

Atlanta Tidbits Ledger

Atlanta Chapter Sons of the American Revolution Organized March 15, 1921 Editor: Barrett Hanson

www.saratlanta.org

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Next Meeting Thursday October 13th @ 12:00PM

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

Program speakers: Dr. David Noble - "Atlanta in the Revolutionary War"

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;

Non-members: To attend an Atlanta Chapter Zoom meeting, please send an email request to <u>atlantasarflags@bellsouth.net</u>. You will then be sent a link, password and detailed connection information. This will ensure a secure session.

New Member Induction





The Atlanta Chapter of SAR was honored to induct into our ranks Compatriot **Marvin Wendell Brown**. Our Compatriot is the descendant of Patriot Absalom Hooper who served as a Private with service in the states of South Carolina and Georgia. Chapter Registrar Joseph Blackmon assisted in the ceremony by pinning the SAR Rosette on the lapel of Compatriot Brown.



After taking the Oath of a Member of the Sons of the American Revolution, he is welcomed by Chapter President Barrett Hanson and the members at large.

Congratulations to Dr. David Noble



Dr. David Noble was presented with two awards at our September meeting: the Liberty Medal with Certificate and the Gold Liberty Medal with Certificate, for sponsoring 200 plus new members into the NSSAR! The awards were proudly presented by *one* of those 200 plus members ushered into the ranks.

Restoration and Rehabilitation of the Cherry Grove Schoolhouse

For our September 8th meeting, we were honored with a presentation by **Friends of Cherry Grove Schoolhouse**. They are a 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to the preservation and rehabilitation of the Cherry Grove Schoolhouse. The school is a circa 1910 clapboard building in rural Washington-Wilkes County, Georgia. It sits on the campus of the Cherry Grove Baptist Church, which was founded in 1875. At one time, there were as many as 40 of these one or two

room church affiliated rural schoolhouses in Washington-Wilkes alone. When Friends started this project seven years ago, there were only 15 remaining in the state! Today, due primarily to neglect, decay, and lack of awareness of their historical value, that number has dwindled to 12 statewide.



The Cherry Grove Schoolhouse suffered from extensive water damage, rotten and insect-infested wood, and a sagging foundation, which jeopardized the structural integrity of the building. In 2021, the building made the list of 10 "Places in Peril" by the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation. It has been, "in dire need of repair."



Atlanta's Chapter new Sergeant-at-Arms Marvin Jetter (at left) attempts to assist Friends Co-Project Manager Linda Chesnut, Board Secretary Kathryn Anderson, and Co-Project Manager Edward Anderson prior to their presentation. At right, Edward Anderson, who is also the Board's Vice Chair, proceeds with the presentation accompanied with visual props.

Friends shared with us the deplorable and dilapidated condition the schoolhouse was in when their project began seven years ago. Not to mention the monumental challenge of securing such a property on the National Register of Historic Places. Unfortunately, due to a technical issue with the projector, they were unable to show us the step-by-step progress made over time: from the re-stabilization of the 100 plus-year-old field stone piers on which it sets; to the sistering of the new floorboards and replacement of the fallen chimney and leaking tin roof.



A work in progress... replacement of the window frames, new tin roof, rebuilt chimney, restabilization and sealing of the stacked field stone piers. The beams and rafters were also replaced where needed, while retaining as much of the original clapboard frame as possible.

The rehabilitation has been extensive. Meticulous steps were taken in phases outlined in the Historic Structure Report (HSR) provided by the University of Georgia. Every effort was made to ensure that the structure did not collapse during the various phases of rehab.

The Cherry Grove Schoolhouse, and other similar church-based rural schools, played a vital role in the evolution of African American education in the rural South. No other institution did more to combat mass illiteracy among this segment of the population during the first half of the 20th century. With minimal assistance from the county, they utilized what resources they had. It was the community which came together circa 1910 to build this modest seat of learning. And it was the community which rallied around this project again to make her rehabilitation and restoration possible.



One could say that the technical glitch experienced by Friends at the beginning of their presentation was symbolic of efforts made by those early schoolhouse trustees and caretakers: despite the obstacles, they took what they had and made the best out of it. Today, the Cherry Grove Schoolhouse has been completely rehabilitated *and* is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

(Full disclosure, this writer serves as Chair of Friends of Cherry Grove Schoolhouse, Inc.)



A Robust Return



After a two-month-long recess, the Atlanta Chapter returned with a robust attendance. Among our numerous visitors was Compatriot David Chesnut who serves as President of the Washington-Wilkes Chapter. (Shown in photo on the right with light blue jacket and hand on knee).

Congratulations to Kathryn Anderson



For her September 10, induction into the Kettle Creek Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution. After a two-year-long journey, she was able to prove her lineage to a Revolutionary War Patriot in her family tree. Her Patriot ancestor is Josiah Daniels, who served as a private in the state of Virginia. Kathryn is the wife of Atlanta Chapter's Compatriot Edward M. Anderson. They reside in Washington-Wilkes County, Georgia.



2022 Chapter Officer Directory

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

President Barrett Hanson

1st Vice President vacant

2nd Vice President Charlie Newcomer

Secretary Al Adams

Treasurer Richard Marsh

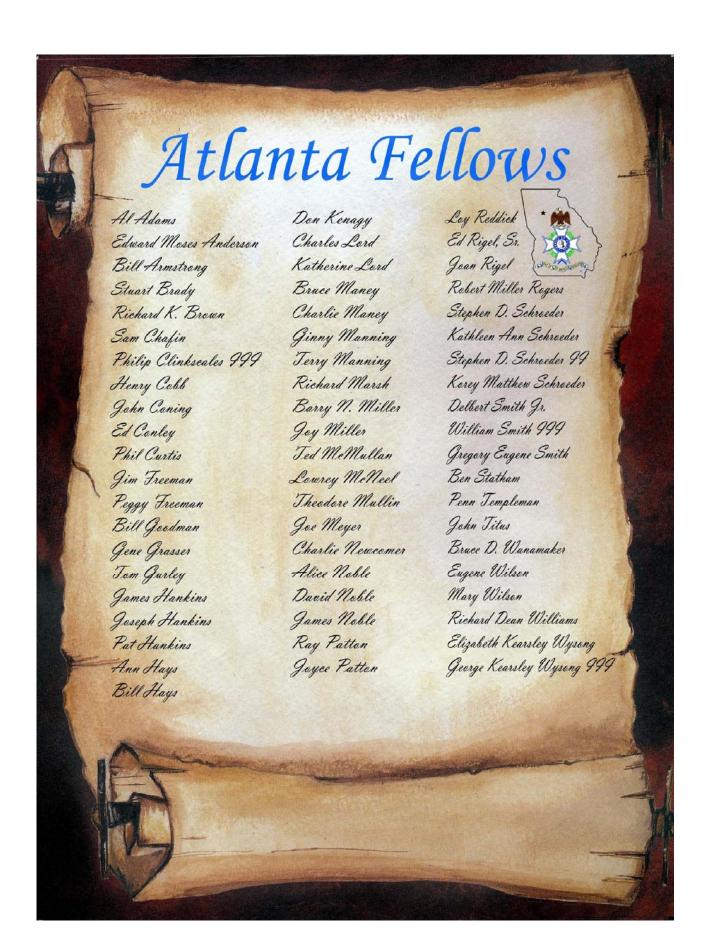
Registrar Joseph H. Blackmon

Sergeant-At-ArmsMarvin JetterChancellorEd FloydChaplainJohn TitusHistorianJay 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:

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