



Atlanta Tidbits Ledger

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



Volume 16 – Issue 11

Atlanta, Georgia

November 2025

Next Meeting – Thursday, November 13th @ 6 p.m.

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

Program speaker: Kenneth H. Thomas Jr., Atlanta Chapter Historian
“The Revolutionary War through the Words in my Ancestors' Pensions”

This presentation will cover how Revolutionary War pension records serve as rich historical sources, allowing the powerful personal stories and motivations of the patriots to be heard in their own words decades after the conflict ended. Oral testimonies provide firsthand accounts of the daily realities of war, which often differ from formal military histories.

2026 Dues Season has started. Dues Notices have been sent out. Please check your email & Spam.

Remember those **soda can tabs** for donation to the Atlanta **Ronald McDonald House**; **magazines and toiletries** for veterans at the **VA Hospital**; **paperback books** for the **USO**. A drop-off point at the table next to the registration table is set up to receive your donations.

October Chapter Meeting



Our Atlanta Chapter speaker for September was compatriot John Titus who delivered a program on “Benjamin Franklin - The Retirement Years”. During the luncheon we also had two compatriots who received NSSAR Military Service Veterans Corps Recognition Certificates. Brue Cotterman received the Military Service Veterans Corps Recognition Certificate for his service in the United States Army, retiring as a Colonel in 2010. During his military service, he was a Combat Engineer and also in Research, Development and Acquisition Management.

Kenneth Thomas, Jr. received the Military Service Veterans Corps Recognition Certificate for his service in the United States Air Force, serving as a Staff Sergeant & Personnel Specialist from 1969 - 1972. Compatriots, thank you for your Service! Remember, Tuesday November 11th is Veterans Day!

We also have a 5 Patriot Grave Marking on Saturday, November 1st at the Sugar Hill Historic Cemetery at 11 a.m. and then the next week there is a 4 Patriot Grave Marking on Saturday, November 8th at 10 a.m. in Elberton, GA. Both are State SAR Events.

The Siege of Fort Morris, “Come & Take it” is a National SAR Event in Sunbury, GA on Nov. 22 @ 9 a.m. All three events can be counted for the NSSAR 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution Recognition Program.

John Titus delivers the Oct. program on Benjamin Franklin



Atlanta Chapter 2nd VP Jarvis Bronner, right, presents NSSAR Military Service Veterans Corps Recognition Certificates to Compatriots Brue Cotterman and Kenneth Thomas, Jr. in recognition of their Military Service to the United States.



October door Prize winners were, left to right: Ken Thomas picked up an SAR America 250th Pin. John Havick choose the book, "Campaign to Valley Forge, July 1, 1777-December 19, 1777" by John F. Reed, and John Titus chose the SAR USA 250th Anniversary 1776-2026 Commemorative pin. These Commemorative pins are part of the Decade of America 250th Program and can be purchased online directly by SAR members at the SAR Store @ SAR.org. Please remember to check out the Calendar of events as there are many opportunities for member involvement during SAR activities including Patriot Grave Markings, Liberty Tree Memorials and Revolutionary War Battle commemoration ceremonies like the February 14, 1779 Battle of Kettle Creek & the March 3, 1779 Battle of Brier Creek.

Carter Center Liberty Tree



In cooperation with The Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum and the Carter Center, the Georgia Society SAR sponsored a Liberty Tree dedication on Thursday, October 16th, recognizing the 250th Anniversary of the United States of America, 1776-2026. It was held at the Carter Center in honor of President James Earl Carter, Jr. Atlanta Chapter President Gregory Smith & GASSAR Chaplain Edward M. Anderson were in attendance.

This Liberty Tree Dedication is part of a nationwide movement planting 250 Liberty Trees across the country. President Jimmy Carter, SAR National # 134672 & Life Member # 4377, joined the Atlanta Chapter of the Georgia Society SAR on March 26th 1990, through the Service of his Patriot Ancestor Private Perry Scott of Sussex, Delaware who served under Captain Allen McLane in the Continental Army. Around 1990, President Carter transferred to the Button Gwinnett Chapter SAR where Carter's SAR Life Membership was approved June 12th 2024.



National Society of the Washington Family Descendants



Above left photo, Elizabeth Wysong with her brother Atlanta Chapter Compatriot George K. Wysong III pose in the Zion Episcopal cemetery at the grave of their 4th great-grandfather Michael Wysong, the son of their Proven Patriot Lewis Wysong. Beginning about 1793, Michael Wysong and his wife Margaret Shirley called Charles Town their home.

Above, Brenda Wysong (wife of George K. Wysong III) shares a toast with Elizabeth Wysong (wife of Atlanta Chapter President Gregory E. Smith) at the NSWFD Annual Dinner at the Bavarian Inn in Shepherdstown, WV.



On Sunday, October 12, 2025, the National Society of the Washington Family Descendants attended the Choral Eucharist at Zion Episcopal Church in Charles Town, WV. President George Washington's youngest brother Charles founded the town in 1786, naming many of the streets after his brothers and wife. His estate, **Happy Retreat**, was erected in 1780 and still stands today.

NSWFD President General Richard Weaver presented a silver tray to the church on behalf of the society. The Washington Family Memorial Service was also held in the Zion Church cemetery where over 70 plus members of the Washington family are buried. Several generations of the Wysong family are buried there as well, beginning with Michael Wysong, the 4th great-grandfather of Compatriot George Wysong.

The group toured Claymont Court, built by Bushrod Corbin Washington, the son of General Washington's brother, John Augustine Washington. That night, the family celebrated the 71st NSWFD Annual Dinner & Meeting at the Bavarian Inn of Shepherdstown, WV. Dale Sayers performed "The Life and Times of Dolly Madison".



Upcoming 2025 Events



Calendar of Events 2025

From the GASSAR Hornet's Nest

Event	Location	Date	Status
Grave Marker Dedication (5) Patriots	Sugar Hill, GA	Nov 1, 2025 11:00 am	State
Grave Marker Dedication (4) Patriots	Elberton, GA	Nov 8, 2025 10:00 am	State
Veterans Day	Various	Nov 11, 2025	National
Siege of Fort Morris – Come & Take it	Sunbury, GA	Nov 22, 2025 9:00 am	National
Wreaths Across America	Various	Dec 13, 2025	National

Scan to Support the CAR



HUZZAH!
to our Patriots



2025-2026 Georgia C.A.R.

As we celebrate **America250**, families are traveling and exploring historical sites with the desire to learn more about the historical foundation of our great nation. There are not enough historians and docents to satisfy this emerging curiosity.

The Georgia State Project is an attempt to satisfy this desire for knowledge while also inspiring future patriots to rise up and be patriotic contributors to a brighter future.

Our goal is to raise \$12,500 to acquire historical story boards to tell the story of Georgia patriots at historical sites. To meet this goal we need 250 compatriots to give \$50.00 to keep the legacy of Georgia's patriots alive.

Support Georgia State Project
HUZZAH! to our Patriots



Sponsor the 87th State Conference
in LaGrange, GA at the
The Great Wolf Lodge

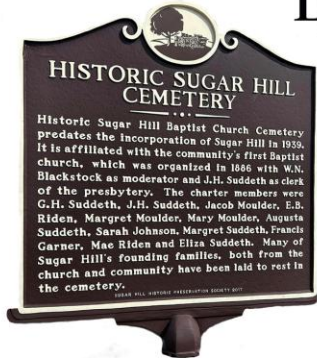


Update on the Colonel John Dooly Granite Cenotaph

With the carving now complete, as seen in photo on left, it is now ready for transport. It will be set in place at Elijah Clark State Park in time for the Heroes of the Hornets' nest Ceremony taking place Friday, February 13, 2026 at 11 a.m. Back in March, Atlanta Chapter SAR members voted on a cash donation of \$2,000 to support the then proposed granite Cenotaph for Colonel John Dooly and his wife Diannah Mitchell. The Dooly Cenotaph will ultimately stand next to the granite Cenotaph headstone of Elijah and Hannah Clark at the Elijah Clark State Park, near Lincolnton, GA. The total quoted cost of the project was \$13,775 from Mr. Ron Clamp of the Cornerstone Dimensional Stone Co. The Georgia Society SAR made this a reality led by The Little River Chapter SAR who has spearheaded this much needed project.

November Patriot Grave Marking

**The Button Gwinnett, Blue Ridge, Joseph Habersham,
Piedmont, Robert Forsyth Chapter, &
Lyman Hall Chapter**



**Request the Honor of your presence at the
Patriot Grave Marking & Dedication Ceremony
Commemorating the Service of
Revolutionary War Patriots**



**Thomas Cox, P-348804
Joseph Curbow, P-348805
Lewis Dishon, P-331778
Stephen Harris, P-176032
Jesse Herring, P-343664**

**Saturday, November 1st 2025 @ 11 a.m.
Sugar Hill Historic Cemetery**

**The Sugar Hill Historic Cemetery is across the street from the Sugar Hill City Hall
at Sugar Hill City Hall, 5039 West Broad Street, Sugar Hill, GA 30518**

**If you plan to present a wreath for your organization,
Please RSVP Don McCarty by October 25, 2025
at: donald_mccarty@bellsouth.net
or call (404) 218-6624**



Nov. 8th 4 Patriot Grave Marking



The Samuel Elbert Chapter GASSAR, The Stephen Heard NSDAR Chapter and The John Benson NSDAR Chapter invite the GASSAR, NSDAR, and family descendants to attend a Four Patriot Revolutionary War Grave Marking Ceremony. On November 8, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. **At Coldwater United Methodist Church, 1753 Coldwater Rd. Elberton, Ga**

Patriot John Cunningham

Patriot Moses Hunt

Patriot John Johnston

Patriot Thomas Carter

(This will be #49, #50, #51, and #52 for the Samuel Elbert Chapter).

Information to the property where the Ceremonies will be held. 1753 Coldwater Rd. Elberton, Ga 30635. GPS is N 34.230021, -W 82.842016.

Directions from Downtown Elberton: (Intersection of Highway 17 and Highway 77 go North 6.1 Miles turn right on Double Bridges (We will have an SAR sign here.) In 4.5 miles turn left on Coldwater Rd. (We will have an SAR sign here.) Coldwater United Methodist Church will be approx.. 1 mile on left.

Directions from Hartwell (Benson St & East Howell St. turn right (south) at City Hall on Benson St./Hwy 77. Go 6.8 Miles turn left on Coldwater Rd. go by the Dollar General (We will have an SAR sign here.) Drive 4.2 miles to **Coldwater United Methodist Church.**

Please bring your own chair.

Wreath Presenters & Descendants

Wreath Presenters

Register by October 31, 2025 to be printed in the program. Descendants - RSVP your attendance to be recognized during the ceremony.

Note: Send this reservation to Attention: Russell Terrell 706-491-2714 or rbterrell58@gmail.com



On November 25, 1778, the British demanded Fort Morris to surrender.....



...to which the Patriots defiantly replied, "Come and Take It"

Fort Morris, Georgia's only Revolutionary Historic Site with earthworks, is located 7 miles east of I-95, Exit 76 - Island Parkway and Fort Morris Road (912-884-5999)

The Siege of Fort Morris

247th Anniversary
of the

"Come and Take It!" Commemoration

"A National Society SAR Event"

Saturday, Nov. 22, 2025 @ 10:30 am

Cannons, Period Dress and Militia!

"The public is Invited"

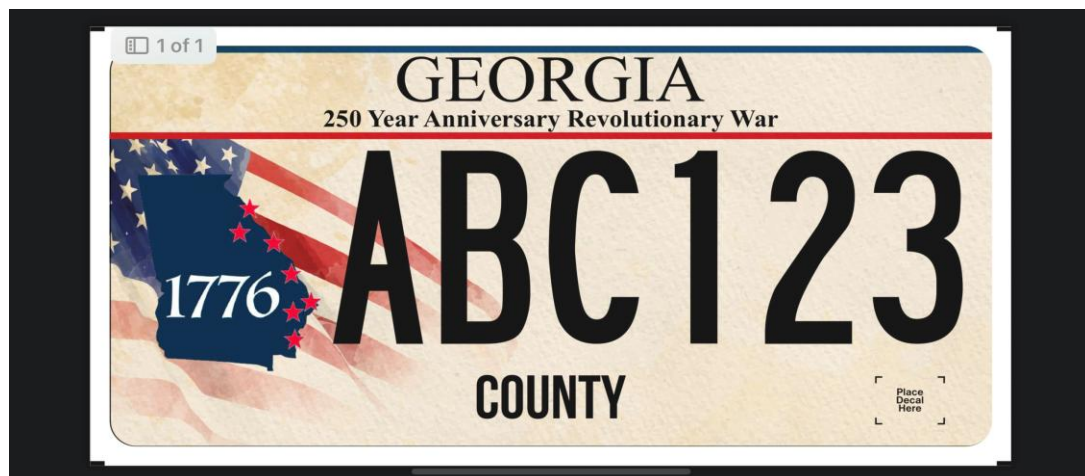
Sponsored by the
Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution
Marshes of Glynn Chapter, Ga Society, SAR
Brier Creek Chapter and Militia, GA Society, SAR



"Note: An entrance fee will be required by all attendees"



New Georgia Tag in 2026



Georgia will have a special license plate to commemorate the United States' 250th anniversary from 2026 through 2030. The design was selected from submissions by Georgia middle school students. The bill authorizing the license plate specifies that it will be in addition to the regular license plates and will be available from January 1, 2026.



Wreaths Across America Ceremonies Saturday, December 13, 2025

Proudly Sponsored by

*Philadelphia Winn Chapter
Daughters of the American Revolution*



11:00 AM CEREMONY
Gwinnett Memorial Park
925 Lawrenceville Hwy, Lawrenceville

2:00 PM CEREMONY
East Shadowlawn Memorial Gardens
87 Scenic Hwy, Lawrenceville

REMEMBER the fallen. **HONOR** those who serve.
TEACH the next generation the value of freedom.



A WREATH sponsorship is \$17 each with 5 wreaths for \$85 being the most popular option. To pay online with a credit card, use the **BLUE BUTTON BELOW** or the **QR CODE** in the bottom right corner, or use **URL** www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/GA0265P, then select the cemetery location using the drop-down box.

Wreaths Across America and Philadelphia Winn NSDAR are 501c3 non-profit organizations. To pay by check and have your order placed for you, make a check payable to *Philadelphia Winn Chapter NSDAR* and mail to Treasurer, Rose Horton, 767 Red Fox Ct, Lawrenceville, GA 30044.

Questions? Contact: Regent Randi Minor, 770-882-8108, RandiMD@gmail.com or
Honorary Regent Lynn Jacques, 678-332-9852, LynnJacques55@gmail.com.



Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution Annual Conference



February 6 & 7, 2026



**Hilton Atlanta Northeast
5993 Peachtree Industrial Blvd.,
Peachtree Corners, Georgia 30092-3416
Phone: 770-447-4747**

There are two ways to register for the annual conference.

Register Online & Pay Online @ <https://gasocietysar.org/>

Registering by USPS Link: <https://gasocietysar.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/REGISTRATION-FORM-2026.pdf>

Schedule of Events – Friday, February 6th:

12:00-5:30 pm	Registration
1:00-2:30 pm	Program TDA
3:00-4:30 pm	Program TDA
6:00 pm	Reception (Card/Cash Bar)
7:00 pm	Member Awards Banquet (Members & Guests) (Black Tie, Business Suit, Uniform/Kilt)

Schedule of Events – Saturday, February 7th:

8:00 – 8:20 am	Late Registration
8:30 am	Memorial Service (Members & Guests)
9:15 am	Winter Board of Managers Meeting (Members)
9:15-10:00 am	Ladies' Program
10:15-11:00 am	Ladies Auxiliary Annual Meeting
10:45 am	Annual Meeting: GA Society Election of Officers (ALL Registered Members Vote!)
11:45 am	Chapter and Youth Awards Luncheon & Installation of 2026 Officers (Members and guests) (Business Suit, Uniform or Kilt)

**Rooms: \$149 plus taxes (Rate guaranteed through January 21, 2025).
You may also call the hotel to make your reservation.**



250th Anniversary of the American Revolution Recognition Program

National Society, Sons of the American Revolution



The recognition program is designed to encourage and recognize those compatriots, chapters and societies that participate in local, state, national and international events which publicly educate, and recognize, honor, and celebrate the events and heroes of the period surrounding the American Revolution. Participation involves the planning and execution of these events, as well as attendance. The medal covers any event celebrating and promoting the 250th Anniversary. This therefore will cover any public events celebrating and promoting the 250th Anniversary in the period from 2014 to 2033. Forms may be submitted for multiple years. Scorekeeping is the responsibility of each compatriot and awarding authority. The awarding authority for each medal is as follows. The Bronze Medal is authorized and recorded by the local chapter. The Silver Medal is Authorized and recorded by the state society. The Gold Medal only is authorized and recorded by the NSSAR 250th Anniversary Committee. **Only Gold Medal applications should be submitted to the NSSAR 250th Anniversary Committee using the email address below:**

PLEASE SUBMIT TO: 250AnniversaryRecognition@sar.org



Upon approval of the Gold Medal an email will be sent to the individual authorizing them to purchase the 250th Anniversary Gold Medal from merchandising.

➤ **Awards are based on activity and the awarding of points for each type of activity:**

- a. Directing, chairing or co-chairing an event or sub-committee for the duration of the event. (20 points)
 - b. Participation in the planning, financing, promotion or conduct of an event other than directing, chairing, or co-chairing an event. Those that do direct, chair or co-chair an event and also serve as a regular member of a committee or sub-committee in a non-leadership role, may also earn points. (10 points)
 - c. Attending an Event (3 points)
 - d. Attending an event in Colonial Attire (5 points)
- Points are cumulative. The maximum points that can be awarded for any one event is 28 points.

➤ **SAR Members may be awarded the Medals for achieving the following levels:**

- a. Bronze Medal: 25 promotion points as certified by his chapter, state.
- b. Silver Medal: 60 promotion points as certified by his state society.
- c. Gold Medal: 150 promotion points as certified by the NSSAR 250th Anniversary Committee.

➤ **Non-SAR members may also be awarded these medals:**

- a. The chapter may present bronze awards to its Partners in Patriotism, and may recommend its Partners to the state or national society for higher recognition.
- b. The state and district may present silver awards to its Partners in Patriotism, and may recommend its Partners to the national society for higher recognition.
- c. The national society may present gold awards to its Partners in Patriotism.

➤ **Streamer.** Streamers are available for chapters, state societies and districts to present to Partners in Patriotism for attendance or participation in a 250th Anniversary Event. i.e. Scouting Units, DAR Chapters, etc. They are available for purchase from merchandising at a cost of \$5.00 each.

Name of Candidate:		National Number:	
E-mail:		Phone:	
Type Submission:		Chapter:	
Name of Submitter:		State Society:	
Date Submitted:		Organization Size:	

<u>Event</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Possible Points</u>	<u>Committee/ Sub-Committee</u>	<u>Date of Service</u>	<u>Points Earned</u>
	<u>Chairman</u>	<u>20</u>			
	<u>Planning/Non-Leadership</u>	<u>10</u>			
	<u>Attend Event</u>	<u>3</u>			
	<u>Attend in Colonial Attire</u>	<u>5</u>			



BATTLE OF KETTLE CREEK

LIVING HISTORY ENCAMPMENT

13-15 FEBRUARY 2026

CALLAWAY HISTORIC SITE

2160 LEXINGTON RD. WASHINGTON, GA

Come be apart of history we are seeking
REENACTORS, LIVING HISTORIANS AND
HISTORIC SUTLERS

CONTACT 706-990-3159

RRENO@WGA.GOV

FOR REGISTRATION LINK AND MORE INFORMATION

NSSAR Congress 2026

136th SAR ANNUAL CONGRESS

Greensboro, NC

July 10 – 16, 2026



<https://ncssar.org/2026-national-congress/>

The Sons of the American Revolution National Congress is an annual multi-day meeting of members from across the country to conduct business, elect officers, learn, explore, and celebrate the achievements of individuals, State SARs, and Youth Contest Winners. North Carolina SAR is honored to host the 2026 Congress, in the 250th year of the Nation's Independence.

Make plans to attend the 136th SAR Annual Congress to be held at the Sheraton Greensboro at Four Seasons– Koury Convention Center, July 10 – 16, 2026, where we will be celebrating our Nation's 250th Birthday! Come walk in the footsteps of Patriots such as Major General Nathanael Greene and Lt. Colonel "Lighthorse" Harry Lee, where they stood toe to toe against Major General Charles Cornwallis.

Tours are scheduled for Old Salem, Historic Hillsborough, Guilford Courthouse National Military Park and Replacements, Ltd.

There are also five Grave-Marking opportunities planned, marking twenty Patriots. Those are just a few highlights of what to expect. Stay tuned to this page for further updates.

We look forward to seeing you in 2026!
Questions? Reach out to us at ncssar@yahoo.com



HOME REGISTRATION HOTEL SCHEDULE TOURS MERCHANDISE ATTRACTIONS
VOLUNTEER CONTACT US

137TH ANNUAL CONGRESS - 2027

New Orleans, Louisiana
July 9 - 15, 2027

THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT IS HOSTING THE 2027
CONGRESS!



The Southern District states of Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee will host the 2027 Congress at the "New Orleans Marriott" located at 555 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA 70130

CHECK BACK AS WE GET CLOSER TO 2027! We will be adding a merchandise link, a list of places to eat, a list of places to visit while you are in New Orleans, a list of scheduled Tours, a link to volunteer to work at the convention, and other information in the near future.

<https://2027congress.com/>

2025 Chapter Officer Directory

Chapter officers to serve February 22, 2025, to February 21, 2026, are as follows:



President
1st Vice President
2nd Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Registrar
Chancellor
Chaplain
Historian
Sergeant at Arms
Information Technology

Gregory E. Smith
Robert “Al” Adams
Jarvis Bronner
Robert “Al” Adams
Richard Marsh
Joseph H. Blackmon
Mark Bell
John Titus
Ken Thomas
Ben Jetter
Richard Marsh



2025 Atlanta Chapter Sons of the American Revolution Officers

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. Donations toward chapter sponsored events such as Wreaths Across America also credit toward the Atlanta Fellow program.

Atlanta Fellows

Edward Moses Anderson Sr. 2025

Joe Lewis Anderson Sr.

Paul Leon Anderson

G. Kathryn Anderson

Al Adams

Bill Armstrong

Paul Boshears

Stuart Brady

Richard K. Brown

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

Joy Miller

Ted McMullan

Theodore Mullin

Lowrey McNeel

Joe Meyer

Charlie Newcomer

Alice Noble

David Noble

James Noble

Ray Patton

Joyce Patton

Loy Reddick



Ed Rigel, Sr.

Joan Rigel

Robert Miller Rogers

Stephen D. Schroeder

Kathleen Ann Schroeder

Stephen D. Schroeder III

Korey Matthew Schroeder

Delbert Smith Jr.

William Smith III

Gregory Eugene Smith

Ben Statham

Penn Templeman

John Titus

Bruce D. Wanamaker

Eugene Wilson

Mary Wilson

Richard Dean Williams

Elizabeth Kearsley Wysong

George Kearsley Wysong III

Veterans Respect Activities

Our chapter has donated close to \$ 6,000.00 to the VA since this project began 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, 2025, please report the details to our Chaplain John Titus.

