



Atlanta Tidbits Ledger

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



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Atlanta, Georgia

March 2026

Next Meeting – Thursday, March 12th @ Noon

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

Speaker: Dr. John Havick Ph.D. Program: “The assassination attempt on George Washington & the early action of the American Revolution”

Dr. John Havick earned his Ph.D. from the University of Iowa. Over the course of his distinguished academic career, he has published numerous scholarly articles, including one that has been cited more than 130 times and remains among the top 25 most downloaded articles in its journal a decade after publication. In addition to his journal publications, Dr. Havick has authored three books, including a current five-star rated title on Amazon. His scholarship has been presented at conferences and professional meetings throughout the United States. A dedicated educator for more than 30 years, Dr. Havick has taught large lecture courses of 200 students, demonstrating both subject mastery and a sustained commitment to higher education.

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

2026 Chapter Officers Installed



William “Bill” Tankersley, President of GASSAR, far left, installs the 2026 Atlanta Chapter slate of officers with their oath of office, during the Atlanta Chapter’s annual George Washington’s Birthday Celebration, Saturday, February 21, 2026 at the Druid Hills Golf Club in Atlanta. (Above photo left to right) Gregory Smith, President; Robert “Al” Adams, 1st Vice President; John Titus, Chaplain; Joey Blackmon, Registrar; Kenneth Thomas, Historian; and Jay McLendon, 2nd Vice President. (not pictured -Mark Bell, Chancellor, and Richard Marsh, Treasurer & Information Technology)

George Washington's Birthday Celebration



Liberty Medal & President's Award

February was a whirlwind of activities for the Atlanta Chapter Sons of the American Revolution.

On Saturday the 21st, the Atlanta Chapter held its 2026 Annual George Washington Birthday Celebration and Luncheon at the Druid Hills Golf Club. Awards & Recognitions during the luncheon included: Joey Blackmon, left, receiving the Liberty Medal from the National Society Sons of the American Revolution for being the first line sponsor of 10 approved new SAR members.

Al Adams, far left, received the President's Certificate of Distinguished Service and the Bronze Roger Sherman Medal with 1 Silver Oak Leaf. Compatriot Adams has served as an Atlanta Chapter Officer for over 10 years.



Military Service Awards

Kenneth H. Thomas, photo left, received the Military Service Medal Set for his service in the United States Air Force as a Staff Sergeant. Compatriot Thomas served from 1969 through 1972. He has previously received his Veterans Corps Certificate from NSSAR. Theodore Mullin, far left, received the Military Service Medal Set and the Veterans Corps Certificate for his service in the United States Army & USAR from 1968 through 1969. Compatriot Mullin also received the Atlanta Fellows Certificate for his donations to the Atlanta Chapter.



A Salute & Bronze Roger Sherman Medals



Elizabeth Wysong, top left photo, Atlanta Chapter NSDAR Liaison offers A Salute to George Washington with a toast of Madeira, the General's favorite drink, for all. Top right photo, Bronze Roger Sherman Medals with Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters were presented to Joseph H. Blackmon, far right, John Titus, center right, Gregory Smith, not pictured, and Al Adams, left, who received the Bronze Roger Sherman Medal with a Silver Oak leaf cluster.

250th Anniversary of the American Revolution Medals



Georgia Society President William "Bill" Tankersley, right, presented the Bronze 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution Medal to Gregory Smith, center, & Elizabeth Wysong, left, for their participation in 250th Anniversary events.

Martha Washington & Lydia Darragh Medal



Atlanta Chapter President Gregory Smith presents Dorothy Mears, left, the Lydia Darragh Medal and a SAR 250th Celebration Coin for her dedicated support and contributions to the Atlanta Chapter. Elizabeth Wysong, 2nd from right, receives the Martha Washington Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters from Atlanta Chapter 1st Vice President Al Adams, right, for her support of the Atlanta Chapter. Rev. Ed Anderson Sr. also received an SAR 250th Celebration Coin for his participation in 250th Anniversary events in 2025.

Membership Awards

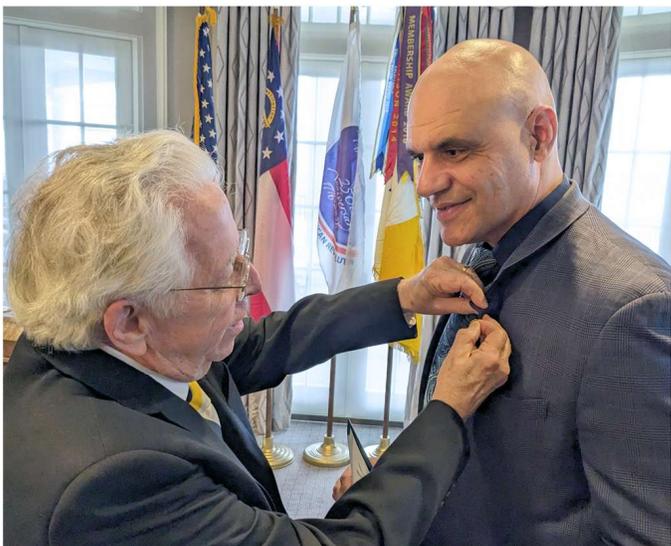


Above photo, left to right, Rev. Edward M. Anderson Sr. and Barrett Hanson receive the 7-Year Membership Award as Paul Anderson receives the 6-Year Membership Award in recognition of their dedication to the principles of the Atlanta Chapter of the Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution. Bill Goodman and Jay McLendon, far right, receives the 9-Year Membership Award as Al Adams, second from right, received the 15-Year Membership Award, having served 10 of those years as a Chapter officer. Thank you, gentleman, for your continued service to the Atlanta Chapter!

New Member Induction



During the 2026 Annual George Washington Birthday Celebration we had the opportunity to celebrate a new Member Induction into the Atlanta Chapter SAR. Compatriot Nathan Kelsey, center above, was inducted into the Atlanta chapter by Georgia Society SAR President William “Bill” Tankersley, right, with Atlanta Chapter Registrar Joey Blackmon, left, who pinned the SAR Rosette on his lapel. Compatriot Kelsey’s Revolutionary Patriot Ancestor is Sergeant Thomas Connor of Pennsylvania who served with the 11th Regiment of the Continental Line. Sergeant Thomas Connor was born in Donegal, Ireland, and died September 21st, 1849 in Columbia County, Pennsylvania. Compatriot Kelsey submitted his SAR Application in April 2025 using his mother, Patricia Vail’s 2017 NSDAR Record Copy making his SAR membership stress free! Atlanta Chapter President was Compatriot Kelsey’s first line sponsor.



Fisher Craft Memorial Performance Awards



Keeping the memory and tradition alive with the 2026 Fisher Craft Memorial Magnificent Performance Awards are left to right, Al Adams, Joey Blackmon, John Titus and Kenneth Thomas Jr. Not pictured are Gregory Smith, Mark Bell and Richard Marsh.

SAR/DAR Medal of Appreciation



GASSAR Metro Vice President Shep Hammack presents Elizabeth Skarsly Wysong with the SAR/DAR Medal of Appreciation with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters for her work referring new members to the SAR.

New Atlanta Fellow



Atlanta Chapter President Gregory Smith presents Theodore Mullin his Atlanta Fellow Certificate & pin. The Atlanta Fellows are members, spouses, businesses, and other organizations that support unbudgeted projects of the Atlanta Chapter with a \$200 donation. Thank you to all our Atlanta Fellows for your support to the Atlanta Chapter SAR!

Member Memorial



Atlanta Chapter 1st Vice President & Secretary Al Adams, right, and Chaplin John Titus, left, conduct the Annual SAR Members Memorial Ceremony in honor of the memory of Atlanta Chapter Compatriots who passed away during the last year. They remain in our hearts and prayers.

Albert H. Sturgess, Jr.
Deceased January 26th 2025

Robert A. Wharton
Deceased June 3rd 2025

Charles Anton Moran, Jr.
Deceased July 27th 2025

Frederic M. Reese, Jr.
Deceased November 19th 2025

Atlanta Chapter at the GASSAR Conference



The month began at the Georgia Society SAR (GASSAR) Annual Conference held at the Hilton in Peachtree Corners. On Friday, members attended the National Society Sons of the American Revolution South Atlantic District meeting, followed that evening by the GASSAR Awards Banquet. GASSAR Chaplain Rev. Edward M. Anderson Sr. delivered the Invocation and Benediction. Atlanta Chapter President Gregory Smith was awarded the Patriot Grave Marking Medal with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster.

Saturday began with the GASSAR Memorial Service, led by Chaplain Anderson, below photo. This was followed by the GASSAR Board of Managers & General Meeting, where he again provided the Invocation and Benediction. Compatriots then voted on the slate of officers for the Georgia Society SAR. At the GASSAR Chapter & Youth Awards Luncheon, officers were formally installed. During the luncheon, the Atlanta Chapter received: The President General's Partners in Patriotism Award; The Revolutionary War Patriot Graves Marked Certificate & Gold Star, as seen in the above photo, (for marking five Patriot graves) and also the SAR Service to Veterans Streamer.



Col. John Dooly Grave Marking & Heroes of the Hornet's Nest



Elizabeth Wysong & Gregory Smith pose, on left, by Col. John Dooly's cenotaph as Rev. Edward M. Anderson Sr. & Kathryn Anderson pose, right, at Elijah Clark State Park.

On Friday the 13th, at Elijah Clark State Park, “Heroes of the Hornet’s Nest” activities included a venison chili luncheon and a grave marking dedication ceremony for John Dooly where we presented the Atlanta Chapter wreath. Chaplain Anderson delivered the Invocation and Benediction. That evening, President Smith attended the dinner hosted by the Kettle Creek Battlefield Association at the Washington Wilkes Country Club in Washington, Georgia.



Kettle Creek Celebration



The National Society SAR commemorated the 247th Anniversary of the Battle of Kettle Creek, Georgia's most significant Revolutionary battle. During Revolutionary Days in historic downtown Washington, Georgia, Compatriots from the Southeast and various lineage societies gathered to honor the soldiers who fought and won against British forces. The weekend featured living history demonstrations, where patriots march in parade formation around the Washington square, then guests observe a battle reenactment of Kettle Creek with musket and cannon fire. Later that afternoon, the Kettle Creek Battlefield Celebration was held at War Hill near Washington, where Atlanta Chapter President Gregory Smith presented both the Atlanta Chapter and New Mexico Society wreaths & Elizabeth Wysong represented the National Society of Washington Family descendant's wreath. Please consider attendance in 2027 & represent the Atlanta SAR.







Calendar of Events 2026



250th Tags are now Available

Georgia now has 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 winning design was submitted by Georgia CAR member Eden Pethel, seen here at Kettle Creek, right. 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. For this tag there are no additional fees, unless you want to get one before your normal renewal.

From the GASSAR Hornet's Nest			
Event	Location	Date	Status
Spring Leadership	The Galt Hotel Louisville, KY	Mar 5 - 7, 2026	National
Battle of Thomas Creek	Seaton Creek Historic Preserve Park	Mar 28, 2026	National
Lyman Hall Birthday	Gainesville, GA	Apr 11, 2026 1 pm	State
Patriots Day	Various	Apr 19, 2026	National
Frederica Naval Engagement	St. Simons Island	Apr 18 - 19, 2026 (TBD)	National
Memorial Day	Various	May 25, 2026	National
Flag Retirement	Cumming, GA	Jun 13, 2026	National
Flag Day	Various	Jun 14, 2026	National
Independence Day	Various	Jul 4, 2026	National
136th Congress	Greensboro, NC	July 10-16, 2026	National





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:**

- Directing, chairing or co-chairing an event or sub-committee for the duration of the event. (20 points)
- 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)
- Attending an Event (3 points)
- 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:**

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

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

- 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.
- 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.
- 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>			



**Colonel William Candler
Chapter, NSDAR**

and

**Lyman Hall Chapter,
GASSAR**



***Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony
Honoring Revolutionary War Patriots***

Pvt BEAL BAKER – NC

Pvt WILLIAM H. CLARK – NC

***DAR Marker for wife of Revolutionary War Patriot,
William H. Clark***

RUTH GOODWIN CLARK – NC



Sunday, March 29, 2026 @ 2:00 p.m.
Alta Vista Cemetery
521 Jones Street, Gainesville, GA 30501

Grave Location: 34.28877 -83.83592

Please R.S.V.P. by March 25, 2026 if you plan to lay a wreath.

Email: sidhughes@icloud.com

Mail: Sid Hughes
4118 Brands Court
Braselton, GA 30517-1537



**Colonel William Candler
Chapter, NSDAR
and
Lyman Hall Chapter,
GASSAR**



Clark – Baker Grave Marking

Wreath Registration for Sunday, March 29, 2026

**Submit request to participate in the Wreath Presentation no later than
March 25th, 2026 to assure listing in the Ceremony Program.**

Organization: _____

Name of Presenter: _____

Office or Title of Presenter: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: sidhughes@icloud.com

Email preferred

Mail: Sid Hughes
4118 Brands Court
Braselton, GA 30517-1537



250th Anniversary of
"The Declaration of Independence"
And 27th Anniversary Button Gwinnett Chapter



Join us on Saturday, April 4, 2026, at 11:30 AM

American Legion Post 232
3163 Main Street West, Snellville, Georgia

An Early Celebration of the 250th Anniversary of
"The Declaration of Independence"

Please join us for a casual attire lunch meeting, catered by the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 232 at their location in Snellville. Lunch will include pork and chicken BBQ, assorted salads, baked beans, green beans, chips, beverages, and assorted desserts.

\$30 for each adult - \$15 for each child 12 and under

We welcome our Charter Members, Past Officers, Members from SAR, DAR and C.A.R. chapters and societies, and patriotic and lineage organizations.

Button Gwinnett and GASSAR Color Guard will present colors at 11:45 AM.

Lunch will be served at 12:00 Noon.

Meeting and Awards Program will begin at 1:00 PM.

Registration/Payment Deadline is March 15th

NAME/TITLE: Thomas L Jacques

CHAPTER: Button Gwinnett

ADULTS: x \$30 = \$

CHILDREN: _____ x \$15 = _____

Make checks payable to:

American Legion Auxiliary
Unit 232

Mail checks to:

Tom Jacques, 1442 Bromley Dr,
Snellville, GA 30078



Let's Celebrate our 248th
Anniversary
"FREDERICA NAVAL
ACTION"

April 19th - a significant date in the founding of our nation - the "shot heard 'round the world" at Lexington and Concord in 1775, and capture of British ships in Frederica River in 1778

Saturday, April 18th, 2026

10:00am - Memorial Ceremony - St. Simons Casino

550 Beachview Drive, St. Simons Island - SAR Color Guard with Revolutionary Flags, Patriotic Music, Wreath Presentations, Cannon & Musket Salutes and the Schooner Lynx.

11:30am - Parade of Patriots - St. Simons Village

SAR Color Guard, DAR & SAR, Revolutionary Re-enactors, JROTC Cadets, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Heritage Girls with Revolutionary Flags.

"Wreath and Hotel information will be distributed shortly"



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/>

SAR Premium Membership Medal

THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE PRODUCTION OF A HIGH QUALITY REPLICA OF THE ORIGINAL 1890'S TIFFANY STYLE MEMBERSHIP MEDAL. THE NEW MEDAL IS STRUCK IN STERLING SILVER AND PLATED IN GOLD.



SAR Premium Miniature Membership Medal

SAR Premium Cuff Links



SAR Premium Tie Bar/Tack

Please contact the NSSAR Premium Membership Medal Project for a Price list & Order Form: Usina@aol.com

2026 Chapter Officer Directory

Chapter officers to serve February 21, 2026, to February 20, 2027, are as follows:



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



Gregory Smith
Robert "Al" Adams
Jay Russell McLendon
Robert "Al" Adams
Richard Marsh
Joseph H. Blackmon
Mark Bell
John Titus
Ken Thomas
Robert "Al" Adams
Richard Marsh



2026 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

2026



Al Adams
Edward M. Anderson Sr.
Joe Lewis Anderson Sr.
Paul Leon Anderson
G. Kathryn Anderson
Bill Armstrong
Paul Boshears
Mark Bell
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
Barrett Hanson

Ann Hays
Bill Hays
Anthony Henderson
Don Kenagy
Charles Lord
Katherine Lord
Bruce Maney
Charlie Maney
Ginny Manning
Terry Manning
Richard Marsh
Barry R. 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 II
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.

Enjoy the SAR



Be sure to enjoy your time with the Sons of the American Revolution! Always make your patriotic service fun. We are here to honor our Patriot ancestors — and to have a good time doing it!