



Atlanta Tidbits Ledger

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

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Atlanta, Georgia

June 2020

Next Meeting – Via ZOOM Monday, June 15 @ 11:30 a.m.

Members: All Atlanta Chapter Members will automatically be sent a link to attend prior to the ZOOM Program.

Non-members: 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 Monday June 15th @ 11:30 a.m.

The normal June 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 is now reopened. We will keep you up to date as information come in.

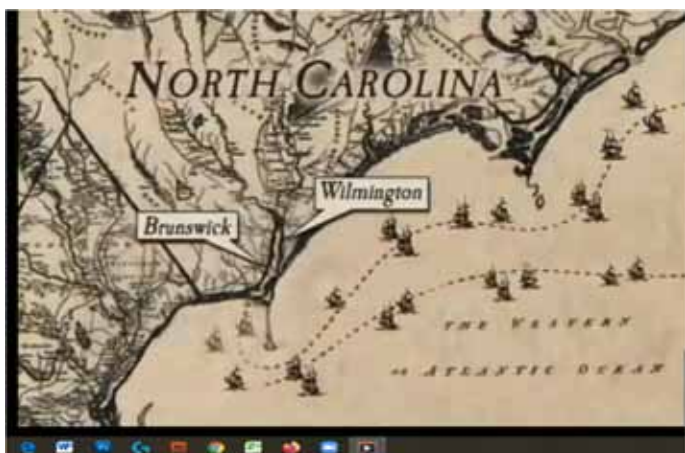
I will look forward to seeing you at our next meeting via ZOOM!

Atlanta Chapter SAR holds May Meeting Via ZOOM



The Atlanta Chapter SAR held our first EVER Chapter meeting via Zoom at 11:30 a.m. Friday May 15, 2020 with 25 compatriots participating in this online meeting. This was a Historic First for our Chapter in its 99 year History!

Our June Program was on The Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge. This American Revolutionary War battle was fought near Wilmington in present-day Pender County, North Carolina, on Feb. 27, 1776. The victory of North Carolina Revolutionary forces over Southern Loyalists helped build political support for the revolution and increased recruitment of additional soldiers into their forces.



This brief early-morning engagement was a charge across the bridge by sword-wielding Loyalist Scotsmen which was met by a barrage of Patriot musket fire.

One Loyalist leader was killed, another captured, and the whole force was scattered.

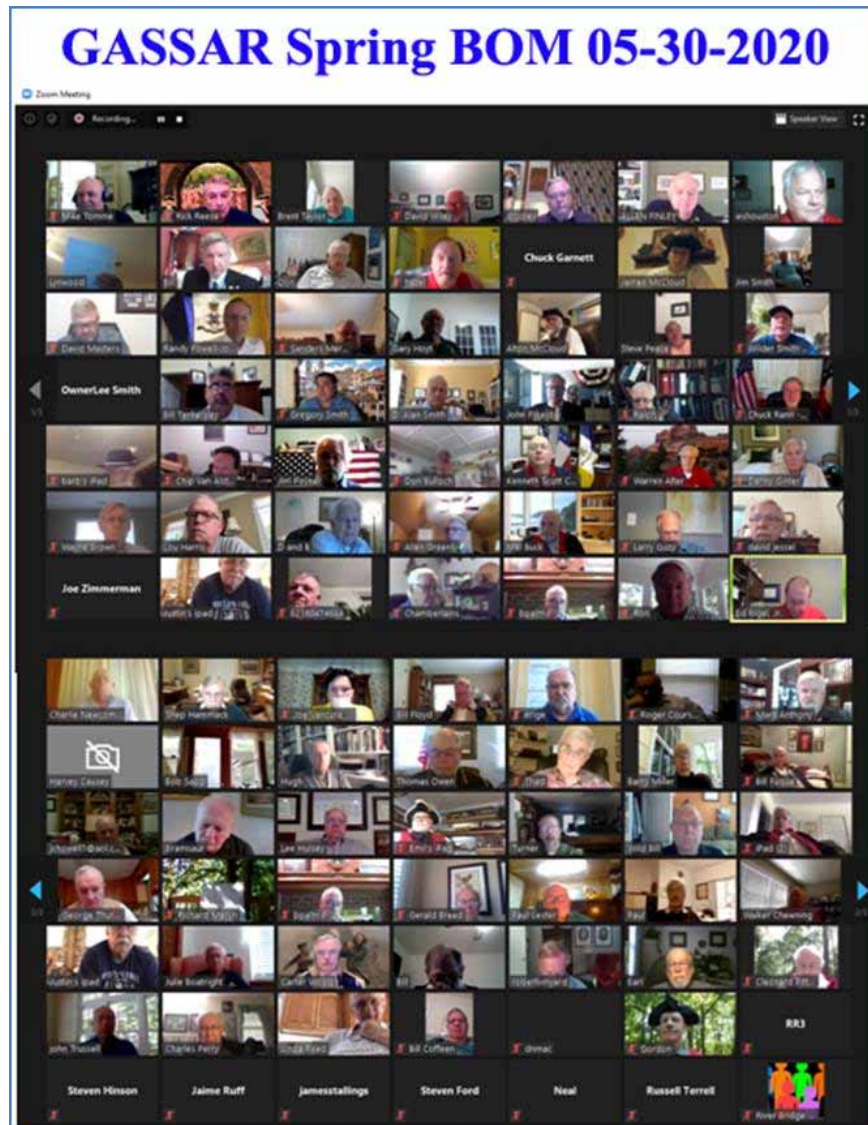
In the following days, many Loyalists were arrested, putting a damper on further recruiting efforts. North Carolina was not militarily threatened again until 1780, and memories of the battle and its aftermath negated efforts by Charles Cornwallis to recruit Loyalists in the area in 1781.

Spring GASSAR Board of Managers via ZOOM

Compatriots,

The Georgia Society held the first ever Board of Managers Spring meeting via Zoom on Saturday May 30, 2020 with 100 compatriots participating in this online meeting. All members of the Georgia Society are always invited and encouraged to attend these quarterly meetings.

If you were unable to attend the meeting this time, I have a video recording of the meeting posted on YouTube. The video of the BOM meeting is available for viewing by clicking on the YouTube link below: <https://youtu.be/f-kaYOi0PHQ>



Here is an image of most of those who attended the meeting. Please consider attending the BOM meeting next time.

Rick Reese, Jr.
Electronic Communications Committee Chair

NSSAR President General's Message

Dear Compatriots:

The COVID-19 pandemic has certainly presented challenges and cancellations this year. Regretfully, the Executive Committee, pursuant to the authority granted to it by the April 17, 2020 ballot vote of the Board of Trustees, has concluded that the 2020 Annual Congress, originally scheduled for Richmond, Virginia, must be canceled. The Executive Committee waited as long as possible to see how Virginia's, and more specifically Richmond's, reopening plans would impact the Annual Congress. The continuing restrictions enacted by governmental authorities concerning meetings, dining and travel, as well as the health and safety of our membership, has led the Executive Committee to conclude that holding the Annual Congress in Richmond is not possible. The Richmond Marriott, the designated Annual Congress hotel, has been informed that the Congress contract is terminated due to impossibility.

The Executive Committee understands that many State Societies and Chapters have conducted successful meetings electronically during this pandemic. The Executive Committee fully supports these efforts and encourages other State Societies and Chapters to use alternative means to continue the local recognition of our Patriot ancestors, especially as the calendar moves closer to the Fourth of July. The Executive Committee, meeting weekly since March 20, 2020, and Congress Planning Committee Chairman Paul Callanan, devoted considerable effort to researching whether a "virtual" or "Zoom" Congress would be feasible. However, Bylaw No. 17 of the Bylaws of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution does not permit the National Society to hold a Congress by "alternative means." Therefore, the Executive Committee has reached the conclusion that there will be no Annual Congress held in 2020. This is not only consistent with what other similar organizations, such as the American Legion, have determined this year, but with our own precedent concerning both the 1918 and 1945 Annual Congresses.

No Annual Congress means there will be no election for General Officers, Vice Presidents General, Trustees, or Alternate Trustees in 2020. Pursuant to the National Society's bylaws, the current General Officers, Vice Presidents General, Trustees, and Alternate Trustees will continue in their present positions until July 2021.

What does this mean for Districts and State Societies? As the Vice President General, Trustee and Alternate Trustee are National Society offices, the presently serving individuals will remain in office. Vacancies in these positions may be filled according to the National Society's governing documents, however, because no election will be held in 2020, any individual filling a vacancy will not be a member of the Board of Trustees unless elected to such at the July 2019 Congress. What does this mean for General Officer candidates? As there will be no elections in 2020, all individuals wishing to run for General Office will be required to seek nomination through the normal nominating procedure. Candidates for National Office will be permitted to announce their candidacy ten days after the 2020 Annual Congress would have ended (Saturday, July 25, 2020).

What does this mean for National Committees? Committee Chairs should submit their annual report by no later than July 1, 2020. The National Society will publish an electronic report book, available to all members on Share file, detailing the General Officer and Committee operations for 2019-2020, by the end of July 2020. Committees wishing to meet during the summer should reach out to either their General Officer liaison or the Executive Director.

What does this mean for my hotel reservation in Richmond? Congress Planning Chairman Callanan will handle canceling room reservations which are part of the SAR "block." The Richmond Marriott or the Richmond Hilton will send out a cancellation verification email on or after June 1, 2020. If you made your own reservation using Marriott BonVoy, Hilton Honors, another travel program or made reservations using a discounted rate (e.g. military, government, AAA, etc.), you must cancel your own reservation. Questions, concerns, difficulties with the hotel may be referred to Chairman Callanan (ltcmrsc@aol.com) who will help work the issue.

As with all of you, Sheila and I enjoy attending the Annual Congress to see our friends, participate in the youth competitions, and enjoy the fellowship with our compatriots and family. The members of the Executive Committee feel the same. Notwithstanding canceling the Annual Congress is the correct decision based on the factors outlined above. It is certainly my goal to continue moving the Sons of the American Revolution forward during the coming year. More details will be disseminated as they become available. I urge all trustees and alternate trustees to attend the virtual Trustees meeting scheduled for May 30, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

Jack Manning
President General
National Society Sons of the American Revolution

New Guidance from NSSAR Genealogy Staff on DNA

New perspectives on the legal issues that surround the use and dissemination of DNA test results have resulted in numerous questions regarding our current and future DNA policies, and our acceptance of test results, which may involve multiple individuals.

There are concerns raised by staff and our executives regarding how we will deal with the issues of privacy and confidentiality.

The current policy on DNA allows use of DNA states: DNA evidence can only be used as one element of a genealogical proof argument that includes additional conventional proof of the lineage. None of the major tests -- Y-DNA, autosomal DNA, mitochondrial DNA, or X-DNA alone can prove a descent from a specific individual. DNA tests can show with high probability that two individuals are related but without traditional evidence, they fail to determine whether the person being considered is a specific individual, a sibling of that individual, a cousin of, or other relation to that individual. However, by combining the various tests and using techniques to support predicted relationships, coupled with traditional evidence, a case can be built to demonstrate relationships.

The legal issue arises with the requirement for the additional conventional evidence. The conventional evidence required includes proof of the applicant's lineage to the common ancestor where a DNA match is found, the proof of the lineage of all matches to that same common ancestor, and proof of the lineage from the common ancestor to the patriot ancestor. This involves documentation for the lineages claimed by all of the matches used, which includes their private information. Their permission for use is needed and we need to address how to insure the privacy of that information used. A genealogy subcommittee is being set up to prepare guidance on how to build a DNA Proof Argument and to look into the questions regarding the use of DNA and who has permission to access and share this information.

When we accept results of a DNA test as part of a proof argument, we are receiving the most private of information. While we may have the permission of the applicant to use his DNA results, we do not necessarily have the permission of the other family members who are included in those results. They may not be aware that the SAR is being provided a copy of their DNA results as documentation.

We need to establish procedures that protect those DNA results from becoming available to the public through Record Copy and Documentation Requests.

With these types of questions in mind, the President General has asked the Staff to put a hold on any further acceptance of DNA test results as proof of lineage documentation.

This will be in effect until such time as the Chancellor General and the Legal Advisory Committee have an opportunity to review the National Society's standing from a legal prospective.

The Genealogy Subcommittee will continue to work on guidance for the types of reporting that would be required for DNA review, but any acceptance policy would need to be reviewed and include safeguards for its legal aspects. In the meantime, the Genealogy Staff has been instructed to automatically pend any application that uses DNA test results as proof or as part of a proof argument, pending the legal review by the Chancellor General and the Legal Advisory Committee.

In the interim, those applications already submitted but not yet reviewed will be pended and shelved until the Policy decisions are completed. Since this change in policy retroactively affects applications already in the queue, the National Society is offering a refund of the National application fees for those applications already submitted but not yet reviewed if a withdrawal of the application is requested.

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 are now available for sale on the GASSAR website www.gasocietysar.org

These are **Hot Items!** Get yours now before they're gone!



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@gmial.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 19 more SAR Applications in the works!

John Henry Adams

Paul Leon Anderson

Melvin Rhodes

Stephen Douglas Schrodeder II

Korey Matthew Schrodeder

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!**



June 21st is Father's Day!



Drop some hints to your loved ones about what a great gift the NSSAR 2022 Congress and/or the Georgia Society Centennial Commemorative Medal sets and Lapel Pins would be!

And, while you're at it, if you're 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.

**Please Contact Deborah Dobbs
2020 Ladies Auxiliary President
dldobbs@bellsouth.net**

**GEORGIA SAR Ladies Auxiliary
Lifetime Membership**

<http://nlasar.org/>

(Please print)

Name: _____ Husband's First Name: _____

Address: _____ Telephone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Related SAR Member: _____

Type of Relationship (spouse, son, nephew, etc.): _____

His SAR Chapter: _____

Date of Lifetime Membership Payment: _____ Amount Paid: \$25.00

Payment by cash or check: _____ Check Number: _____

**Mail your completed application and \$25 check payable to: GASSAR – Ladies Auxiliary,
Attn: 2020 Ladies Auxiliary President, Deborah Dobbs
3166 Floyd Street, NE, Covington, GA 30014**

Received by:

Your check is your receipt.



The following members have a birthday this month:

William Squires	2 nd
Patrick Stoughton	10 th
James Thompson	17 th
Roderick White, Jr.	17 th
Paul Spencer, Sr.	18 th
James Noble	19 th
David Gordon	20 th
Davis Stitt	21 st
George Wysong, III	22 nd
Kendall Zelif, Jr.	23 rd
John Adams	27 th
George Smith	28 th

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