



The Button Gwinnett Dispatch August 2023

A newsletter of the Button Gwinnett Chapter

National Society Sons of the American Revolution



Our August 10, 2023 Chapter Meeting was held at the Frontera Mex-Mex Grill in Lawrenceville, GA. We had 19 members and 19 guests in attendance.

We would love to see all members and their guests at a future meeting! **We had DAR members from three chapters join us: Philadelphia Winn** – Regent Lynn Jacques, 2nd Vice Regent Caitlen Green, Honorary Regent Peggy Freeman, Corresponding Secretary Maryland McCarty, Mary Martin, Anne Lockhart and Emily Tindall (Georgia C.A.R. Sr. President; **William Day** – 1st Vice Regent Debbie Kyle; **Chestatee River** – Kris White

President's Message:

*We are making great progress in recruiting new members into the Button Gwinnett Chapter – we have inducted 15 new members through June and we have at least 7 applications in progress. **We are currently at 90 members with the goal to reach the 100 member mark by the end of the year – but we are running out of time.***

National & Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution Dues increases for 2024

The National Society SAR annual dues for 2024 is increasing by \$15 to \$50 as approved by the National Society at the 2023 Congress.

The Georgia Society SAR annual dues for 2024 is increasing by \$7 to \$20 as approved by the Georgia Society BOM in 2022.

The Button Gwinnett Chapter SAR Board of Managers has voted to NOT increase annual chapter dues for 2024 – which will remain at \$20. This is where literally 100% of our chapter budget for JROTC, Patriot Grave Markings, Eagle Scout & Knight Essay and additional awards come from.

We did recently begin collecting voluntary donations for the Elisha Winn Society C.A.R. and to offset the meal expenses for our outstanding monthly meeting guest speakers. These donations are the primary reasons we are not looking to increase the 2024 Chapter Dues. A very special thank you to those members who have both attended our meetings and generously donated to the Elisha Winn Society C.A.R.

Meeting Highlights:

We received greetings from and presented certificates to:

Georgia SAR Metro VP Shep Hammack

Georgia C.A.R. Sr President Emily Six Tindall

Elisha Winn Society C.A.R. 1st VP Nick Hamrick

We also presented a Fifth-year anniversary Certificate to the Elisha Winn Society along with a \$250 check from donations collected during our May Chapter meeting



**The August 10th Chapter Meeting Program was titled:
"God's Hand on America" by David L. Wellons**

Bio David L. Wellons - Mount Vernon SAR President 2023

History buff, particularly in the American Revolution, US Civil War, and in the Pacific in WWII.

David is currently the President of the Mount Vernon SAR Chapter, he was Chapter Vice President in 2022, Recording Secretary 2019-2021, Chaplain 2017-2018 and a Founding member of the Mount Vernon SAR Chapter, Dunwoody, Georgia in 2016.

David's Professional background is in the healthcare and software industries and in business consulting.

He was a recipient of the SAR Distinguished Service Award (2022), SAR Roger Sherman Medal (2021)

David's Specialty Lectures focus on Various Revolutionary War and WWII topics, and the influence of religion on the founding of America.

God's Hand on America - is an exploration of the apparent hand of God in the Patriot's success in the American Revolution, using a discussion of several battles. Or was it just luck?



Button Gwinnett Chapter 1st VP Ray Kyle presented The SAR Certificate of Appreciation to David L. Wellons by the Button Gwinnett Chapter for his outstanding presentation on "God's Hand on America."



Updates from the Button Gwinnett Chapter SAR Registrar, Harold Ford:

New member applications approved but not inducted yet: (Approved Sep 1, 2023)

- Andrew Edward McConney – Patriot John Hancock (VA) - ACN#108854, Nat# 227684
- Martin David Bush – Patriot Daniel Bentley – ACN#108856, NAT# 227686
- William Gray Jacques (Jr Mbr) – Patriot Jospeh Read - ACN#108859, Nat# 227687

Supplementals approved:

- Ralph Galpin–Patriot Joseph Hurd ACN# 106264, Nat# 189912, approved 7/14/23
- Gordon Woodard–Patriot James Gaines Sr. ACN#107117, Nat#171930, 8/25/23
- Ralph Galpin - Patriot Gilbert Townsend Vail ACN#98565, Nat#189912, 8/25/23

New Member applications at National:

- **None**

Supplementals at National:

- **Don McCarty & David McCarty – 3 supplementals each**
- Don McCarty: Patriot John Cash, ACN No. 108423, Patriot Stephen Cash, ACN No. 108421, Patriot John Davis, ACN No. 108419
- David McCarty: Patriot John Cash, ACN No. 108424, Patriot Stephen Cash, ACN No. 108422, Patriot John Davis, ACN No. 108420

New Member applications at State:

- Bruce Dean Craig – Jacob Bailey (Should be sent to National soon)
- Alec Ray
- Norman Ernest "Tad" Wood
- Daniel Czarniak

New Memorial Application at State:

- Ronald Thomas McCarty – Patriot Micheal McCarty (brother of Don McCarty)

New Member Applications in Process:

- Matthew Henson – in process
- Mark York – in process
- Curtis McGill – in process
- Hunter Newton – Junior Membership and President of Elisha Winn Society C.A.R.
- Nicholas Alan Hamrick – Junior Membership and 1st VP of Elisha Winn Society C.A.R.

Supplementals at State:

- **Don McCarty & David McCarty – 3 supplementals each**
Don McCarty: Patriot John Ussery, Jr., Patriot John Ussery, Sr., Patriot Isham Fuller
David McCarty: Patriot John Ussery, Jr., Patriot John Ussery, Sr., Patriot Isham Fuller

Supplementals in process :

- **None**

Supplementals Summary:

- Raymond Kyle – 3 @ National - Spencer Mottram Ball (John Sledge, Fletcher Sullivan – pended)
- David Sikes – 2 @ National – William Cone, Simon Smith
- Don & David McCarty 3 each @ National & 3 each @ State

Rejoined Button Gwinnett Chapter/Transfer in progress:

- Robert W. Rooker - Lieutenant Colonel (Retired), U.S. Army; Sr. Army Instructor, Discovery High School Army JROTC (*In Process of transferring membership from Florida*)

2023 Committee Assignments

If you would like to serve on one of these Committees, please contact Tom Jacques or the Committee Chair to participate.

- **2024 Nominating Committee – Don McCarty, Bill Palmer & Randy Tindall**
- Audit – Tom Hopkins, Chairman, Harry Kitchings & Ray Kyle (Completed in January)
- Americanism – Ray Kyle
- Veterans – Jack Martin (Team Don McCarty)
- C.A.R. Liaison – Randy Tindall
- DAR Liaison – Tom Jacques
- Traveling Trunk – Tom Jacques
- Grave Marking – Don McCarty
- Eagle Scout – David Patrick
- JROTC – Tom Jacques (completed in May)
- Color Guard – Bill Palmer
- Publicity – Don McCarty
- **Button Gwinnett SAR Chapter 25th Anniversary – April 2024 – looking for members**

Upcoming Meeting dates and presentations:

Sep 14	Mary Hamilton Williams: "Women from History"
Oct 12	Leslie Strickland Watkins: "What Is and Who Are the NSDAR?"
Nov 9	Terry Manning: "The Boston Tea Party"
Dec 14	Installation of 2024 Chapter Officers
2024	
Jan 11	Eldon Evans & Bruce Maney: "Patriot Grave Marking"
Feb 8	Cathy Hedges: "The American Legion"
Mar 14	Emil Decker: "Marquis de Lafayette"
Apr 11 (06)	Tom Jacques: "Traveling Trunk" - Button Gwinnett Chapter 25th Anniversary
May 9	Gene Ray: "Daniel Boone"
Jun 13	Mark Anthony: "The Revolution As Told By Its Flags"
Jul 11	Marty Bush: "General Nathanael Greene"
Aug 8	TBD
Sep 12	Terry Manning: "America's First Spy Ring"
Oct 10	Tyler Holman: "Fort Daniel"
Nov 14	Jim Freeman: U.S. Constitution
Dec 12	Installation of 2025 Chapter Officers

Upcoming Events

Sep 8	Traveling Trunk presentation - Parsons Elementary School
Sep 11	September 11 Remembrance Service - Clarkesville GA 7:00 PM
Sep 16	242 nd Anniversary Commemoration of the Siege of Augusta
Sep 21-23	National SAR Fall Leadership (KY)
Sep 27-30	Georgia State NSDAR Fall Forum Macon, GA
Oct 6	South Atlantic District meeting

Oct 7-8 Elisha Winn Fair, Dacula, GA (Button Gwinnett Traveling Trunk in School house)
 Oct 7 Battle of King's Mountain (SC)
 Oct 8 NSDAR Member Grave marking - Sandra Dunagan Deal
 Oct 9 Snellville American Legion Post 232 - 2nd Annual Cpl. Jonathan Ayers Golf
 Tournament at Heritage Golf Links, Tucker, GA
 Oct 9 Siege of Savannah - 2023 Battlefield Memorial March
 Oct 21 Fort Daniel Frontier Faire 10:00am - 4:00pm
 Oct 21 Patriot Grave Marking at Fairview Presbyterian Church, Lawrenceville, GA 2:00pm
 Oct 28 GASSAR Quarterly BOM meeting - Barnsville, GA
 Nov 4 Patriot Grave Marking Patriot Captain Jacob Higginbotham Elberton, GA
 Nov 10 Presentation of Colors - Military Service Flags @ Winn Holt Elementary School
 Nov 11 Shriners Color Guard event
 Nov 11 Watkinsville, GA at 11:00 AM - Oconee County Veterans Park
 Nov 11 Veterans Day - Snellville (Bill Palmer is working on details)
 Nov 17 Patriot Grave Marking Colonel John McIntosh - Pine Harbor, GA
 Nov 18 Come and Take It - Fort Morris - Midway, GA
 Dec 2 Battle of Vann's Creek Commemoration - Elberton, GA
 Dec 11 Wreath Across America at State Capitol - NOON Color Guard
 Dec 15 Wreaths Across America - Georgia National Cemetery for Family members only
 Dec 16 Wreaths Across America - Georgia National Cemetery for general public
 Dec 16 Wreaths Across America - Gwinnett County locations
 Dec 16 Boston, MA - 250th Anniversary of the Boston Tea Party
 Jan 13, 2024 Georgia National Cemetery Wreath clean-up at 9 am.
 Jan 26-27 Georgia Society SAR Annual Meeting - Sonesta Hotel, Duluth, GA

**BUTTON GWINNETT
CHAPTER**
Georgia Society

**Sons of the
American Revolution**

**"God's Hand On America"
by David L. Wellons**



August 10, 2023

www.ButtonGwinnettSAR.org

Frontera Mex-Mex Grill

1430 Five Forks Trickum Rd SW, Lawrenceville, GA 30044

Pledge of Allegiance

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.

SAR Pledge

We descendants of the heroes of the American Revolution who, by their sacrifices, established the United States of America, reaffirm our faith in the principles of liberty and our Constitutional Republic and solemnly pledge ourselves to defend them against every foe.

SAR Recessional

Until we meet again, let us remember our obligation to our forefathers, who gave us our Constitution, the Bill of Rights, an independent Supreme Court and a Nation of Free Men.

Chapter Officers & BOM - 2023

President -	Tom Jacques
Immediate Past President -	Don McCarty *
First Vice President -	Ray Kyle
Second Vice President -	Jack Martin
Secretary -	Jaryd Green
Treasurer -	Gordon Woodard *
Registrar -	Harold Ford
Chaplain -	Harry L. Kitchings
Genealogist -	Brent Dodson
Sergeant at Arms -	John Zeigler
Historian -	Bill Palmer *
* Past President	

CALL TO ORDER 7:00 PM	Tom Jacques
INVOCATION	Harry Kitchings
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	Nick Hamrick
SAR PLEDGE	Noah Tindall
INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS	Tom Jacques
Greetings from Georgia SAR Metro VP	Shep Hammack
Greetings from Georgia C.A.R. Sr President	Emily Tindall
PRESENTATION OF AWARDS	
<u>New Member Induction</u> -	Tom Jacques
• None	
<u>SAR Supplemental Certificates:</u>	Tom Jacques
• None	
<u>Donation to Elisha Winn Society C.A.R.</u>	Tom Jacques
Greetings from Elisha Winn Society 2 nd VP C.A.R.	Nick Hamrick

PROGRAM INTRODUCTION Ray Kyle
"God's Hand on America"
by David L. Wellons

Business Section:	
MINUTES OF LAST MEETING	Jaryd Green
TREASURER'S REPORT	Gordon Woodard
REGISTRAR'S REPORT	Harold Ford
COMMITTEE REPORTS	Committee Chairs
UNFINISHED BUSINESS	Tom Jacques
NEW BUSINESS	Tom Jacques
SAR RECESSIONAL	Jack Martin
BENEDICTION	Harry Kitchings
ADJOURNMENT	Tom Jacques



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Aug 12	The 243rd Anniversary of the Battle of Camden
Aug 26	Robert Forsyth SAR Chapter - 2 Patriot Grave Marking
Sep 16	242nd Anniversary of the Siege of Augusta
Oct 7 - 8	Elisha Winn Fair (Traveling Trunk Presentation)
Oct 9	Snellville American Legion Post 232 - 2nd Annual Cpl. Jonathan Ayers Golf Tournament Heritage Golf Links Tucker
Oct 21	Fort Daniel Frontier Faire 10:00am - 4:00pm
Oct 21	Grave Marking for Patriots Philip Isley and John Bagby at Fairview Presbyterian Church Lawrenceville 2:00 pm
Nov 11	Veterans Day events to be determined
Dec 16	Wreaths Across America

2023/2024 Programs & Speakers Schedule:

- Sep 14 - Mary Hamilton Williams: "Women from History"
- Oct 12 - Leslie Strickland Watkins: "What Is and Who Are the NSDAR?"
- Nov 9 - Terry Manning: "The Boston Tea Party"
- Dec 14 Installation of 2024 Chapter Officers
- Jan 11 - Eldon Evans & Bruce Maney: "Patriot Grave Marking"
- Feb 8 - Cathy Hedges: "The American Legion"
- Mar 14 - Emil Decker: "Marquis de Lafayette"
- Apr 11 - Tom Jacques: "Traveling Trunk"
- May 9 - Gene Ray: "Daniel Boone"
- Jun 13 - Mark Anthony: "The Revolution As Told By Its Flags"
- Jul 11 - Marty Bush: "General Nathanael Greene"
- Aug 8 - TBD
- Sep 12 - Terry Manning: "America's First Spy Ring"
- Oct 10 - TBD
- Nov 14 - Jim Freeman - U.S. Constitution
- Dec 12 - Installation of 2025 Chapter Officers

The Captain John Collins Chapter, Athens Chapter and Button Gwinnett Chapter sponsored the Grave Marking Ceremony honoring the service of Compatriot Curtis Eugene McWaters on August 5, 2023. Six members of the Button Gwinnett SAR Chapter participated including President Tom Jacques, 1st VP Ray Kyle, 2nd VP Jack Martin, Immediate Past President Don McCarty, Treasurer Gordon Woodard and Compatriot Ralph Galpin. President Jacques presented the Button Gwinnett wreath. Compatriots Jacques, Kyle and Woodard were in Militia uniforms and participated in the musket salute. Compatriots McCarty, Martin and Galpin were all in Continental uniform – Martin & Galpin carried flags and McCarty unveiled the grave marker with Georgia SAR State President Dr. David Ludley. All six chapter members were part of the Color Guard Commanded by New National Color Guard Commander Scott Collins. Philadelphia Winn DAR Members attending were Regent Lynn Jacques (Presented PW Wreath), Corresponding Secretary Maryland McCarty and Mary Martin. William Day DAR Honorary Regent Debbie Bush also attended (Presented WD Wreath).



*The Capt. John Collins,
Athens and Button Gwinnett Chapters
of the Georgia SAR
Welcomes you to the
GRAVE MARKING CEREMONY
With the Dedication of a Grave Marker
Honoring the Service of Compatriot
Curtis Eugene McWaters*

GPS Coordinates: 33.904636, -84.4903556
August 5, 2023
at Georgia Memorial Park Funeral Home & Cemetery
located at
2000 Cobb Parkway SE, Marietta, GA 30060



Compatriot John Goodwin - Past Button Gwinnett SAR Chapter President and current Col Joseph Kershaw SAR Chapter of South Carolina participated in the 243rd Anniversary of the Battle of Camden on August 12, 2023. John is currently still a member of the Georgia Button Gwinnett SAR Chapter by permission of the South Carolina Society until the Col Joseph Kershaw attains a few more members. We actually have a few members of the Button Gwinnett Chapter who are dual members in the Col Joseph Kershaw chapter including Tom Jacques, Randy & Noah Tindall and Eldon Evans. It appears that John had fun firing the cannon. If he is in a discussion with either Nancy Hart or Molly Pitcher - my money is on the ladies. ;-)



Eagle Scout Committee Chair David Patrick

On Sunday August 13, 2023 - Button Gwinnett SAR Chapter President Tom Jacques along with 1st VP Ray Kyle, Immediate Past President and Compatriot Mike Watkins attended Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Lucas Servedio of Troop 419 at the Duluth First United Methodist Church. President Jacques presented Eagle Scout Servedio with his SAR Eagle Scout Certificate on behalf of the Button Gwinnett Chapter for Eagle Scout Committee Chair David Patrick who was unable to attend.



Eagle Scout Court of Honor for
Lucas Servedio
Troop 419
August 13, 2023 at 2:30pm

Duluth First United Methodist Church
3208 Duluth Hwy, Duluth, GA 30096

Eagle Scout Court of Honor
Lucas Servedio
August 13, 2023

Presentation of the Colors / Invocation
Senior Patrol Leader - Nolan Falls

Program Opening / Welcome
Assistant Scoutmaster - Dave Daugherty

Special Guest Speaker
C. Kay Fumo

Eagle Scout Introduction
Assistant Scoutmaster - Dick Shoupe

Voice of the Eagle
Troop 419 Scouts

Presentation of the Eagle Scout Awards
Scoutmaster - Scott Parish
Scoutmaster - Ryan Girard
Scoutmaster - Joey D'Anna

Sons of the American Revolution Award Presentation

Eagle Scout Remarks
Lucas Servedio

Benediction
Assistant Scoutmaster - Dave Daugherty

Retirement of the Colors / Closing
Senior Patrol Leader - Nolan Falls

SCOUT OATH
On My Honor
I will do my best,

To do my duty to God and my country,
And to obey the Scout Law,
To help other people at all times,
To keep myself
Physically Strong
Mentally awake
And morally straight

SCOUT LAW
A Scout is:
Trustworthy
Loyal
Helpful
Friendly
Courteous
Kind
Obedient
Cheerful
Thrifty
Brave
Clean
Reverent

Please join us for a reception after the ceremony.



On August 19th, Ralph Galpin in Continental and Ray Kyle in militia uniform participated in the Battle of Blue Licks event in Carlisle, KY. Ralph was a flag bearer in the Color Guard. Ray presented the Button Gwinnett SAR Chapter wreath and was part of the musket salute. Part of the event was a grave marking ceremony for five patriots killed during the battle.

On August 20th, Ray was in militia uniform and participated in a second grave marking event for five more patriots at Lexington Cemetery, Lexington, KY. Ray presented the Button Gwinnett SAR Chapter wreath, he was a flag bearer in the Color Guard and was part of the musket salute.



The Robert Forsyth Chapter, Button Gwinnett, and Blue Ridge Mountains Chapters, Georgia Society, & The Arizona Society, Sons of the American Revolution, sponsored the dedication of 2 grave markers commemorating the service of patriot soldiers, father and son: James & William Dysart on Saturday, August 26, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.; at the Pine Log UMC Cemetery & Campground Pavilion located at 3497 Pine Log Rd NE, Rydal, GA 30171

Button Gwinnett SAR Chapter members included

President Tom Jacques - Militia uniform, lead the SAR Pledge, brought greetings for the Button Gwinnett Chapter, presented the Button Gwinnett Chapter Wreath, participated in the color guard - musket volley, mourn musket

1st VP Ray Kyle - Militia uniform, color guard, musket volley, mourn musket

Treasurer Gordon Woodard - Militia uniform, color guard, musket volley, mourn musket

2nd VP Jack Martin - Continental uniform, color guard - carried flag

Immediate Past President Don McCarty - Continental uniform, color guard - carried flag, revealed grave marker with Georgia SAR President Dr. David Ludley

Compatriot Ralph Galpin - Continental uniform, color guard - carried flag

Compatriot Karl Fitch - civilian clothes took photos

Philadelphia Winn DAR Chapter members included:

Regent Lynn Baxter Jacques - Presented Philadelphia Winn Chapter Wreath, took photos

Daughter Mary Martin - took photos





C.A.R. Activities as reported by Committee Chair Randy Tindall

Nick Hamrick and Noah Tindall in uniform participated in the Button Gwinnett SAR Chapter meeting on August 10, 2023. Elisha Winn Society 1st VP Nick Hamrick led the Pledge of Allegiance and brought greetings from the society. Noah led the SAR Pledge. Button Gwinnett SAR Chapter President Tom Jacques presented Nick with a check of \$250 from donations collected at the BG May meeting. Nick was also presented with a SAR 250th anniversary coin and a SAR Certificate of Appreciation for bringing greetings and a SAR Certificate recognizing the 5th Anniversary of the Elisha Winn Society C.A.R. Georgia Children of the American Revolution Sr President Emily Tindall brought greetings on behalf of the State society and she was presented with an SAR Certificate of Appreciation by Button Gwinnett SAR Chapter President Tom Jacques.



Elisha Winn Society Upcoming Events

- September 10th Hamilton Mill Library Constitution Week Display
- September 16th Georgia State Fall Meeting @ Siege of Augusta
- October 7th Elisha Winn Fair
- October 21st Fort Daniel Frontier Faire
- November 18th Fort Morris "Come & Take It" Commemoration
- December 16th Wreaths Across America
- February 10th Battle of Kettle Creek
- February 23-24 Georgia State Conference at Berry College DAR School

***Note this is a correction from the calendar sent with the Dues Notice ***

Memorial

Remembering Button Gwinnett SAR Chapter Compatriot and Color Guardsman James M. Ruff Sr. "Mike Ruff" of Loganville, Georgia, who passed on Saturday, August 19, 2017 at home. Lynn and I spent dinner with Mike at numerous Button Gwinnett Chapter meetings and I think of Mike during every meeting.



The Button Gwinnett and Piedmont Chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution, along with the Philadelphia Winn Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Gwinnett County, joined together as sponsors of a Grave Marking Dedication at the Georgia National Cemetery in Canton, Georgia on September 22, 2018. These Georgia societies commemorated the service of the Honored Compatriot James Malcolm "Mike" Ruff Sr. who passed away on August 19, 2017. Presentation of Colors was by the award-winning Georgia Society SAR Color Guard, led by Bill Palmer, Commander. Greetings were received from Don Burdick, President of the Georgia Society SAR, and Ann Story, Vice Chair, DAR Good Citizens Committee, NE District Georgia Society DAR, and Regent of Philadelphia Winn Chapter NSDAR. A biography and stories of Mike Ruff's life were told by Jaime Ruff, son of Mike Ruff and Registrar of the Piedmont Chapter of the SAR.

An American Flag that was flown over the United States Capitol and a Georgia State Flag that was flown over the Georgia State Capitol was presented to the family of Mike Ruff. Special thanks to U.S. Congressman Rob Woodall and to Georgia State Senator P.K. Martin for arranging the flying of these flags over their respective Capitols.

Mike Ruff never passed up an opportunity to wear his Revolutionary War militiaman attire and fire his musket. He was a true patriot, working for his family, his community, and his country. Mike served in the United States Air Force and appreciated the service of other veterans, especially disabled veterans.

Mike Ruff is pictured in his Militia uniform 2nd from the right, to his right is Button Gwinnett compatriot Mike Watkins, far left is Button Gwinnett compatriot Bill Palmer.

Obituary for James "Mike" Ruff

James M. Ruff Sr. "Mike Ruff" of Loganville, Georgia, died on Saturday, August 19, 2017 at home. He was born on August 30, 1945 in Richmond, Indiana. He attended Berry School for Boys, South Cobb High School, and Florida Tech (now the University of Central Florida). In 1968 he married the love of his life, Bee Haight, of DeLand, Florida. Together they had two sons, James Malcolm Ruff, Jr. and Jonathan Marc Ruff.

Mike ran a successful landscaping business in Buckhead before jumping into the computing revolution in the 1970s, initially as a programmer and later as a manager of information systems. Toward the end of his career, he was in charge of computer systems for the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta.

He also worked tirelessly on behalf of his family and community. He and his friend Max Borner led a PTA effort to construct an environmentally friendly playground for the local elementary school, constructed completely from repurposed materials donated by area businesses. He coached youth soccer, volunteered as a leader in the Boy Scouts of America, and was a member of the Sons of the American Revolution. He was most proud to dress up in the attire of a Revolutionary War militiaman, and loved firing his musket.

Mike was a true friend to many and always willing to sacrifice time and effort on behalf of others. A true patriot, he was proud of his service in the United States Air Force and always appreciated the service of other veterans. He had a particular love for assisting disabled veterans.

Mike never stopped doing it. Handy in his workshop, he really could do anything. He loved fishing, camping, and driving his wife and kids to interesting places.

Family will be available for visitation on Monday, August 21, at 6:00 pm and they invite you to join them in celebration of Mike's life on Tuesday, August 22, at 2:00. Both events will be at Tom M. Wages Funeral Home, 3705 US Highway 78, Snellville, Georgia.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be made to the Tamassee DAR School in South Carolina (www.tdarschool.org).

Condolences may be sent or viewed at www.wagesfuneralhome.com. Tom M. Wages Funeral Service, LLC, A Family Company, 3705 Highway 78 West, Snellville, GA 30039 (770-979-3200) has been entrusted with the arrangements.

To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of James "Mike" Ruff please visit our Sympathy James Malcolm Ruff Sr.

National Number: 190094

Society: GA

Found 3 Patriots for whom this member has proven lineage.

Date Approved ACN Patriot Name

2014-02-19 56781 Peter SHEAFFER Sr (P-331525)

2017-08-23 74616 John TILLER Sr (P-305169)

2017-11-03 75586 John MEEK (P-247533)

Biography #1

Add Biography

Author: James Malcom Ruff

Peter Sheaffer, my 4th great grandfather, was of German descent. His parents were Johann Balthasar Schaeffer and Anna Margaretha Gleb. He was born on 24 Nov 1751, in what was then, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania.

While Peter was still a child, his father and his sister went scouting for new land to homestead. They were set upon and his father was killed by the Conestoga Indians around 1756, in Schuylkill, Pennsylvania.

Peter's sister was captured during the attack and taken into captivity for seven years. While captive, Head War Chief, Mahontonga, took her for his wife. Following the signing of a Peace Treaty, she was returned. Peter moved to the village of Elizabethtown and he resided there until his death on 08 May 1848.

Peter served three tours of duty during the Revolutionary War. In 1776, at age 25, he was drafted, into the Militia in Lancaster County, PA. He served under Captain George Gantz's Company, Colonel Gonegan's Regiment. Following his first tour, he was later drafted into Captain McGee's Co. While on duty, he marched and guarded 300 Hessian prisoners from Lebanon to Middleton. Following his second tour of duty, he enlisted in 1777 in Captain Robinson's Co. and fought in the battles of Brandywine and Germantown. At the end of the war, he returned again to civilian life in Elizabethtown, PA.

Following his service in the Revolutionary War, Peter had a tavern on Market Street in Elizabethtown. He also served as the Constable in Mt. Joy, Lancaster, PA and was a member of the Christ Evangel Lutheran Church in Elizabethtown, PA. He owned a two story log house on High Street which measured 30' by 25' with a carpenter shop on the lot. His son, Fredrick, took over the business and is listed as an innkeeper in 1825.

After the war Peter lived alone in his later years, and kept house in Elizabethtown, PA. He asked his neighbors to keep an eye on a certain window of his house. If they saw a red handkerchief hanging in the window, they would know he was sick and needed help. One morning the neighbors saw the handkerchief. They went to his aid and found him very ill. It proved fatal in a short time as recounted in The Middletown Press, 1887 by his daughter, Magdalena Schaeffer Boggs, on her 104th birthday.

Peter Sheaffer, one of the oldest living Revolutionary War veterans, died in Elizabethtown on 08 May 1848 at age 98. He was buried Wednesday, 10 May 1848 with full military honors in the Christ Evangel Lutheran Church cemetery. Three bands played at his service, The Jackson Infantry Band, the Swalora Infantry Band and the Elizabethtown Band.. A procession of several thousand citizens and friends marched through the streets of the borough to the Lutheran Cemetery, where he was interred. Col. A. Greenwalt served as marshal. The funeral ceremonies excited the liveliest interest, and were in the highest degree solemn and impressive. (Elizabethtown Chronicles 1848)

Additional biography by James Malcom Ruff, Jr., Piedmont Chapter, GA Society, SAR #193249:

Peter Schaffer was born in 1751 to Johann & Maria Schaffer in the Eastern Welsh Mountains of Pennsylvania. The two parents came from Germany in 1748 and were part of a large German population that migrated to and settled in Pennsylvania. This was part of the Appalachian Mountain range that was populated by Conestoga Indians and there was hostility because of the influx of settlers. Johan was eventually killed and scalped by these Indians, and his daughter was captured by them and held for seven years. His son Peter survived with his mother.

At the beginning of the Revolutionary War in 1776, Peter at age 25, was drafted in the PA militia under George Gantz in Col. Hannigan's regiment. His unit marched 180 miles through Lancaster Pennsylvania on their way to Philadelphia, Trenton, Perth Anvoy, and eventually the New York City area. He was stationed at Fort Paulus Hook in New Jersey, and at Governors Island, where he stood guard there.

The Battle of Long Island, or the Battle of Brooklyn Heights, was fought on August 27, 1776. It was a defeat for General George Washington and the Continental Army, that had to evacuate and retreat to Manhattan Island. "On the night of August 29-30, Washington evacuated the entire army to Manhattan without the loss of supplies or a single life."

Later, Patriot Peter Schaffer was drafted again into Captain McGee's unit in Lebanon PA., where they guarded Hessian prisoners. He served a third tour in 1777 and fought again at Brandywine & Germantown, two more disappointing battles to the Continental Army.

This information was obtained about Peter Schaffer from deposition he gave when applying for a pension.

During his third tour during the war, he married a woman named Catherine and they ended up having 10 children. Peter lived to be 97 years old and upon his death, his funeral services which were held outside the church because of the number of people that came to his funeral.



Sawyer-Herndon Post 232

Dear Supporter of Veterans:

We are pleased to inform you that on Monday, October 9, 2023, the American Legion, Post 232 Snellville, will host the Annual Jonathan Ayers Memorial Golf Tournament. The event is in honor of Corporal Jonathan Ayers, who was killed in action while serving in the U.S. Army in Afghanistan in 2008. Cpl. Ayers was awarded the Silver Star Medal and the Bronze Star Medal for extraordinary valor.



Jonathan was a longtime resident of Snellville, GA, and a graduate of Shilo H.S.

The event will be held at Heritage Golf Links, Located at 4445 Britt Road, Tucker GA, 30084.

The proceeds from this golf tournament will be used by the American Legion to support their ongoing community related activities, programs, and assistance to needy veterans and their families. We would appreciate your support of this event by sponsoring one of the golf packages listed in the enclosed Sponsor Reservation Forms or by making a tax-deductible donation. Also, and most importantly, we invite you to participate in the tournament by fielding players.

For your convenience, enclosed is a Player Registration Form. Should you have any questions, please contact Reggie Vallotton at (470) 275-7851 or by email at post232adjutant@gmail.com.

To remember is to honor, and that is why we have named this event the Jonathan Ayers Memorial Golf Tournament. Our intent is to conduct this event annually, and in doing so, we will remind ourselves of the great contribution and sacrifice Jonathan made in service of our country. Moreover, the golf event is also a wonderful opportunity to support our community and local veterans. Thank you for your contribution to a worthy event.

JONATHAN AYERS MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

OCTOBER 9, 2023

Hosted By The American Legion Post 232 Snellville
*All proceeds go to support needy Veterans and their families
and the First Responders Recognition Program*



Heritage Golf Links
4445 Britt Road
Tucker, GA 30084
D 770-493-4653 Fax 770-493-8006



Format:

Ft. Lauderdale Scramble
Teams of 4 players
October 9th Registration @7:00am
Shotgun starts at 9:00am

Tournament Fee:

\$125 - per player includes greens fees,
cart, range ball, Breakfast and Lunch.
Extra lunches for family and friends:
\$35 each

Prizes:

1st Place Team gross 2nd Place Team gross 3rd Place Team gross
Longest drive (male/female)
Closest to the pin (male/female) - [par 3]



clphm and nat regzctos

Player Registration

Tournament (10/9/2023) fees are due by September 23, 2023

Make checks payable to:

American Legion Post 232 - Veterans and Family Support

Send Checks to:

American Legion Post 232 - P.O. Box 166 Snellville, GA 30078

Team Players (Captain) _____ Phone # _____

American Legion Post 232 is a 501c19 tax exempt organization. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

The Button Gwinnett SAR Chapter was recently informed of the upcoming burial ceremony for Korean War Soldier U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class James L. Wilkinson who will be buried with Full Military Honors in Barrow County on September 16, 2023. More details will be shared as they become available.



Soldier Accounted For From Korean War (Wilkinson, J.)

/ Published July 26, 2023
WASHINGTON ,

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced today that U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class James L. Wilkinson, 19, of Bowden, Georgia, who was killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Dec. 5, 2022.

In July 1950, Wilkinson, was a member of G Company, 2nd Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action during fighting along the Naktong River near Yongson, South Korea, on Sept. 8. Due to the fighting, his body could not be recovered at that time, and there was never any evidence that he was a prisoner of war. The Army issued



a presumptive finding of death on Dec. 31, 1953.

In July 1951, the Army began recovering remains from the area and temporarily interring them at the United Nations Military Cemetery (UNMC) Tanggok. One set of remains recovered during this period was designated Unknown X-1588. After extensive analysis by the Central Identification Unit-Kokura in Japan was unable to identify X-1588, the remains were declared unidentifiable. They were later sent to Hawaii where they were buried at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, known as the Punchbowl, in Honolulu, with other Korean War Unknowns.

In July 2018, the DPAA proposed a plan to disinter 652 Korean War Unknowns from the Punchbowl. On March 25, 2019, DPAA disinterred Unknown X-1588 as part of Phase Three of the Korean War Disinterment Project and sent the remains to the DPAA laboratory for analysis.

To identify Wilkinson's remains, scientists from DPAA used dental and anthropological analysis, as well as chest radiograph comparison. Additionally, scientists from the [Armed Forces Medical Examiner System](#) used mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) analysis.

Wilkinson's name is recorded on the Courts of the Missing at the Punchbowl, along with the others who are still missing from the Korean War. A rosette will be placed next to his name to indicate he has been accounted for.

Wilkinson will be buried on Sept. 16, 2023, in Barrow County, Georgia.

For family and funeral information, contact the Army Casualty Office at (800) 892-2490.

To see the most up-to-date statistics on DPAA recovery efforts for those unaccounted for from the Korean War, go to the Korean War Accounting page on the DPAA website at: <https://dpaa.mil/sites/cmfforce.mil/dpaaFamWebKorean>.

For additional information on the Defense Department's mission to account for Americans who went missing while serving our country, visit the DPAA website at www.dpaa.mil, find us on social media at www.facebook.com/dodpaa or <https://www.linkedin.com/company/defense-pow-mia-accounting-agency>.

Wilkinson's personnel profile can be viewed: <https://dpaa.mil/sites/cmfforce.mil/dpaaProfile?id=a0J00000153rczEAA>.



Please join us!

**Button Gwinnett Chapter Meeting
Thursday, September 14, 2023
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM for dinner/socializing**

**The meeting portion will begin at 7:00 PM.
Presentation by Mary Hamilton Williams:
"Women from History"**

**Frontera Mex-Mex Grill
1430 Five Forks Trickum Road
Lawrenceville, GA 30044
678-376-7680**

Celebrating our 25th Chapter Anniversary in April 2024

Please let us know if you would like to be part of the planning committee



SAR Button Gwinnett Chapter Presidents

Hubert Tucker 1999-2000

Dr. James Arthur Fisher 2001

Thomas P. McIntosh, Jr. 2002

Terry Manning 2003 & 2004

Steve Burns 2005

Walker Chewning 2006 & 2007

Jerry Winsness 2008

Miles Bruce Maney 2009

Bob Leather 2010

James W. Lynch 2011

Michael N. Henderson 2012

Miles Bruce Maney 2013

Gordon Woodard 2014 & 2015

Bill Palmer 2016

Bennie Koon 2017

John Goodwin 2018 & 2019

Mel Buck 2020

Michael Watkins 2021

Donald McCarty 2022

Thomas Leo Jacques 2023



5th Annual Wreaths Across America Ceremony



Proudly Sponsored by

*Philadelphia Winn Chapter
Daughters of the American Revolution*

Saturday, December 16, 2023, at 12:00 Noon

at

East Shadowlawn Memorial Gardens
87 Scenic Highway, Lawrenceville, GA

Please reach out to your friends and family members to sponsor wreaths as we **REMEMBER** our U.S. fallen veterans, **HONOR** those who serve, and **TEACH** our children the value of freedom.



To sponsor a wreath, pay online with a credit card at www.wreathscrossamerica.org/ga0265p or use the QR CODE in the bottom right corner of this flyer. The cost to sponsor 1 wreath is \$17.00 each. The most popular option is to sponsor 5 wreaths for \$85.00 total. To pay by check and have your order placed for you, make a check payable to **Philadelphia Winn Chapter NSDAR** and send it to Treasurer Kathy Schmidt, 886 Marbrook Drive, Lawrenceville, GA 30044.

For questions or additional information, contact Philadelphia Winn Chapter DAR, Wreaths Across America Committee Co-Chairs:

Regent Lynn Jacques at 678-332-9852, LynnJacques55@gmail.com

First Vice Regent Randi Minor at 770-882-8108, RandiMD@gmail.com



While we have Veterans Day in the fall and Memorial Day in the spring, our servicemen and women sacrifice their time and safety every single day of the year, to preserve our freedoms. And in many homes across the U.S., every day there is an empty seat for one who is serving, or one who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. That is why our mission to Remember, Honor and Teach lasts all year long, far beyond the single day in December when we coordinate wreath-laying ceremonies. All throughout the year, Wreaths Across America works in a number of ways to show our veterans and their families that we will not forget!



How you can help William Day Chapter NSDAR sponsor wreaths:

Option 1: You can order online through the link to William Day NSDAR page:

<https://wreathscrossamerica.org/GA0372>

Option 2: Cash or checks (made payable to WAA) and we will mail for you and provide you with a receipt. Wreaths are \$17 each.

Our cemetery is **Duluth Church Cemetery** in Duluth, Georgia. Please join us on December 16, 2023 at noon!



George Washington Print

State Regent Betty Harrah and Georgia SAR State President David Ludley have announced a collaborative plan to provide a SAR information table at the DAR Fall Forum in Macon on September 28-30. DAR members will have the opportunity to receive a limited edition, artist-signed, and numbered print of “George Washington in Savannah 1791.”

The original painting was completed by well-known historical artist Jeff Trexler of Pennsylvania and hangs in the NSSAR Headquarters in Louisville, KY. The painting was commissioned for the SAR National Congress that was held in July 2022 in Savannah.

This is the only painting that exists of George Washington’s 1791 visit to Georgia and only a few of the original 200 prints remain. The artist personally signed and numbered prints in the 16x24 size, which are available with a donation of \$110.00. The smaller 10x12 size is available with a donation of \$35.00. The smaller prints are not numbered as they are electronically signed by the artist. To make a donation, you may use cash, a personal check made payable to GASSAR, or a credit card.

With either size received, a printed historical narrative of the print and a certificate of authenticity from the artist will be provided. For each print acquired during Fall Forum, GSSDAR will receive a monetary donation from GASSAR.

The link below provides the story, on pages 18-19, of George Washington’s visit to Savannah, which is titled “George Washington Slept Here.”

[https://www.sar.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/SAR SPRING 2022.pdf](https://www.sar.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/SAR_SPRING_2022.pdf)