** with a Certificate of Speaker Appreciation.

with great attention to detail while using the construction techniques appropriate for the time period of the late 1780's.

When the project was completed and cabin decorated with artifacts and replicas typical of the time period, Jeff invited my family and me to attend a celebration of the restored cabin in the form of a “Thanksgiving” type meal prepared in the cabin's cooking fireplace. Everyone there had a great time, and enjoyed examining the authentic detail of the restored cabin. Since I was there in my Revolutionary War uniform, I gave a talk to the assembled audience about what life was like during Revolutionary War era. It was really an impromptu “Traveling Trunk” program.



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# POSTER CONTEST

The Piedmont Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution sponsored our annual Elementary School Poster contest. The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) invites all 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students interested in the American Revolution to participate in the Americanism Elementary School Poster Contest. The contest is open to public school, parochial, home schooled, Scouting, or Children of the American Revolution member students in that same grade range. Young artists with an enthusiasm toward art, a love of American history, or a passion in creative expression can submit their posters to their local SAR chapter for competition.

The theme for the Poster Contest rotates annually based upon whether the school year ends in an even or odd number.

For academic years ending in even numbers, the theme shall be "Revolutionary War Events." For academic years ending in odd numbers, the theme shall be "Revolutionary War Person or Persons."

This year's First Place winner is 4th grader **Ayame Masuda**.

Ayame was awarded a total of \$125.00 and a certificate. Ayame's poster went on to win 1st place in the State Contest and is competing in the National Contest.





# BROCHURE CONTEST

Piedmont Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution sponsored a Middle School brochure contest in which individual 8<sup>th</sup> grade students create a tri-fold brochure out of a typical 8 1/2" x 11" piece of paper with the contest theme, which was on one the five foundational documents of the United States.



- Articles of Confederation
- Declaration of Independence
- Constitution
- Federalist Papers
- Bill of Rights

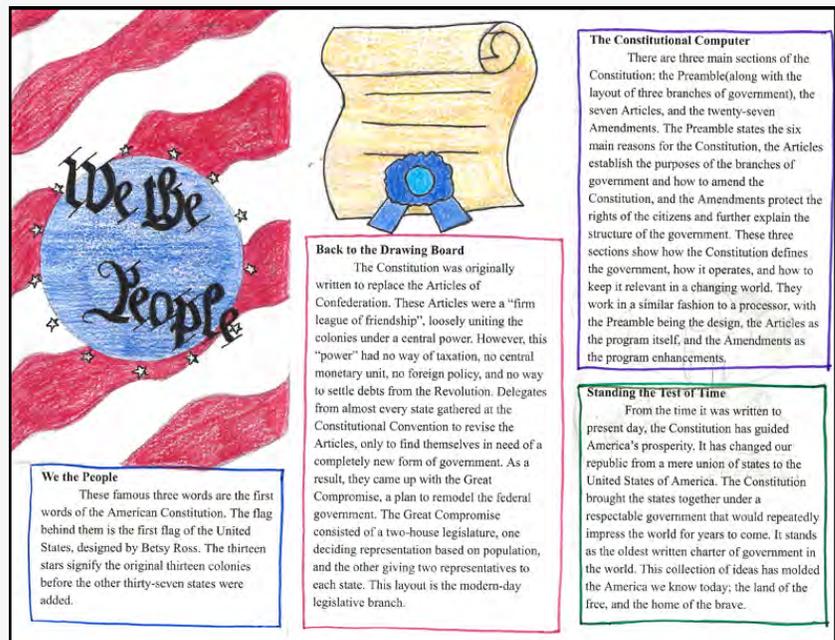
## Piedmont Chapter Middle School Brochure Contest Winners

First Place - Stephanie Griffin

Check for \$150 and a certificate

This year's Chapter Winner **Stephanie Griffin** went on to win the State Contest as well! Congratulations Stephanie!

Stephanie's brochure is in the running for the National Contest, hopefully we be able to announce a winner at later a date, normally the state winners are announced at our Congress, since this years Congress will be cancelled due to COVID-19, that will not be the case this year. Stay tuned!



Second Place  
Second Place  
Third Place

Anne Peterson  
Cade Stensrud  
Caden Bullard

Check for \$75 and a certificate  
Check for \$75 and a certificate  
Check for \$50 and a certificate

## Piedmont Chapter Middle School Brochure Contest Honorable Mention

John Ring  
Olivia Harvard  
Travis Adcock  
Louden Hickman  
Jackson Wagner

Lucas Velasquez  
James Smith  
Kelsie Wright  
Lillaana Mahike

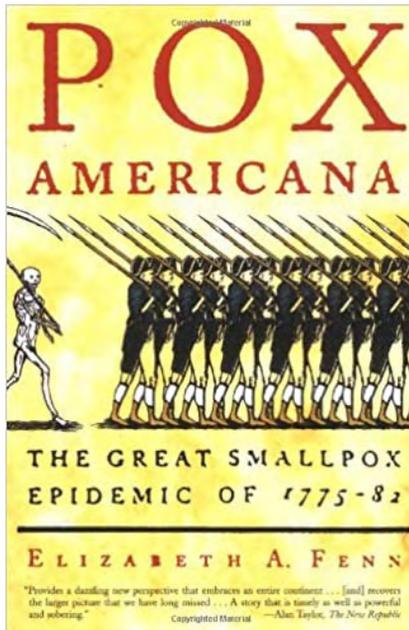


## Disease in the Revolutionary War

In the first years of the Revolutionary War, George Washington and his Continental Army faced a threat that proved deadlier than the British: a smallpox epidemic, lasting from 1775-1782. Infrequent outbreaks and wariness of inoculation made his troops very susceptible to the disease. After heavy losses in Boston and Quebec, Washington implemented the first mass immunization policy in American history.



### Smallpox in the Americas



Smallpox, caused by the *Variola major* virus, spreads only from person to person. It can take up to fourteen days before a person exposed to the virus will show symptoms: fever, headaches, body pains, and eventually the telltale rash. Witnesses and survivors of smallpox describe immense suffering. Death often comes within about two weeks. Survivors can take up to a month to recover fully; they are left with scars, but also lifetime immunity.

European colonization introduced smallpox to the Americas in the sixteenth century. Over the course of a little more than three centuries, outbreaks of the disease appeared sporadically in colonial America. In Europe, smallpox became an endemic disease by the eighteenth century; exposure often happened in childhood, which meant that virtually the entire adult population was immune. The American colonists, however, might have gone for years without any exposure to smallpox. It is difficult to track smallpox deaths during the Revolutionary War, but estimates indicate that Washington's army lost more troops to disease in general than in combat. One study suggests that for every soldier who fell to the British, ten died from some sort of disease. Washington himself was no stranger to smallpox; while traveling

in [Barbados](#) in 1751, he contracted the disease while staying with Gedney Clarke. However, Washington did not keep a record of his illness. His case was mild, leaving him with scarring on his nose.

Colonies dealt with smallpox in two different ways: quarantine and inoculation. Each colony had its own quarantine laws, which took different forms and were often enforced at the local level. Some colonials, particularly the wealthy, chose to be inoculated. Inoculation involved deliberate exposure to smallpox, usually through an incision made on the arm. This still resulted in a case of smallpox, but frequently one with milder symptoms and a greater chance of survival, with immunity as the end goal. Many were opposed to inoculation because the practice could still lead to an outbreak if an inoculated person was not properly quarantined while ill. Inoculation was heavily regulated, and banned outright in some places. Combined with the procedure's expense, this made it a rare practice in America.

### Outbreaks in War

Immunity to smallpox became an important factor during the Revolutionary War in two ways. First, the British and Continental forces were disproportionately affected by the epidemic. The British troops arriving from Europe were more likely



### *Disease in the Revolutionary War continued...*

to be immune to the disease, either through inoculation or natural exposure. This was not true of Washington's forces. As soldiers concentrated themselves in camp, the chances of a smallpox outbreak increased. Second, the British took quickly to inoculating fresh troops because the chances of triggering an outbreak were slim. Washington, on the other hand, struggled with the question of inoculation. Doing so would not only risk an outbreak; it would also leave a portion of the army unfit for battle while they recovered.

It was for these reasons that Washington decided against inoculation during his army's first encounter with smallpox: the Siege of Boston in 1775. Civilians and soldiers who showed symptoms were kept from the rest of the army. When safe passage out of Boston was secured for some, the presence of smallpox was taken into account. There is some indication that the British, going against the agreement, used the disease as a biological weapon by forcing potentially infected Bostonians to leave the city. When the British gave up the city in the spring of 1776, the outbreak became even harder to control. Refugees spread smallpox throughout Massachusetts, and Boston's outbreak continued until the end of summer. During the same period, the Continental forces besieging Quebec also suffered great losses due to smallpox. The soldiers were already in poor health, making them more susceptible. A quarantine was put in place, but it was not enforced strongly enough. When they were forced to retreat, smallpox went with them. These losses signaled to Washington and other revolutionary leaders that the army's smallpox policy was not effective.

## Mass Inoculation

After weeks of indecision, Washington issued the order to have all troops inoculated on February 5, 1777, in a letter to President John Hancock. The next day, a second letter was sent to Dr. William Shippen, Jr. that ordered all recruits arriving in Philadelphia to be inoculated:

"Finding the Small pox to be spreading much and fearing that no precaution can prevent it from running through the whole of our Army, I have determined that the troops shall be inoculated. This Expedient may be attended with some inconveniences and some disadvantages, but yet I trust in its consequences will have the most happy effects. Necessity not only authorizes but seems to require the measure, for should the disorder infect the Army in the natural way and rage with its usual virulence we should have more to dread from it than from the Sword of the Enemy."

The practice was soon implemented across the colonies. Army physicians also inoculated veteran soldiers who had yet to be exposed. Washington needed the process to be done in secret. He feared that the British would learn of the army's temporary weakness and use it to their advantage. In March 1778, the inoculation orders were altered slightly. At Valley Forge, Washington encountered thousands of troops that had managed to avoid smallpox, either through inoculation or natural exposure. In need of immediate reinforcements, Washington realized that the army might not survive the delay of inoculation. Instead, he ordered that inoculations continue at the camp in Valley Forge. If quarantine procedures failed, there was a risk of an outbreak. However, the soldiers awaiting inoculation could be called to the front lines if necessary.



### Sources

**Brenda Thacker** [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org)

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## The Great Garrison Flag

### The story of the Star-Spangled Banner

... The only U.S. flag to have more than 13 stripes

During our June Chapter Meeting, Compatriot **Mark Anthony** gave a captivating presentation of the history of Colonial Flags and the story of the American Revolution as told thru our flags. As he concluded his program he mentioned an additional story of a 15 star 15 Stripe flag for another day. That flag was the Great Garrison Flag that flew over Fort McHenry in Baltimore Harbor during the naval portion of the Battle of Baltimore during the War of 1812 and was the inspiration for Francis Scott Key to write the poem "Defence of Fort M'Henry", which would become "The Star Spangled Banner", our national anthem officially in 1931.



In Baltimore's preparation

for an expected attack on the city, Fort McHenry was made ready to defend the city's harbor. When Major George Armistead expressed the desire for a very large flag to fly over the fort, General John S. Stricker and Commodore Joshua Barney placed an order with a prominent Baltimorean flag-maker for two oversized American Flags. The larger of the two flags would be the Great Garrison Flag, the largest battle flag ever flown at the time. The smaller of the two flags would be the Storm Flag, to be more durable and less prone to fouling in inclement weather.

Available documentation shows that this flag was sewn by local flag maker Mary Young Pickersgill under a government commission in 1813 at a cost of \$405.90 (equivalent to \$5,377 in 2020). George Armistead, the commander of Fort McHenry, specified "a flag so large that the British would have no difficulty seeing it from a distance".

Imagine if that order was never placed or if Major Armistead was so bold and did not have the intention to fly the largest battle flag that had ever flown to that time. We may not have all grown up with our beloved National Anthem as we know it today.

This flag became the Official United States Flag on May 1, 1795. Two stars were added for the admission of Vermont (the 14th State on March 4th, 1791) and Kentucky (the 15th State on June 1st, 1792, and was to last for 23 years. The five Presidents who served under this flag were; George Washington (1789-1797), John Adams (1797-1801), Thomas Jefferson (1801-1809), James Madison (1809-1817), and James Monroe (1817-1825).

The 15-star, 15-stripe flag was authorized by the Flag Act of January 13, 1794, adding two stripes and two stars. The regulation went into effect on May 1, 1795. This flag was the only U.S. flag to have more than 13 stripes. The flag is now preserved in the Smithsonian Museum.





*The Great Garrison Flag continued...*

**TIME LINE OF THE GREAT GARRISON FLAG** (source : [www.usflag.org](http://www.usflag.org))

**1814:** The battle occurred, and the flag won its glory. Armistead was promoted to Lt. Colonel by Madison. Armistead died in service on April 25, 1818. He acquired the flag sometime before that date, but at this point it is unknown how.

**1818:** Armistead died and legend says that the flag was used in his funeral. However, in all of the newspaper accounts of Armistead's funeral, there is no mention of the flag being displayed at it. At his death the flag passed to his widow, Louisa Armistead.

**1824:** The flag was used in a reception for General Lafayette. Louisa Armistead died on October 3, 1861, and in her will left the flag to her daughter, Georgiana Armistead Appleton. The flag was sent to England for safe keeping during the Civil War, according to one of the Armistead family members, who made this statement in a newspaper interview in the 1880's. But Georgiana said, in a letter to Admiral George Preble, that the flag was in her possession during the rebellion.

**June 24, 1873:** The flag was displayed in the Charleston Naval Yards. Canvas backing was sewn on the flag and one of the first photographs was taken of it.

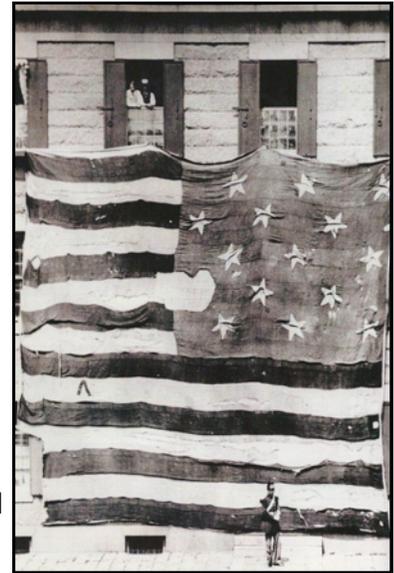
**1876:** The flag was loaned to the Navy Department for the Centennial Celebration.

**1879:** Georgiana Armistead Appleton died in 1879 and left the flag to her son Eben Appleton.

**1907:** Eben Appleton loaned the flag to the Smithsonian.

**1912:** Eben Appleton converts the loan of the flag to a gift to the Smithsonian.

**1914:** Amelia Fowler was commissioned to remove the canvas backing sewn on the flag when it was photographed in 1873 and replace it with a linen.



1st known photograph of the original "Star Spangled Banner." In 1873 the flag was being celebrated at Boston Navy Yard.



(Left) Fort McHenry located in the Baltimore Harbor, Baltimore, Maryland. (Right) A replica of the 15 Stripe and 15 Star Great Garrison Flag flying over Fort McHenry.

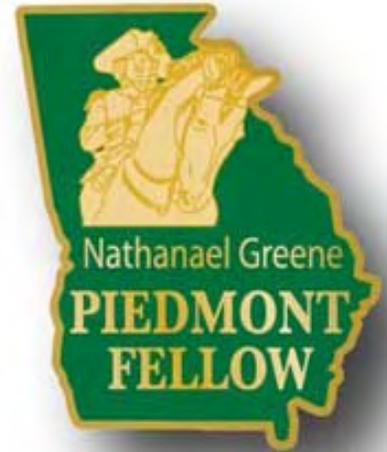


## The Piedmont Fellow Fund

### Help Support our Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution by becoming a Piedmont Fellow

The Piedmont Fellow Fund is established for the purpose of funding, supplementing or reimbursing worthy activities, events, or needs of the chapter that are not included in the annual budget. The Fund is in honor of General Nathanael Greene, who was instrumental in recapturing the South from the British in the Revolutionary War, and who lived in Georgia after the war and is buried near Savannah.

Any member of the SAR, friends, relatives, spouses, or other individuals, living or deceased, having an interest in furthering the goals of the Piedmont Chapter, or that are being recognized or memorialized, may become a member the Fund with a contribution being made in their name for the required minimum amount. Those who are so named shall be designated a "Piedmont Fellow" and be awarded the distinctive "Piedmont Fellow Fund" pin which identifies them as a "Piedmont Fellow."



Wearing of the pin which identifies one as a "Piedmont Fellow" connotes support of the ideals of the Piedmont Chapter and the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and provides a tangible source of identity and pride to the wearer.

#### Contributions

A minimum contribution of \$100 is required. Contributions will be acknowledged by a letter from the Chapter President. A contributor may designate themselves or designate another person a "Piedmont Fellow," but just one pin will be awarded for each \$100 contribution.

**A recent example of an expenditure covered by the Piedmont Fellow Fund is the purchase of a new webcam and accessories to support streaming of Chapter meetings and other events such as the Flag Retirement Ceremony.**

**Are YOU interested in becoming a Piedmont Fellow?  
Contact our Chapter President, Allen Finley for details.**





## Georgia Society Turns 100 Years Old Next Year

On March 15, 2021 the Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution will be celebrating 100 years since the founding of our Society. In recognition of this milestone the Georgia Society has commissioned the production of a Centennial Medal set and a Centennial lapel pin shown below.

In addition, The Georgia Society is honored to host the 2022 Congress in Savannah, GA. The 2022 Congress commemorative medals and pins are also available for purchase.



### In recognition of this milestone the Georgia Society has commissioned the production of a Centennial Medal set and a Centennial lapel pin

If you would like to order a centennial pin normally, there would be a \$7.00 shipping charge added to your order, but Compatriot **Paul Prescott** has volunteered to pick up the medals and pins that we order, at no additional cost to our members.

Here is how to support our Chapter and Society while saving money at the same time.

1. Select which items you would like to purchase.
2. Send an email message to (**RickReese68@att.net**) indicating what you want to purchase so that I can make a list for Paul.
3. Prepare a check for the amount of your purchase, made payable to "Piedmont Chapter SAR".
4. Mail your check to:

Mr. Al Finley  
4303 Revere Circle  
Marietta, GA 30062-5771



## A Historical Digest of The Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution

Organized March 15, 1921

*The Georgia Society has 33 active chapters as of November 2016:* Altamaha, Athens, Atlanta, Blue Ridge Mountains, Brier Creek, Button Gwinnett, Casimir Pulaski, Cherokee, Coweta Falls, Dalton, Edward Telfair, Four Rivers Patriots, George Walton, Joel Early, John Collins, John Milledge, Joseph Habersham, LaGrange, Lyman Hall, Marquis de Lafayette, Marshes of Glynn, Mill Creek, Mount Vernon, Ocmulgee, Patrick Carr Rangers, Piedmont, Rome, Samuel Elbert, Valdosta, Washington-Wilkes, William Few, and Wiregrass.

The Georgia Society has had four Compatriots who rose to the office of President General: James R. Westlake, 1989, Col. Robert B. Vance, 1993, J. Michael Tomme, Sr. 2016, Larry T. Guzy, 2017. James R. Westlake served as Secretary General in 1988, was twice Historian General, 1986 and 1987, and Chairman of the Membership Committee for four years. Col. Robert B. Vance served as Secretary General in 1992, Treasurer General in 1991, and was Chairman of the Congress Planning Committee for seven years. J. Michael Tomme, Sr. served as Treasurer General in 2014 and Secretary General in 2015. Larry T. Guzy served as Treasurer General in 2015 and Secretary General in 2016. Georgia Society Compatriots who have served as South Atlantic District Vice President General during the period covered by this history are: Dr. Homer E. Wright, 1983; John W. Loud, 1987; Hardwick S. Johnson, Jr., 1991; Lt. Col. Robert F. Galer, 1995; Dr. T. Fisher Craft, 1999; Larry Guzy, 2003; and Col. George Thurmond, 2007, Charlie Newcomer, 2011, Ed Rigel, Sr., 2015. Lt. Col. Robert F. Galer served as Chairman of the important Revolutionary War Graves Committee for ten years and has served on the Executive Committee three times.



# 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 **Aug 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](mailto:rick@rickreese.com).

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