



Atlanta Tidbits Ledger

Atlanta Chapter
Sons of the American Revolution
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Editor: Barrett Hanson

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Next Meeting Thursday September 8th @ 12:00PM – Welcome Back!

At the Petite Violette Restaurant, 2948 Clairmont Rd, Atlanta, GA 30329

**Program speakers: Linda Chesnut, Edward & Kathryn Anderson -
“Restoration & Rehabilitation of the Cherry Grove Schoolhouse”**

Regular meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month except in February when we meet on the Saturday closest to George Washington’s Birthday, and in July and August when we do not schedule a regular meeting. Remember those soda can tabs, Labels for Education, and Box Tops for Education for donation to the Children of the American Revolution; magazines and toiletries for veterans at the VA Hospital; paperback books for the USO;

First time Congress Attendee



Former Atlanta Chapter President Gregory Smith, and current President Barrett Hanson, both first time attendees to NSSAR Congress with William Ritchie, Washington, D.C. Chapter.

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Savannah, Georgia's oldest city. A city with 200-year-old cobble-stone streets, trees draped with Spanish moss, and a history which predates the founding of our nation. It is a city which boasts a well-earned culinary tradition, architectural excellence, and a gold mine for the unreformed – and unapologetic! – antique shopaholics, such as myself. Savannah is also a city which I am very acquainted with. My wife Lorraine is a Savannah native. Our family often visits her historic hometown three or four times during the year. This visit, however, was quite different. I was a first-time attendee of the **132nd Annual Congress of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution**. As soon as we walked into the lobby of the Hyatt Regency Hotel, half of the men present wore some form of SAR attire, medal, or insignia. There were clusters of Compatriots, who were standing and sitting throughout the large lobby and lounging area. Most of whom, I presume, were engaged in various topics related to SAR and the forthcoming

activities. The first person that we met was a gregarious bearded gentleman. He warmly introduced himself, his wife, and daughter. We would later discover during the President's Banquet, that this Compatriot was the Treasurer General – John L. Dodd, Esq. The first person that we recognized, however, was Atlanta Chapter member and Congress volunteer Gregory Smith. He promptly introduced us to those gathered with him, which included Georgia and out-of-state attendees.

The first order of business was the check-in and registration. Here, again, we recognized a familiar face in local Compatriot Rick Reeves, who, as a Congress volunteer, completed our registration. Lorraine and I had the honor of having as our personal guests and traveling companions Compatriot Ed Anderson and wife Kathryn Anderson. Due to our familiarity with the city, we took the liberty of compiling our own "alternate" tour itinerary. Two of the historic sites which we decided to include were the Haitian Monument at Franklin Square, and the *Journey By Faith* tour presented at the First African Baptist Church, also in Franklin Square.

The highlight of Congress was the President's Ball. A black-tie dinner accompanied by as much pomp and circumstance as one would expect from an SAR gala at the national level! Those in attendance were honored to witness an address delivered by General George Washington, himself! (He did, however, that is the actor who portrayed him, also portrayed a striking resemblance to Horse Cartwright). The well-pressed tuxedos, the abundance of medals and ribbons, and the occasional Scottish kilt, painted a picturesque gathering of Compatriots. The only thing possibly missing was cannon fire from an 18th century wooden-sided frigate to mark the occasion.



Barrett Hanson, Edward M. Anderson, Sr., Sherwin Bostick, William Ritchie, Rene` Jewett, Michael Henderson

Perhaps the most enjoyable part of the evening – and certainly the most entertaining! – was the spirited after-hours dialogue in the hall of the banquet room. About five Compatriots engaged in a series of humorous, light-hearted, and on a few occasions, incredulous “claims” of genealogy. It took our wives to literally grab us by the collar to finally extract us from this battle-royal of one-upmanship!

The next morning, there was a business meeting. It was met with the usual rounds of motions, discussions, and voting by eligible delegates. It ended with a magnificent pair of dueling pistols, which were donated by the Atlanta Chapter’s own, Charlie Newcomer, being raffled off. The pistols were presented to the winner by GASSAR President Joe Vancura.

For a first time Congress attendee, I found it to be informative, enlightening, and inspiring. I am delighted to have had the opportunity to attend.

There was one sad note, however, which I would be remiss not to mention. Within a few days after Congress had ended, we received the regretful news of the passing of GASSAR President Vancura. I had the pleasure of meeting him only once, but it was a memorable and noteworthy occasion. I was honored to have been installed as the Atlanta Chapter President by our late fallen Compatriot – Joseph L. Vancura, Esq. To our late State President, “*a day of duty done, a night of rest begun.*”

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A Celebration of Life for David Heiden



On behalf of the Atlanta Chapter of SAR, I was honored to have attended the Celebration of Life of David Heiden, our fallen immediate Past President. His widow Linda Heiden (above) and family presented a beautiful and joyful reflection of the life and assorted personal interest of David. He was a proud member of several lineage organizations. There were about 50-70 friends, family members, and associates in attendance.



GASSAR Summer BOM Meeting



Standing at the lectern is the newly inducted GASSAR President Dr. David Ludley. The Summer Board of Managers Meeting was held in-person and via Zoom on Saturday, September 27th in Barnesville, Georgia. After the Call to Order there was a moment of silence in honor of Past GASSAR President Joseph Vancura, followed by Reflections.



The Presentation of Colors was led by Color Guard Commander Kenneth Scott Collins of the Athens, Georgia Chapter. Collins also served as the State Treasurer.



The Atlanta Chapter was represented by Past President Gregory Smith, Ron Redner, 2nd Vice President Charlie Newcomer and President Barrett Hanson.

One of the chapter's most distinguished members was awarded the highly coveted Gold Liberty Medal. It is reserved for Compatriots who have successfully recruited 200 + NEW MEMBERS!!! Truly, a herculean feat! Please help me congratulate one whom we are most proud of, Dr. David A. Noble.



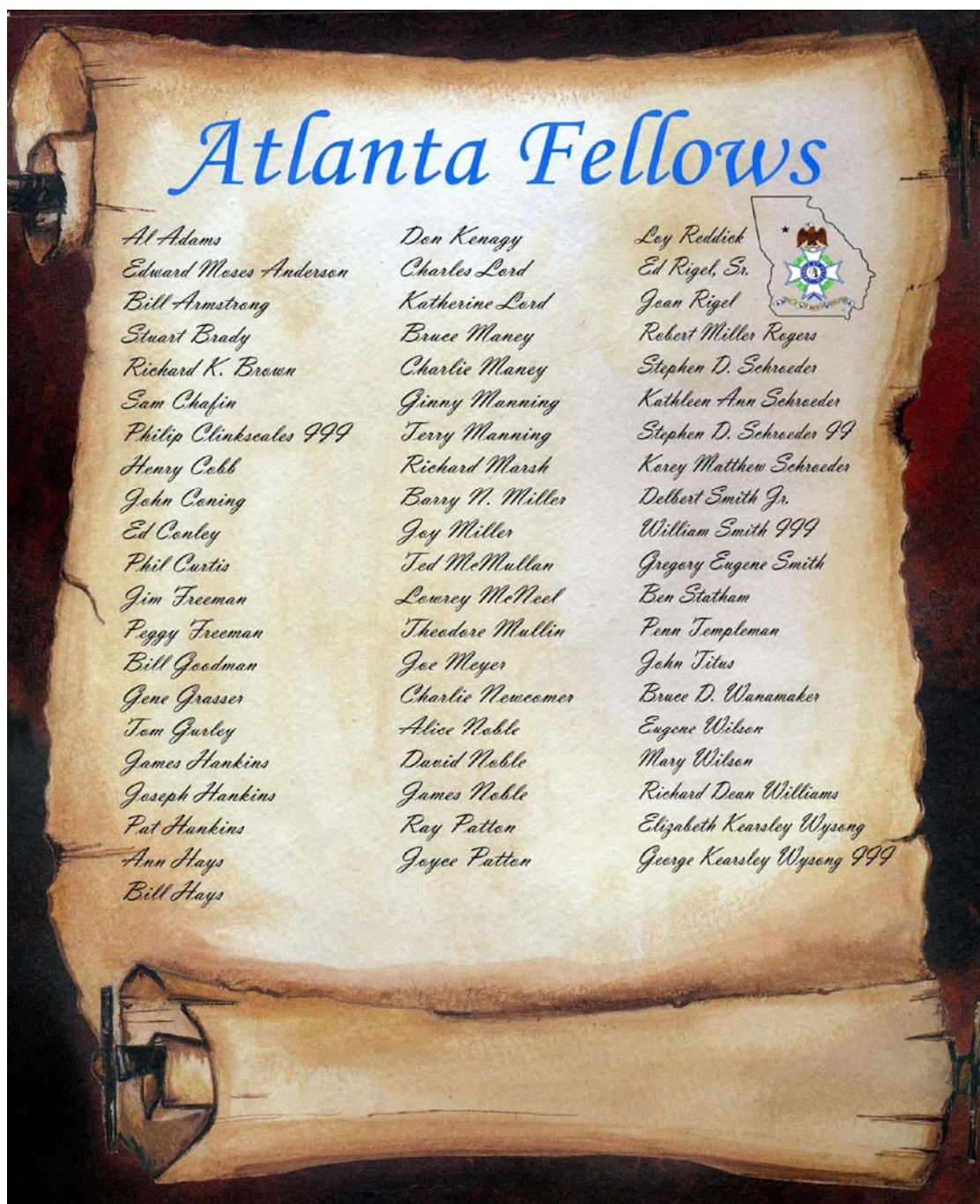
2022 Chapter Officer Directory

Chapter officers to serve February 19, 2022, to February 20, 2023, are as follows:

President	Barrett Hanson
1 st Vice President	vacant
2 nd Vice President	Charlie Newcomer
Secretary	Al Adams
Treasurer	Richard Marsh
Registrar	Joseph H. Blackmon
Sergeant-At-Arms	vacant
Chancellor	Ed Floyd
Chaplain	John Titus
Historian	Jay McLenden
Information Technology	Richard Marsh

Thank You to Our Atlanta Fellows

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. 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. Donations toward chapter-sponsored events such as Wreaths across America also credit toward the Atlanta Fellow program. We are also grateful for several members who have started making incremental donations toward becoming Atlanta Fellows. We thank all our Atlanta Fellows for their support and encourage others to join their ranks.



Veterans Respect Activities

Our chapter began a 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, 2022, please report the details to our Chaplain John Titus.

Please note:

Our October meeting will be held on Thursday the 13th.

Speaker: Dr. David Noble – The Contributions of Patriots of Color to the American Revolution

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