



Piedmont Chapter  
Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution

# The Piedmont Piper

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*November 2015*

## Message From Piedmont Chapter President Bill Kabel

### The Future Is In the Mirror



Whenever I get the opportunity to discuss the Piedmont Chapter with others, I always point out how proud I am of being a member of one of the foremost chapters not just in the Georgia Society, but in the National Society, as well. I'm sure you feel the same as I. Piedmont has distinguished itself

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## Honoring the American Flag



On Saturday, October 3, 2015 a ceremony was held at the Home Depot Store #1755 in Roswell to unveil and formally dedicate a Flag Recycling container. Participants included Piedmont Chapter Sons of the American Revolution President Bill Kabel, Martha Stewart Bulloch Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution Regent Paula Nelson, Martha Stewart Bulloch Society Children of the American Revolution President Elisa Jimenez, Piedmont Chapter Vice President Rick Reese, the Home Depot Assistant Store Manager Dave Coleman, Piedmont Chapter SAR Color Guard members (Paul Prescott, George Thurmond, Shep Hammack, and Bob McCleskey). The ceremony was well-attended by SAR, DAR, and C.A.R. members, as well as a number of Roswell residents... despite the threatening weather on Saturday morning.

The purpose of this container is to allow anyone with an American Flag that has become worn and no longer serviceable to deposit their flag to be properly and respectfully retired. The deposited flags will be collected throughout the year by the Piedmont Chapter Sons of the American Revolution, and properly disposed of at a formal ceremony on Flag Day of each year. The graphic design on the Flag Recycling container is by Paul Frank.

The Home Depot Store located at 1580 Holcomb Bridge Road in Roswell will keep the Flag recycling box out in front of their store. They also offer a discount on a new flag for people who recycle their old flags in the receptacle.





### Message From Piedmont Chapter President Bill Kabel

throughout the years in so many different ways that I could easily fill many pages if I tried listing them. Being a history buff, I know historians claim the world's most successful civilizations fell because of their peoples' complacency. Although I'm hesitant to compare Piedmont Chapter to a world civilization, there is a similarity for which we must be aware. Simply put, now is not the time for us to rest on our laurels. Each of us needs to be involved.

Here is why I say that:

Not long ago a new chapter (Robert Forsyth) was spun off from Piedmont. Now, barely three years later, another chapter is about to spin off. Every time a new chapter is created from Piedmont we lose members, and some of them are key leaders whose loss is felt over a long period of time. Although faced with a loss of members, for which we have little control or input, Piedmont's position has always been to fully support each new chapter, and it will remain so.

Bearing the loss of leadership to two new chapters in such a short time means that Piedmont must take steps now to restock its leadership positions! For those who wish to be actively involved in the chapter there are these avenues and opportunities: Chapter Officer (Nominating Chairman Rick Reese still has a number of officer positions open on the slate of candidates to present to the chapter - including Vice President, Treasurer, and Historian); Committee Chairmen (Membership, JROTC, Public Safety, Proclamations, Speakers Bureau, and Veterans); Committee Members (any committee); and Color Guard (colonial uniformed or militia). For whatever reason we first joined Piedmont (proximity to where we live, day/time of chapter meetings, desire to be associated with an established and successful chapter, friends, association with those having common interests, or opportunities to be involved) we need to assure that Piedmont remains viable in meeting our desires and interests, and continued success.

What the future holds for the Piedmont Chapter can best be answered when each of us looks into a mirror and asks, "Am I doing my part, or is somebody else doing it for me?" The future of Piedmont rests with how the person you see in the mirror answers that question.

Bill

### Piedmont Chapter September Meeting Highlights



The September monthly meeting of the Piedmont Chapter SAR was held on September 19, 2015 at the Roswell Adult Recreation Center. President Bill Kabel called the meeting to order. Chaplain Bill Floyd gave the invocation. Acting Sgt-at-Arms Tim Dunn led the Pledge of Allegiance and the SAR Pledge. Vice-President Rick Reese introduced our meeting's guest speaker, the Honorable Jackson Bedford, Deputy Chief Judge of the Fulton County Superior court. Judge Bedford's wife Patty also attended the meeting.

Judge Bedford spoke to the group about his ancestors, one ancestor was a patriot and her husband was a loyalist. He spoke further about his own father who fought as a Naval officer in WWII in the South Pacific, in the Korean war, and for a time in Vietnam. Judge Bedford also served in Vietnam as a Naval flight officer, and spoke briefly about his experience. Vice-President Reese presented Judge Bedford with a certificate of speaker appreciation.

Jamie Ruff then spoke about his patriot ancestor, Peter Schaffer, and additional details are provided on page 5. In recognition of Constitution Week, President Kabel gave a brief presentation about the Bill of Rights, the 25th and 27th amendments, and our 10th President John Tyler.

President Kabel, assisted by Compatriot Shep Hammack, inducted our newest chapter member John Wassell whose photo and biographical information are included on page 5.

Now is the time to pay your 2016 membership dues. The national, state and chapter dues are shown on the Piedmont website under Membership. Please make your check payable to: Piedmont Chapter, SAR and mail it, along with the membership renewal form to:  
Shep Hammack, Treasurer  
1586 Dunwoody Club Crossing  
Dunwoody, Ga. 30338



## Piedmont Chapter October Meeting Highlights



The Piedmont Chapter held its first "Bring a Friend" meeting on Saturday, October 17, 2015, a concept developed by President Bill Kabel. Following the regular meeting opening ceremony, President Kabel spoke to the group of members and guests to outline the idea for the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was twofold: one, to inform guests about the SAR and Piedmont (hopefully, to create interest for joining SAR), and the other to let our members know the extent of our activities and our success. The "guest speakers" were Piedmont chapter members.

Vice-President Rick Reese covered the history, origins and purpose of the Sons of the American Revolution as an organization from its roots in 1876 with the "Sons of Revolutionary Sires" in California. The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution grew out of the "Sires" in 1889, and was chartered by an act of Congress on June 9, 1906. Our historical, educational, and patriotic non-profit organization developed from that beginning to become the over 32,000 members in over 500 chapters throughout the world that exists today.

President Bill Kabel spoke next about the history and successes achieved by our Piedmont chapter through the active participation of our members over the years. Bill showed a slide show of images depicting the educational programs of our speakers bureau members, the color guard activities of patriotic grave markings, presenting the colors at civic and educational ceremonies and events, as well as community support in parades and historic ceremonies. Past Piedmont President Paul Prescott entertained and informed the audience with an abbreviated version of the "Traveling Trunk" program, which uniformed chapter members regularly present to 4th and 8th grade students in the schools in the North Atlanta area. We have already been asked to present this program to a number of Fulton county schools as a result of Paul's presentation. The final speakers were past President and chapter Registrar Carl Bham along with chapter Treasurer Shep Hammack. They spoke about membership in the SAR, the requirements, and assistance available for prospective members as they work through the membership process.



The meeting continued with President Kabel recognizing two students for their community service activities. Jack Flipowicz, a student at Fellowship Christian School, raised over \$1200 for the new Alpharetta Veterans Memorial by selling BBQ sandwiches from his family's restaurant and donating the proceeds.

Elizabeth Willis, a student at Cambridge High School, organized this year's Cambridge High School "9-11 Never Forget Memorial" with 2996 American Flags. "The flags we set out are not just symbols of our national pride. Each flag represents someone's son, daughter, husband, wife, friend or child. They went to school and to work. They held hands, laughed, cried and changed the lives of those they left behind," she said. "They deserve to be remembered."

Both students were presented with the SAR Bronze Good Citizenship Medal and Certificate.



## Upcoming Events

Chapter meeting Saturday November 21, 2015  
Roswell Recreation Center 830 Grimes Bridge Road  
Roswell, Georgia  
8:00 am Breakfast  
8:30 am Meeting

**Guest Speaker:** Compatriot Carter Wood, GASSAR Northeast Regional VP and President of the Lyman Hall Chapter SAR. Compatriot Wood will speak about Armistice Day.

Chapter meeting Saturday December 19, 2015  
Roswell Recreation Center 830 Grimes Bridge Road  
Roswell, Georgia  
8:00 am Breakfast  
8:30 am Meeting

**Guest Speaker:** Compatriot Terry Manning, President Atlanta Chapter SAR and past president Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution. Compatriot Manning will speak about "The History of Santa Claus".

## Reverend Bill Floyd Piedmont Chapter Chaplain



### The World Has Moved On!

When our Founding Fathers were fighting for our liberty and framing the Constitution, in their wildest dreams they would never have imagined what is happening to our country in the 21st century.

We hear news reports that our flag has been taken down so as not to offend someone. Well, I am offended at that. We have veterans living in communities and being asked to take their flag down. Political correctness is running amok. Pretty soon there will not be much that we are able to say in public other than "Hi" and "Bye". Freedom of speech is under attack along with our Second Amendment right to bear arms. In the words of one of my favorite authors, Stephen King, "The world has moved on."

Growing up in the nineteen fifties, I was surrounded by members of the Greatest Generation who fought to protect the freedoms that were so costly to our forefathers. I was taught to love and respect this country and its flag. I was also raised with the expectation that when freedom came under fire from without or within, it was my duty to protect that freedom.

Today, some of the generation known as Millennials, do not seem to have the sense of duty or loyalty to this great nation that my generation had. They are willing to trade their freedom for security. We all know that once a freedom is gone, it is hard to get it back. However, all is not lost. We, as parents and especially grandparents, have the opportunity and the duty to once again instill the love of country and freedom into this generation. We can accomplish this in many ways. Taking one's hat off during the playing of our National Anthem and placing our hand over our heart at the local football game is a great way to start. Many today do not even rise to their feet during this time. Fly our flag outside of your home. Be attentive to what is going on in your school district. See if the Pledge of Allegiance is being said in your schools, and if it is not, have the courage to call and ask why not.

I read recently in a church bulletin that the church was only one generation away from extinction. The way things are going today in our country, could we not make the same statement about freedom? This is just a little something for you to think about as we go headlong into the 2016 election year where freedom hangs in the balance.

Bill Floyd

## Traveling Trunk Video Produced



The Piedmont Chapter has long been noted for education outreach to school children using the Traveling Trunk program. The traveling trunk display is used in the interactive presentations to show and tell the students about life during the period of the American Revolution. It has always been received with enthusiasm by the audiences who have seen it. In keeping with the National SAR Society's mission to focus on education outreach, we have been asked by the SAR national to make a DVD of our Traveling Trunk presentation. Paul Prescott, Bill Kabel, George Thurmond, and Rick Reese worked on the film. A dry run helped to hone the timing for everyone's role. On Friday October 30th the live presentations were filmed during a scheduled traveling trunk program given to the eighth grade students at Vickery Creek Middle School in Cumming, GA. That day five presentations were made to a total of 365 students and teachers. The presentations were made by uniformed color guard members Bill Kabel, Paul Prescott, and George Thurmond. All the presentations were filmed by Rick Reese (also in uniform). Rick Reese is in the process of editing the presentations into a single complete traveling trunk program from which the DVD will be created.

## Welcome new member John R. Wassell, Jr.

John was born in Little Rock, Arkansas. He graduated from the University of Arkansas with a BA degree. In 1967 he joined the U.S. Navy and graduated from Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island. He was assigned to the USS Providence, a guided missile cruiser with a home port in Japan and later San Diego.

In 1970 he began his career in the insurance business working for The Prudential Insurance Company, The New England and later Blue Cross Blue Shield of Florida. John and his wife, Beth, lived 42 years in Florida, Miami and Coral Gables and then Jacksonville. They raised their two children in Coral Gables, FL. In 2012 John and Beth moved to Johns Creek, Georgia to be near their children and four grandchildren. John enjoys the mountains, hiking and travel. John's Patriot Ancestor is Jonas Huntington. He was a minuteman who participated in the Lexington Alarm for the relief of Boston.





### My Patriot Ancestor by Jamie Ruff

Peter Schaffer was born in 1751 to Johann & Maria Schaffer in the Eastern Welsh Mountains of Pennsylvania. The two parents came from Germany in 1748 and were part of a large German population that migrated to and settled in Pennsylvania. This was part of the Appalachian Mountain range that was populated by Conestoga Indians and there was hostility because of the influx of settlers. Johan was eventually killed and scalped by these Indians, and his daughter was captured by them and held for seven years. His son Peter survived with his mother.

At the beginning of the Revolutionary War in 1776, Peter at age 25, was drafted in the PA militia under George Gantz in Col. Hannigan's regiment. His unit marched 180 miles through Lancaster Pennsylvania on their way to Philadelphia, Trenton, Perth Anvoy, and eventually the New York City area. He was stationed at Fort Paulus Hook in New Jersey, and at Governors Island, where he stood guard.

The Battle of Long Island, or the Battle of Brooklyn Heights, was fought on August 27, 1776. It was a defeat for General George Washington and the Continental Army, that had to evacuate and retreat to Manhattan Island. "On the night of August 29-30, Washington evacuated the entire army to Manhattan without the loss of supplies or a single life."

Later, Patriot Peter Schaffer was drafted again into Captain McGee's unit in Lebanon PA., where they guarded Hessian prisoners. He served a third tour in 1777 and fought again at Brandywine & Germantown, two more disappointing battles to the Continental Army.

This information was obtained about Peter Schaffer from deposition he gave when applying for a pension.

During his third tour during the war, he married a woman named Catherine and they ended up having 10 children. Peter lived to be 97 years old and upon his death, his funeral services which were held outside the church because of the number of people that attended. Compatriot Ruff made this presentation at the September 19, 2015 Chapter meeting.



### Grave Marking for Patriots William Haley and Archibald Burden

George Thurmond and Shep Hammack participated as part of the Georgia Society Color Guard at the grave marking for patriot William Haley in Elbert County Georgia on Saturday, Oct. 31. Later that day they also participated in the grave marking for patriot Archibald Burden. Compatriot Hammack presented a wreath on behalf of the Piedmont Chapter at both grave markings.



### The Battle of Kings Mountain

In the photo below, Compatriots George Thurmond, Bob Sapp and Shep Hammack represented Piedmont Chapter as members of the Georgia Society Color Guard at the Battle of Kings Mountain Anniversary Ceremony on October 7th. Compatriot Hammack presented the Piedmont wreath.





## New members recognized at October Chapter meeting

Two new members were recognized at October Chapter meeting. In the photo on the right Piedmont President Kabel presents the SAR Membership certificate to William Dale Miller, whose patriot ancestor is John Gorsuch. Mrs. Miller is also shown in the photo. Other biographical information will be provided once received by the editor. The chapter also welcomed Charles C. Olson, whose patriot ancestor is William Hansard. Com-patriot Olson's photo is shown below.



Charles "Chuck" Olson was born at the Pine Bluff Arsenal in Arkansas in 1947 and has lived (not in order) in Chicago, Illinois, Culver, Indiana, Stearns, Kentucky and Knox County, Tennessee before moving to Georgia in 1965 to attend Gordon Military College in Barnesville, Georgia. After completing an Associate of Arts and his commissioning requirements at Gordon, Chuck transferred to Georgia State University where he received a BS. He earned his Juris Doctorate from Woodrow Wilson College of Law in 1981. He currently serves as the General Counsel for the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia, an agency he has been with since 1975. The Council is a state agency that supports the district attorneys, solicitors-general and law enforcement in Georgia. As General Counsel, he serves as the Professional Responsibility Officer for the district attorneys and state court solicitors general and also advises on international law issues, RICO, and legislation. He is a member of the International Association of Prosecutors and has been admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court, the Supreme Court of Georgia and the Georgia Court of Appeals.

An avid historian, he is a member of the State Bar of Georgia's Magna Carta 800th Anniversary Commemoration and recently spoke at the Magna Carta Symposium on the subject of Georgia's Experience with Magna Carta prior to 1800. He has also lectured on the development of the Georgia courts during the colonial period.

He has served as instructor for the United States Department of State, the Georgia Department of Economic Development, the National Association of Attorneys General, the Georgia Police Academy, numerous regional police academies, the Georgia Sheriff's Association, the Georgia Jail Association, the Institute of Continuing Legal Education, the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education, as well as the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council. He has been the author of articles published by the Georgia Bar Journal, the Michigan Journal of International Law, the U.S. Army Logistics Center and School and the Atlanta Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America. In 2009, he was selected as a Fellow of the National Institute for Teaching Ethics and Professionalism at Georgia State University.

From 1971 until 1995 Chuck served as an officer in the United States Army Reserve and the Georgia Army National Guard, including active service in Desert Shield/Desert Storm. He retired as a Lieutenant Colonel after 24 years of active, Reserve and National Guard service. His military awards include the Meritorious Service Medal w/2 oak leaf clusters; Army Commendation Medal w/ oak leaf cluster; Army Achievement Medal and the Dept. of the Army Commander's Award for Community Service.

Chuck is active in the Atlanta Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America serving on the Youth Protection Committee and the Campout 100 Committee. He has been an Assistant Scoutmaster and member of the Troop Committee for Troop 463 in Sandy Springs, Ga. for 30 years. For over 20 years, he worked as the community coach for the marching band color guard and then the Army JROTC drill teams and color guards at North Springs Charter High School.

Chuck has been married to Ann Veldhuis Olson since 1972, and they live in Sandy Springs. Ann is a retired Fulton County social studies teacher. They have three sons: Erik, William and Scott; and four grandchildren.



## Piedmont Color Guard Honoring Patriots

### Grave Marking for Patriots at St. Marys, Georgia

The Grave Marking for twenty-nine patriots was held at the Oak Grove Cemetery in St. Marys, Georgia on Sept. 12th. Compatriot Shep Hammack presented the Piedmont wreath at one of the graves.



### Veteran's Day 2015 at Haw Creek Elementary

On November 11, 2015 Piedmont Color Guard members Bill Kabel and Rick Reese presented the colors at two ceremonies held as part of the Haw Creek Elementary Veterans Day program in Cummings, Georgia. They were assisted by members of Boy Scouts Troop 109 and a number of Cub Scouts as well. The scouts lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Members of the Haw Creek 4th and 5th grade chorus provided the vocal accompaniment. Many veterans were in attendance for both ceremonies, along with parents, teachers and students. This event truly recognized and honored our veterans. The pictures were taken by Compatriot Rick Reese, III



### Piedmont Color Guard Schedule

- 18 Nov Roswell Ramblers, Thanksgiving Luncheon, 12:30pm: Kabel, Thurmond, Prescott, Hammack, McCleskey, Reese
- 21 Nov Chapter Meeting, "Salute to Veterans," 8:30am
- 21 Nov Commemoration of Ft. Morris, Midway, GA: Prescott, Thurmond
- 5 Dec Vanns Creek, Richard Russell State Park, Elbert County, GA: Thurmond, Mortison, Prescott
- 6 Dec 1812 soldiers grave markings, US Daughters of 1812, Madison County, 2:30pm
- 7 Dec Wreaths Across America, GA State Capitol, 12:00 noon: Kabel, Hammack, Thurmond
- 9 Dec Roswell Ramblers, 11:30am; Kabel, Thurmond, Prescott, Hammack, McCleskey, Reese
- 11 Dec INS, Atlanta, 11:00am; Kabel, Thurmond, McCleskey, Prescott
- 12 Dec Wreaths Across America, Roswell Presbyterian Church: Kabel, McCleskey
- 12 Dec Eagle Scouts – Court of Honor, Troop 1459, Alpharetta, Time TBD: Kabel
- 12 Dec Wreaths Across America, Marietta National Cemetery: Hammack, Reese
- 17 Dec INS, Atlanta, 11:00am; Kabel, Thurmond, McCleskey, Prescott
- 19 Dec Chapter Meeting, 8:30am: Kabel, Thurmond, Prescott
- 20 Dec Eagle Scout John M. Bertrand, 3:00pm, Holy Redeemer cafeteria, 3380 Old Alabama Rd., John's Creek: Kabel



### The Piedmont Piper

M. William Kabel, Publisher  
Gerald B. Breed, Editor  
Rick Reese, Photographer

This publication is the newsletter for the **Piedmont Chapter of the Georgia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution**. It is printed six times per year, January, March, May, July, September and November. It is distributed to current and prospective members of the chapter and to certain officers of the state and national organizations and to certain officials of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

The Piedmont Chapter serves communities of the northern suburbs of Atlanta, Georgia including Cobb, Cherokee and Northern Fulton County. Meetings are held monthly throughout the year on the third Saturday at 8:30 a.m. at the Roswell Adult Education Center 830 Grimes Bridge Road Roswell, Georgia. Most members choose to arrive by 8:00 a.m. to enjoy breakfast together.

Prospective members are always welcome at monthly membership meetings. Men, eighteen years of age and older, who are interested in documenting their relationship to their American Revolutionary ancestors and in joining an active group with similar interests are urged to contact the **Chapter Registrar, Carl Bham** 770.394.1282 or any other chapter officer.

**DEADLINE FOR MATERIAL TO BE INCLUDED IN THE NEXT EDITION:**

The deadline for material for the next issue is January 1, 2016. In addition to the material, please include a copy of any photos to be included. Please direct all inquires or suggestions regarding the Piedmont Piper to the editor at the following address: 3344 Thomashire Court Marietta, Georgia 30066 Phone: 770.579.1869 jcbreed77@hotmail.com

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