



Atlanta Tidbits Ledger

Atlanta Chapter
Sons of the American Revolution
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Editor: Barrett Hanson

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Next Meeting Thursday May 11th @ 12:00PM

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

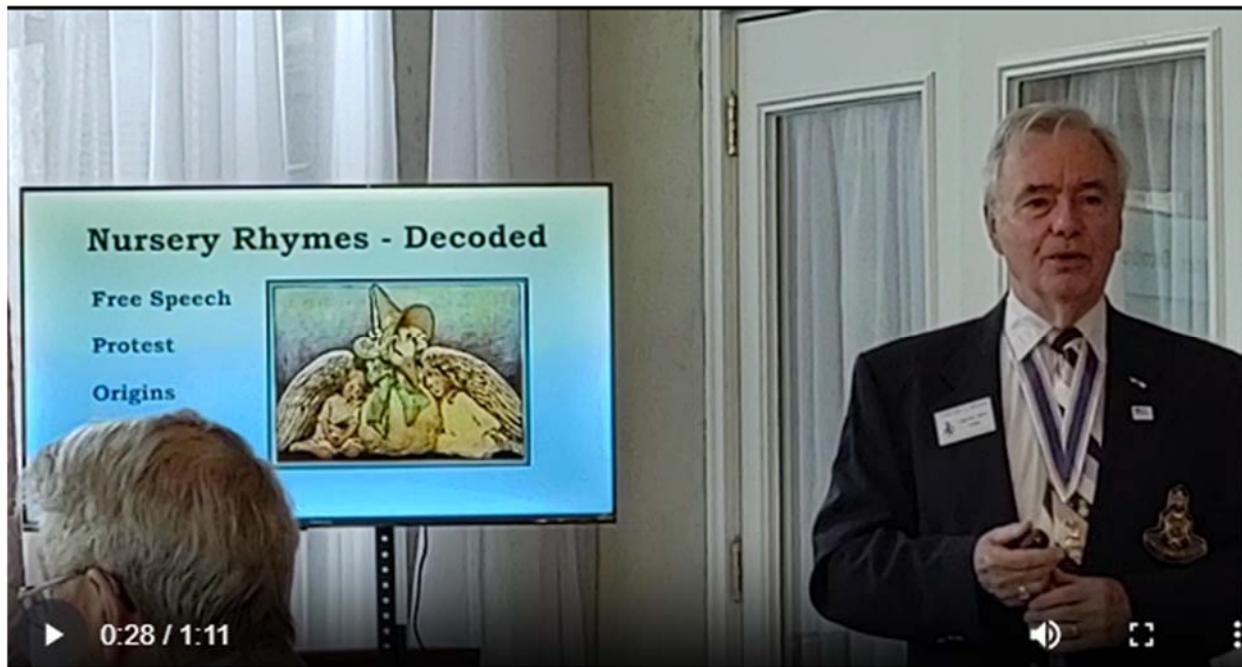
**Program speaker: Georgia Society SAR President Dr. David Ludley -
“Colonial and Revolutionary War Art”**

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: You're welcome to attend our monthly meetings scheduled the 2nd Thursday of the month with the above mentioned exceptions. The cost of the lunch is \$30.00 per person.



April Speaker Carter J. Wood



Things are seldom what they seem - W.S. Gilbert

The Lyman Hall Chapter President, Carter J. Wood, addressed the luncheon with his presentation: “*Nursery Rhymes - Decoded*”, which also may be referred to as the “Hidden Meaning of Common Nursery Rhymes.”



In the days before Free Speech, Compatriot Wood reminded us that if you spoke out against the Crown, it was considered treason; if you spoke against the Church, it was blasphemy; and either could be hazardous to your health! People, therefore, found ways of hiding what they were saying in common easy to remember nursery rhymes. For example:

*Baa, baa, black sheep,
Have you any wool?*

*Yes, sir, yes, sir,
Three bags full;*



“‘Baa Baa Black Sheep’ poem is allegedly about the medieval wool tax imposed by King Edward I”

One for the master,

And one for the dame,

*And one for the little boy
Who lives down the lane.*

The tax was imposed by King Edward I in the 13th century. Under the new rules, a third of the cost of a sack of wool went to the king (*the master*), another went to the church (*the dame*) and the last to the farmer (*the little boy who lives down the lane*).

And who would have imagined a concealed meaning cloaked behind an innocent rhyme, such as “**Three Blind Mice?**” Well...

Three blind mice. Three blind mice.

See how they run. See how they run.



*They all ran after the farmer's wife,
Who cut off their tails with a carving knife,
Did you ever see such a sight in your life,
As three blind mice?*

Once decoded, however, Compatriot Carter revealed the hidden meaning of this presumed innocuous children's rhyme:

The “three blind mice” were Protestant loyalists (the Oxford Martyrs, three Anglican bishops), accused of plotting against Queen Mary I. The farmer's wife refers to the queen who, with her husband, King Phillip of Spain, owned large estates. The three loyalists were burned at the stake (*tails cut off*), the mice's “blindness” referring to their Protestant beliefs, which they refused to renounce. This was a period in British history when it was very unpopular to be Protestant!

Of the approximately two dozen common nursery rhymes decoded by Compatriot Carter, perhaps one of the darkest, whose joyful rhythm and whimsical lyrics conceals its dreadful meaning is “**Ring Around the Rosy.**”

Ring around the rosy,

A pocketful of posies,



"Ashes, Ashes"

We all fall down.

It is believed by some that this rhyme arose from the Great Plague, an outbreak of bubonic and pneumonic plague that affected London in the year 1665. Decoded, the roses are a euphemism for deadly rashes, the posies a supposed preventative measure; ashes, ashes we all fall down is, well, death.

It seemed that every member present was not only familiar with these common nursery rhymes, but held fond memories of them, dating back to their early childhood. After hearing Compatriot Woods' decoding of their hidden meanings, however, one will probably never recite them with the same benign innocence as they once so dearly held.

JROTC Bronze Awards



Booker T. Washington High School JROTC Annual Awards Day Ceremony held April 20. Congratulations to Cadet Natasha Joseph, recipient of the SAR Bronze Medal Award. The award is based on academic excellence, a demonstration of a high level of esprit de corps and a competitive spirit. As Atlanta Chapter President of the GA Society Sons of the American Revolution, I was honored to make the presentation.



Among the organizations who provided awards were: Daughters of American Revolution; Scottish Rite of Freemasonry; Military Order of World Wars; Old Guard of the Gate City Guard; Daedalian Medal; Military Order of the Purple Heart; DAI Certificate of Commendations and DA Superior Awards.



Booker T. Washington High School Senior Army Instructor Major Randy Floyd (Ret).





Carver High School JROTC Annual Awards Day Ceremony was held April 19. Congratulations to Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Kelis Calhoun-Johnson, recipient of the SAR Bronze Medal Award. Accompanying her is Carver High School Principal Ms. Kristina Rogers. The award was presented by Atlanta SAR JROTC Committee Chair Compatriot John Rozzo.



Atlanta's BEST Academy JROTC Annual Awards Day Ceremony was held April 18. Congratulations to Cadet Major Gabriel Smith, recipient of the SAR Bronze Medal Award.

The award was read by Army Instructor First Sergeant Slaughter (Ret) and presented by Compatriot John Rozzo.

The Atlanta Chapter is a proud supporter of the JROTC program of select Atlanta and Dekalb County public High Schools. Recognizing future leaders of our armed forces who stand out in their service continues the tradition of honoring the Patriots who served and granted us freedom.

We are currently in need of Compatriots to volunteer approximately one hour of their time to attend an Awards Day Ceremony to present the SAR Bronze Medal Award and Certificate to the selected cadet. *(If you would like to say a few words of encouragement, fine. If not, no problem. Just take advantage of the photo opportunity which the school will request).*

Please contact our JROTC Committee Chair Compatriot John Rozzo for a list of schools, times and dates of scheduled ceremonies.

johnrozzo@gmail.com



Board of Managers Meeting



The Spring Board of Managers Meeting was held Saturday, 29th in Barnesville, GA. Georgia Society SAR State President Dr. David Ludley presided.



The Colors were presented by the GASSAR Color Guard led by Color Guard Commander K. Scott Collins, Athens Chapter.



The Invocation and Benediction was conducted by GASSAR Chaplain Edward M. Anderson, Sr. of the Atlanta and Washington-Wilkes County Chapter.



Among the state-wide attendees was Atlanta Chapter Past President Gregory Smith. Electronic Communications Committee Chairman Rick Reese (*adjusting camera*) provided zoom connection for the Compatriots who attended virtually.



Pins were presented to several Compatriots for past contributions to the State Society as Fellows.

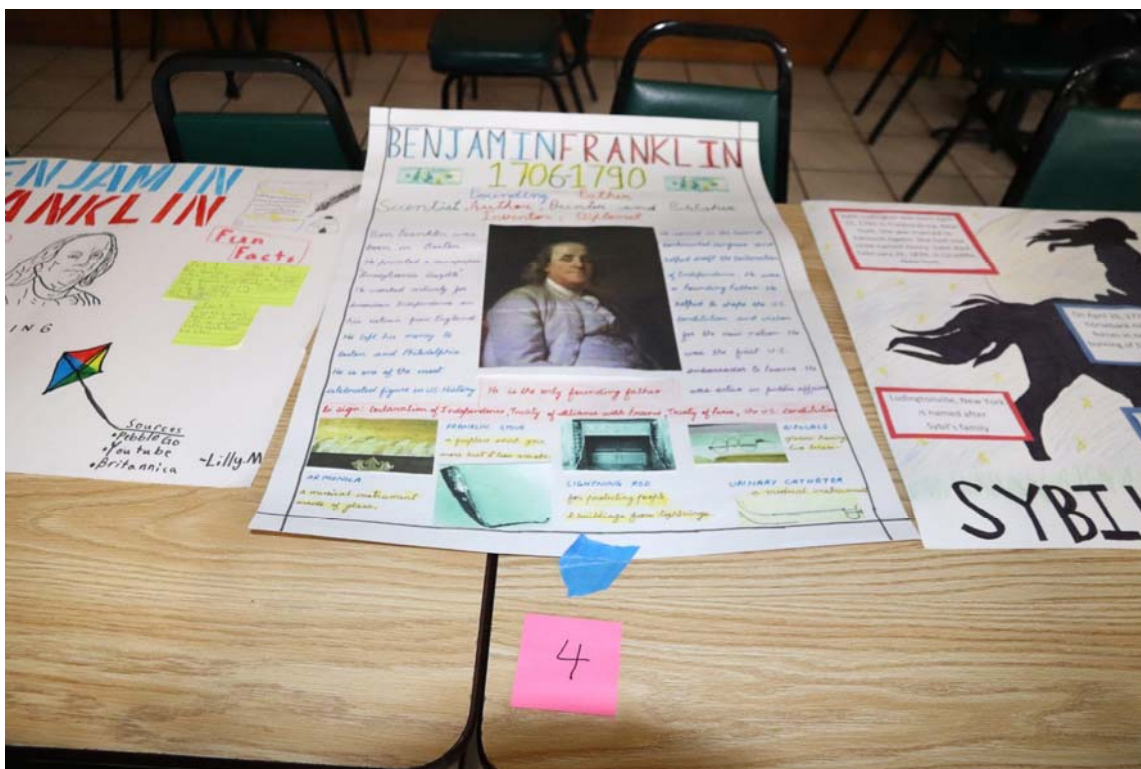


Compatriot K. Scott Collins, who also serves as the GASSAR State Treasurer, receives a Certificate of Appreciation

from a DAR representative.



This Compatriot was asked to serve as one of three impartial judges for the Brochure and Poster contest before the start of the GASSAR BOM meeting. The entries were submitted by SAR Chapters from local 4th graders with guidelines and criteria established by the Education Committee Chairman.



Those Chapters that submitted entries were: Blue Ridge Mountain, Cherokee, Coweta Falls, Marshes of Glynn, Piedmont, and Robert Forsyth.



Announcement made to the GASSAR regarding the publication of the article co-published by Atlanta Chapter Compatriot Dr. David Noble. The article, published as a report, appeared in Forensic Science International. It is of major significance due to its combination of forensic archaeology, the Revolutionary War, the use of cadaver dogs, ground penetrating radar and the science drawn from these applications to write history. FSI is a prestigious flagship that publishes the most innovative and influential contributions across the forensic sciences.

The easy link shared with the members is:

[ScienceDirect.com](https://www.sciencedirect.com) in the box “author” type David Noble and the article “Large-scale Search for Fallen Soldiers...” comes up. *(Or, follow the attached link directly to the article).*

The video recording of the Georgia Society SAR Spring BOM meeting held on April 29, 2023 may be viewed by clicking on the YouTube link below:

<https://youtu.be/z65UfjaxXtA>

Pictures taken by Rick Reese, III may also be viewed and/or downloaded by clicking on the Google Drive link shown below:

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/162VW5lyHTtCzAAWqx41cnCOdAvhIDGz4?usp=share link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/162VW5lyHTtCzAAWqx41cnCOdAvhIDGz4?usp=share_link)



Important Scheduling Announcement

In an effort to accommodate the working schedule and other time and day conflicts of many of our members, please note the following: our June meeting will be held on **Saturday, June 10th** at 12:00 noon at [Bambinelli's Italian Restaurant](#) located at 2039 Crescent Centre Blvd Tucker, GA 30084.

This will be the last meeting before our two month summer break in July and August.

We look forward to meeting and greeting you!

In Patriotism.



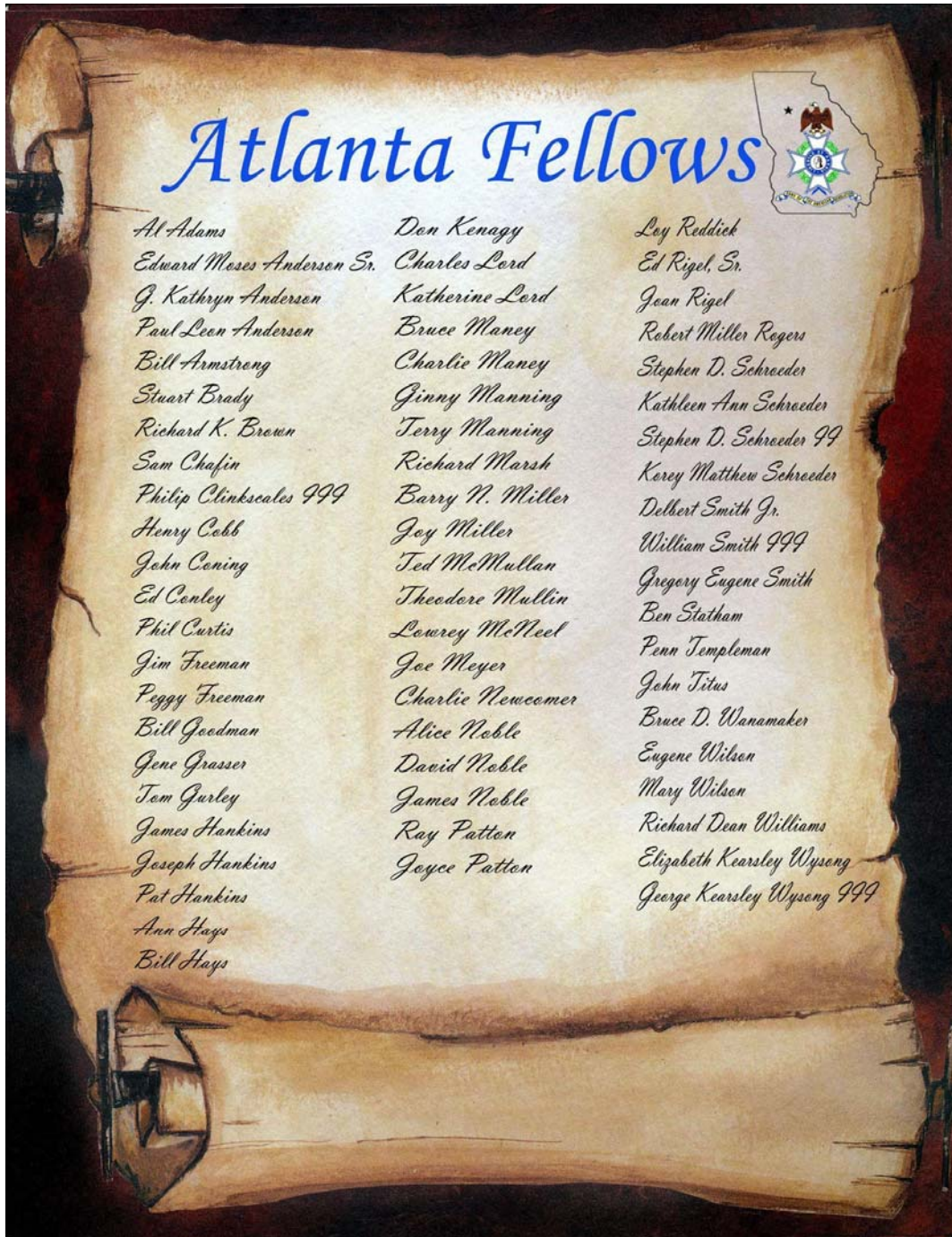
Slate of Officers 2023 Chapter Officer Directory

Chapter officers to serve February 9, 2023, to February 8, 2024, are as follows:

President	Barrett Hanson
1 st Vice President	open
2 nd Vice President	open
Secretary	Al Adams
Treasurer	Richard Marsh
Registrar	Joseph H. Blackmon
Sergeant-At-Arms	Benjamin Jetter
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.

