



Atlanta Tidbits Ledger

Atlanta Chapter
Sons of the American Revolution
Organized March 15, 1921
Editor: Gregory Smith
www.saratlanta.org

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May 2020

Next Meeting – Via ZOOM Friday May 15th @ 11:30 a.m. Action Needed to Attend:

To attend the May Atlanta Chapter Zoom meeting, please send an email request to atlantasarflags@bellsouth.net. You will then be sent a link, password and detailed connection information. This will ensure a secure session.

Upcoming Regular Atlanta Chapter Meetings

NEXT MEETING WILL BE Via ZOOM on FRIDAY MAY 15th @ 11:30 a.m.

The normal May Atlanta Chapter SAR Luncheon & Meeting has been canceled due to Coronavirus pandemic & public gathering restrictions. We will meet virtually by ZOOM instead.

All Local, State & National NSSAR Events have been Canceled or Postponed. This includes all scheduled SAR Patriot Grave Markings.

Please also note the National Society Sons of the American Revolution headquarters will be closed during the Pandemic. It is a very fluid situation and we are attempting to stay abreast of the most recent changes. The President General approved this closure. Merchandise shipments, order processing, application reviews, record copy request, etc. will be suspended until they return. We will keep you up to date as information come in!

I will look forward to seeing you at our next meeting via ZOOM!

Georgia Society President Speaks on ZOOM

Good Morning Gentlemen!

I hope that each of you are holding up well during these trying days. From the news, it does appear that there is a light at the end of the tunnel. However, I also understand that we all will be working our way back to normal by a system of protective steps. For the immediate future, one of those steps will be limits on the number of people who can be together at one time.

Until we are able to once again meet in larger groups, there are some options for us to consider. One of which is the reason for this email.

I just attended a Piedmont Chapter "Zoom" meeting with 36 members and guest online. The meeting was very well planned and attended. President Allen Finley presided over the meeting and it was run just as if we were in the same room. One could say that we were in the "chat" room. We held the Pledge of Allegiance, the SAR Pledge, and the Benediction followed by the introduction of guests and committee reports. Following was a brief video on the early American Revolution Battle at Moore's Creek Bridge which is located near Wilmington, NC. Following the video, there were some comments made by George Thurmond and Bob Sapp about the battle. From those comments and their knowledge about the battle, one might have thought that they were there. Could it be?

We had a formal closing with Recessional Prayer and the SAR Recessional.

I want to thank President Al Finley, Reg. VP Ron Redner and Rick Reese as well as all the members of the Piedmont Chapter for arranging this meeting. Also attending were some members from Robert Forsyth, Atlanta, and Button Gwinnett Chapters. Thank you all.

The format worked very well. President Finley kept the order, participants can see each other, and those making comments did so without stepping over each other. It was well done and enjoyable.

Please consider holding a Chapter meeting such as this or even considering holding a Regional online meeting in your respective areas of the State. After weeks of being at home, it is really nice to be able to see and talk with your friends and colleagues.

Our Spring BOM is scheduled for May 30th. Please keep in mind that the Summer BOM is July 25 so there is less than two months between the two. Should we still have to limit the size of groups for the May 30th meeting, we will most likely schedule an online meeting.

Please keep in mind that we can bring up motions at that meeting, but no votes can be made during an online meeting until we meet in person to amend our Society By Laws to allow the ability to hold meetings electronically and to vote electronically. This is all new territory for me, and probably many of you. We can certainly use this time coping with COVID 19 to bring our Society into the 21st Century and most likely place us well ahead of most other SAR State Societies.

I very much look forward to standing alongside of you all and watching our award winning Color Guard as they "Present the Colors." We will get through this!

Thank you all for your service and patriotism!

GOD Bless America, our leaders, and those many individuals who are on the front lines of this terrible virus.

Take care,
Bill

William B. Dobbs II
Georgia Society SAR

Georgia Society President's Dispatch



Greetings Compatriots!

What an ever changing world we live in! Take a look at the functions listed below:

- 14 March – Guilford Courthouse
- 15 March – The Hermitage Bench Dedication
- 27 March – DAR State Conference
- 28 March – Battle of Thomas Creek
- 04 April – Marietta National Cemetery Grave Dedications
- 18 April – Frederica Patriots Day, St Simons Island
- 25 April – BOM in Barnesville
- 26 April – Patriot Grave Markings in Midway
- 02 May – North Augusta Grave Markings (am)
- 02 May – Washington, GA Grave Markings (pm)
- 16 May – Patriot Grave Marking in Dawsonville

The Georgia Society of the SAR has 35 Chapters scattered all about the state. I will wager that each of you figured out by the 3rd event listed above that you were looking at functions that have been cancelled, postponed, or rescheduled due to COVID-19. Many of these functions were jointly sponsored but each, regardless of sponsorship numbers, reflects dollars spent and countless man hours to organize, notify, and orchestrate. I believe that there will be other May functions to also cancel or reschedule. Florida and North Carolina have had to cancel and reschedule their annual meetings. The National Society of the DAR also had to cancel their annual meeting. We are not in this alone! All State Masonic activity is suspended until further notice.

I believe that I speak for each of us when I say that I am so very, very sorry that any of these functions had to be cancelled. I composed this letter to you all on April 02. Yesterday, Georgia schools were cancelled for the remainder of this school year. This morning, Georgia has over 5,300 confirmed cases of the Coronavirus and over 160 deaths. The Governor will be signing an order for mandatory shelter- in-place to begin on Friday evening. We are being told that by May 1st, the Country will take a turn for the better. I hope that the experts are correct, but it could just as easily be June 1st or July.

This is indeed a war with an unseen enemy. Even our centenarians are too young to remember the Spanish Flu epidemic of 1917! Yes, these are trying times and will most likely get worse before getting better.

So, we shelter and practice separation, but we sure don't cower down. We will beat this as a country and as the Georgia Society of the SAR. We know this because of who we are. We come from pretty hearty and hard-

headed stock! We currently have members that have served our Country in WW II, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, and the Gulf War and many that have been representing our Country and protecting our principles of liberty on every continent.

I ask that each of you continue to practice patience, flexibility, and safety. Use your phone, internet, and the US Postal Service to stay in touch with your Chapter members. Keep in touch with your place of worship. The Methodist Church here in Covington has an internet service each week that can be pulled up at leisure. I understand that most of the Churches are doing this.

Consider holding Chapter meetings over the phone or over the internet. Basically, stay active, and stay in touch.

And we do have really good news. John Flikeid, our State Secretary, has been working pretty hard since our annual meeting. I know this because I have been receiving regular packages containing new member certificates to sign and forward. In one ten-day period, I sent 43 new member certificates to 18 different Chapters from Valdosta to Dalton. As will be noted by our State Registrars, there will be a lull at National for several weeks before they can get back to processing more new member certificates. This could be an opportune time for genealogical research to assist individuals considering joining your SAR Chapter.

At our Annual Congress this year, Roger Coursey will be installed as a Minuteman, and Bob Sapp will be honored as the Color Guardsman of the year. Gentleman, that honor represents the National Society's entire Color Guard, not just Georgia!

Since being installed at our annual meeting in January, I have had the privilege to visit a number of Chapters to install new officers and induct new members. I think that I am getting more comfortable performing these installations and much of that comes from Col. William Few, Brier Creek, Wiregrass, and Fall Line Chapters, each located in the East Fall Line Region, having invited me to install their officers during the six weeks leading up to the annual meeting. Those opportunities while I was the Senior VP really helped to give me better footing. Thank you East Fall Line Chapters!

I have five special projects this year that I am requesting assistance with. What we do this year will greatly assist us with the 2021 Annual Congress in Seattle and the 2022 Congress in Savannah. The Georgia Society needs to take back our number one position in the SAR Friends of the Library memberships from the Tennessee Society. The \$25.00 memberships are great for Chapters and Chapter Registrars/Genealogists as well as elementary and high school librarians and history teachers. The memberships are a good way to help your local schools.

The next item on the list is signing up your spouses for a lifetime membership in the Georgia Society's Ladies Auxiliary. This \$25.00 lifetime membership is a wonderful way to say thank you for all the things that your wife does for you and your Chapter. Good for Birthday, Mother's Day, Anniversary, or any day! There is no additional work for them. Many of the ladies provide assistance at our Georgia Annual meetings in January, and the ladies are planning on how to assist us during the 2022 National Congress in Savannah.

Next is a project that would make a financial award to both the SAR Chapter and the DAR Chapter that co-sponsored the most events during our calendar year. We already award the DAR Chapter for generating the most new members. By working together, this additional contest opportunity should create even closer relationships with what may be the finest lead-generation organization that the SAR has. Let's strengthen this crucial relationship.

Many of our Chapters are located significant distances from Veteran's facilities. I would like to work with the Veteran's Committee to initiate a tiered program so that any Chapter could donate a predetermined amount to the Veteran's Committee for them to distribute to the various VA facilities. This would generate an opportunity for more Chapters to participate in the Stark report and would certainly benefit our Veterans.

Finally, I have the task of raising funds for Georgia to host the 2022 Annual Congress in Savannah. Much of an Annual Congress is paid for by the National Society. However, there are a number of expenditures for which each Host State is responsible. These costs include the welcome bags (with items like the nine brochures on Georgia's Revolutionary War Trail) that registered participants receive, volunteer shirts and hats, gifts for the President General and First Lady, some of the transportation costs to/from local function venues, and the welcome reception on the evening prior to the opening day of the Congress. Should there be companies or philanthropists in your Chapter regions that you feel would be willing to contribute, I will be more than pleased to meet with them (remember our 501(C)3 tax status). Many companies need to have requests made early in order to be submitted to their headquarters/leadership in December or January. The windows of opportunity are small. As the Georgia Society, we want to be the envy of the other States! Please help me make this happen.

The COVID-19 Virus has made us take a serious look at how we conduct ourselves. Who would have ever thought that the majority of the United States would be placed in a mandatory shelter in place and forced personal separation? Our Chapters and especially the Georgia Society should look seriously at amending our By Laws to include holding electronic meetings and also include accepting documents with electronic signatures versus paper documents being sent to our State Secretary. Much of this is far above my technological knowledge. The Society needs to have these options available for greater flexibility. Georgia is also the largest geographic state east of the Mississippi River. Logistically, some of our Chapters located on our Alabama, Florida, Tennessee, North Carolina, or South Carolina borders can be challenged to make each BOM. An electronic attendance opportunity could assist some Chapters with keeping up to date and staying involved. The State of Georgia has economic development offices in 11 countries. These offices often attend/participate online in the general staff meetings held in Atlanta.

Let us hope and pray that our recovery process has begun and that the United States will have far fewer deaths than currently projected. I hope to see many of you at the May 30th BOM. If it appears that attending the BOM will be a detriment to our safety, I will reschedule and if necessary, we will attempt an online meeting. There are only 56 days between May 30th and our currently scheduled July 25th Summer BOM. We wait it out if we have to do so. Just one of our members acquiring the COVID-19 at an SAR function is unacceptable.

When the "Green Light" is given to resume activities, I am sure that we will all hit the ground running full speed. Please feel at liberty to contact me or to contact your Senior VP, David Jessel, if you would like one of us to attend a Chapter meeting or function. We shall do our best to accommodate any Chapter request.

I am also open for suggestions or comments on "best practices" for our Georgia Society during these stressful times. As I mentioned in my former correspondence when rescheduling the April BOM, I feel like I am navigating uncharted waters, at night, with following seas, in the middle of a storm. I would like to see our Society tied up to the dock unscathed!

Stay safe, wash hands, practice separation, and know that GOD is with you,

William B. Dobbs II

NSSAR 2022 Congress & Georgia Society SAR 100th Anniversary!

The Georgia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (GASSAR) has been chosen to host the 2022 National Convention. To raise funds for this responsibility, the GASSAR is making available medals and lapel pins. There are two sets of medals and lapel pins that commemorate the Congress and the 100th anniversary of the Georgia Society. For those of you that are unaware, the original Georgia Society was the **Atlanta Chapter** and therefore the Atlanta Chapter shares this anniversary. Any of these items would make a great addition to your SAR attire. The medals and lapel pins will be available for sale by mid-May on the GASSAR website www.gasocietysar.org If interested check this link later this month. It will be an active link in Mid-May.



Centennial Lapel Pin



Congress Lapel Pin



Centennial Medal Set



Congress Medal Set

Our Chapter in the Community

We look forward to getting back to our normal activities as soon as practicable!

VA Canteen Coupon Books Project



John Titus at the Atlanta VA Medical Center

At the beginning of 2019, our Chapter decided to take on a new veterans respect project. It decided to raise money to purchase VA Canteen Coupon books to be given to the Voluntary Service Office at the VA Medical Center, Decatur, for distribution to needy veterans. The coupons can be used in the VAMC's cafeteria, coffee shop, or canteen. Over the course of the year, a total of **\$1,030** was raised which purchased 206 coupon books, each with a value of \$5. **The last of the books were delivered on December 12, 2019.**

An example of their use was related by Wayne Bartley, Voluntary Service Specialist, who told Compatriot John Titus that on the day following our October delivery of 40 books, a homeless woman veteran with two children sought help. Our donated coupon books were used to provide the family with a meal before linking them with other services.

Thanks to all of our members for your continued generosity.

Veterans Respect Activities

Our chapter began a new project in early 2019 to purchase VA Canteen Coupon Books which patients can use in the canteen, coffee shop or cafeteria at the VAH, Decatur. These books will be distributed by the VA Volunteer Service at the hospital. **At each meeting there will be a jar marked "\$ for VA Canteen Coupon Books" to accept donations. Please look for it and contribute a dollar (or more).**

The role of the Veterans Respect Committee is to pursue opportunities to honor and recognize current service members and veterans of past service. A wide range of activities fall under this charge. Some examples are:

- hours served in the VA Hospital (VAH) Volunteer Service,
- visiting a veteran in a VAH, nursing home or private home,
- donating personal care items to a VAH or nursing home serving veterans,
- donating publications to a VAH,
- organizing an outing for one or more veterans,
- participating in a veteran's funeral as a participant, pallbearer, or attendee,
- attendance at Revolutionary War Veteran's Grave Marking,
- participating in placing flags or wreaths on veteran's graves.

We are aware that many of our Atlanta Chapter members have been involved in such activities, but we do not know the extent. We would like to gather information on such efforts. If you have been involved in any such activities since January 1, 2020, please report the details to our Chaplain John Titus ([678-995-0874](tel:678-995-0874) / mojotitus@bellsouth.net)

More on VA Donations



Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution

Dear Compatriots,

Veterans Committee members continue to receive inquiries about the new VA COVID-19 Needs List and Donation Form. The Atlanta VA Voluntary Service provided some guidance that would apply for VA Voluntary Service offices at all three of Georgia's VA Medical Centers.

With the exception Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) not new in the box, donation of any items on the VA needs list would be welcomed. Home made PPE simply cannot be used in a clinical setting. Gift cards for groceries, transportation, office supplies, personal care items and lodging would be used almost immediately, and many Compatriots have rewards points that could be converted into gift cards.

The new donation form and needs list are a step in the right direction in an era of social distancing. Most items on their needs list can be mailed to the VA Medical Center Voluntary Service office nearest the donor, saving long drives and complicated screening and check in procedures. Moreover, it assures that veterans in the donor's region are the people who benefit from the donation. Voluntary Service addresses are:

- Atlanta VA Medical System Voluntary Service; 1670 Clairmont Rd.; Decatur, GA 30033
- Carl Vinson VA Medical Center Voluntary Service; 1826 Veterans Blvd.; Dublin, GA 31021
- Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center Voluntary Service; 1 Freedom Way; Augusta, GA 30904

Cash donations can be sent via the VA's pay.gov link provided on the Donation Form. The link enables donors to make a direct deposit from their checking account or donate using a credit or debit card. Donors are offered choices as to how their donation is to be used -- a great feature of this well thought out program.

Please include a completed copy of the Donation Form with your gift to a VA Voluntary Service, so the gift can be reported to the VA National Headquarters. Also, be sure to retain a copy for your Chapter's donations records and a copy for yourself. These, and other donations or services to veterans are creditable for USS Stark Memorial Award points and Americanism points, which are recorded in your Chapter President's quarterly report to the GASSAR BOM.

Please let me know if you have comments or questions. In the meantime thank you for your generosity -- and please remember to stay safe out there.

Patriotically yours,
Gary J. Hoyt
GASSAR Veterans Chairman

VA COVID-19 Donation Form

In response to COVID-19, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has identified the emerging needs of Veterans, families and our first responders in VA facilities. The most critical of those are identified below. If you or your organization is in a position to assist, please contact us at VHACO10B2Astaff@va.gov.

Donor Name

Address

Phone Number

Email

Check the areas below where you are able to offer support:

Crafts & Games *(Leisure activities for Veterans)*

Non-Perishable Food & Snacks *(Food pantries/ Community Living Centers/Domiciliaries)*

Children's Games/Books/Toys *(VA's Emergency Childcare Centers)*

Uber/Lyft Gift Cards *(Non-elective appointments where transportation is unavailable, i.e. dialysis)*

Grocery Store Gift Cards *(Homeless/Indigent Veterans)*

Flip Phones with Minute Cards *(Homeless Veteran Clinical Checks)*

Monetary Donations - Click [HERE](#) to Donate Online through pay.gov

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) - Gloves, Gowns, Masks

** Donated PPE must arrive in new, unopened/unused condition.*

Other - Please Specify

Quantity:

Estimated Value:



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

For more information visit
www.volunteer.va.gov or scan this code:





2020 Chapter Officer Directory

Chapter officers to serve February 22, 2020, to February 20, 2021, are as follows:

President	Gregory Smith	atlantasarflags@bellsouth.net
1st Vice President	Barry Miller	vpatlsar@gmail.com
2nd Vice President	Charlie Newcomer	canewcomer33@gmail.com
Secretary	Al Adams	moveradams@aol.com
Treasurer	Richard Marsh	rmarsh1@att.net
Registrar	David Noble	danoble10@att.net
Sergeant-At-Arms	Bob Campbell	gingerbob@bellsouth.net
Chancellor	Ed Floyd	floyd7@bellsouth.net
Chaplain	John Titus	mojotitus@bellsouth.net
Historian	Henry Cobb	whc2gt@yahoo.com

New Members in 2020

The Atlanta Chapter Is Proud to Welcome 5 New Members so far
this year & we have many more SAR Applications in the works!

John Henry Adams

Paul Leon Anderson

Melvin Rhodes

Stephen Douglas Schroeder II

Korey Matthew Schroeder

The Atlanta Chapter has lost a Compatriot in 2020. Please keep Bill's family in your prayers!

William Patrick Smith III

NSSAR # 185256

23 JAN 2020

Thanks to Our Atlanta Fellows

Many thanks go to our **Atlanta Fellows** whose donations help support our extended outreach programs. Thanks go to our existing Atlanta Fellows who have made additional donations, including donations made by or on behalf of spouses of members of our chapter. Several members have also started making incremental donations toward becoming Atlanta Fellows. The following list may not include some recent donations.

Al Adams
Bill Armstrong
Stuart Brady
Sam Chafin
Philip Clinkscales III
Henry Cobb
John Coning
Ed Conley
Phil Curtis
Jim Freeman
Peggy Freeman
Bill Goodman
Gene Grasser
Tom Gurley
James Hankins
Joseph Hankins
Pat Hankins

Ann Hays
Bill Hays
Don Kenagy
Charles Lord
Katherine Lord
Bruce Maney
Charlie Maney
Ginny Manning
Terry Manning
Richard Marsh
Barry N. Miller
Ted McMullan
Lowrey McNeel
Joe Meyer
Charlie Newcomer
Alice Noble
David Noble

James Noble
Ray Patton
Joyce Patton
Loy Reddick
Ed Rigel, Sr.
Joan Rigel
Stephen D. Schroeder
Kathleen Ann Schroeder
William Smith III
Ben Statham
Penn Templeman
Bruce D. Wanamaker
Eugene Wilson
Mary Wilson
Richard Williams

The **Atlanta Fellows** are members, spouses, businesses, and other organizations that support unbudgeted projects of the Atlanta Chapter with a \$200 donation. Such donations have supported our **Sacred Soils Displays, Bushnell Monument dedication, VA Hospital Portico Project and Flag Receptacle Program.**

Donations toward chapter sponsored events such as **Wreaths across America** also credit toward the **Atlanta Fellow** program. **Our newest Atlanta Fellow is Barry N. Miller. We thank all of our Atlanta Fellows for their support and encourage others to join their ranks!**





May 10 is Mother's Day!

If you are looking for a great gift for the woman who has everything, consider gifting her a lifetime membership in the Georgia Society's Ladies Auxiliary. The gift is a one-time \$25 expense - and includes no additional work! This is a great way to acknowledge the work she has already been performing, too.

Contact Malone Moore at [706-561-8088](tel:706-561-8088)



The following members have a birthday this month:

Benjamin Polston III	May 1st
Thomas Davis	May 3rd
Philip King	May 6th
Roderick White	May 7th
Edward Rogge Jr.	May 13th
John Rabun Jr.	May 14th
Albert Sturgess Jr.	May 17th
John White Jr.	May 23rd
Victor Verdi	May 31st

We are missing a few birthdays in our database. If you have a birthday this month and it is not on the above list please let us know.