



The Button Gwinnett Dispatch July 2024

A Newsletter of the Button Gwinnett Chapter

National Society Sons of the American Revolution



President's Message for July 2024:

Hopefully, everyone enjoyed and safely celebrated the 4th of July, Independence Day.

Two hundred and forty-eight years ago, the American colonies announced to the world that they were declaring their independence from England. That "Declaration of Independence" was, in fact, an act of treason against the British Crown. The signers, one of whom was our chapter's namesake, Button Gwinnett, knew the possible severe consequences, but they were willing to risk everything to gain the freedoms they so desired.

Because of their bravery and determination, we enjoy those hard-earned freedoms today.

Thank you, Patriots, for creating our United States of America.

Button Gwinnett Compatriots helped to publicly celebrate Independence Day in several ways in July. On July 3rd, we presented the Colors at Freedom Fireworks in Washington, GA. On July 4th, we carried the Colors, in a 4th of July parade in Braselton, GA. And, most exciting of all, we participated in a musket salute at the Atlanta Braves game, in Truist Park, Atlanta, GA. Pretty awesome to see three of our members, Tom Jacques, Gordon Woodard and David Sikes, being broadcast nationally on TV!

Randy, Emily and Noah Tindall attended the National Society SAR 134th Congress, in Lancaster, PA from July 10th to July 16th. Randy was one of the Georgia SAR Delegates to the Congress and Noah participated in the Color Guard. After Congress that participated in multiple events in Alexandria, VA from July 18th to July 20th commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the Fairfax Resolves of 1774.

Finally, on July 27th, four members of the Button Gwinnett Chapter participated in the Summer Georgia Society SAR Board of Managers meeting, via Zoom. A water leak at the Pam's Garden Patch where we usually meet forced us to a Zoom meeting which worked very well, but everyone missed the personal interactions, camaraderie, and excellent food!

Sadly, in July, multiple genealogical societies including the DAR, New England Women, SAR and others lost a genuinely gracious, hard-working, and caring member, supporter, and friend when Brenda Davison Jessel passed away. Brenda was the wife of former Georgia SAR State President David Jessel. Brenda was an incredible woman and will truly be missed.

There will be a Celebration of Life Service for Brenda on Saturday, August 25th, at the First Baptist Church of Newnan, Newnan, GA. Receiving of Family and Friends will begin at 1:30pm and the service will begin at 3:00pm. Please keep Brenda's family in your prayers.

Brenda's obituary is included later in this newsletter.

Our July 11, 2024 Chapter Meeting was held at the Frontera Mex-Mex Grill in Lawrenceville, GA. We had 27 members and 7 guests in attendance.

Please consider joining us at a future meeting! We had DAR members from 5 chapters in attendance: Philadelphia Winn - 2nd Vice Regent Caitlen Green, DAR- SAR Relations Chair Mary Martin, Maryland McCarty & Mary Kitchings; William Day - Honorary Regent Debbie Bush; Suwanee Creek - Amy Koon; Chestatee River - Kris White

As of July 23, 2024 - The Button Gwinnett SAR Chapter has 101 active members 🤝



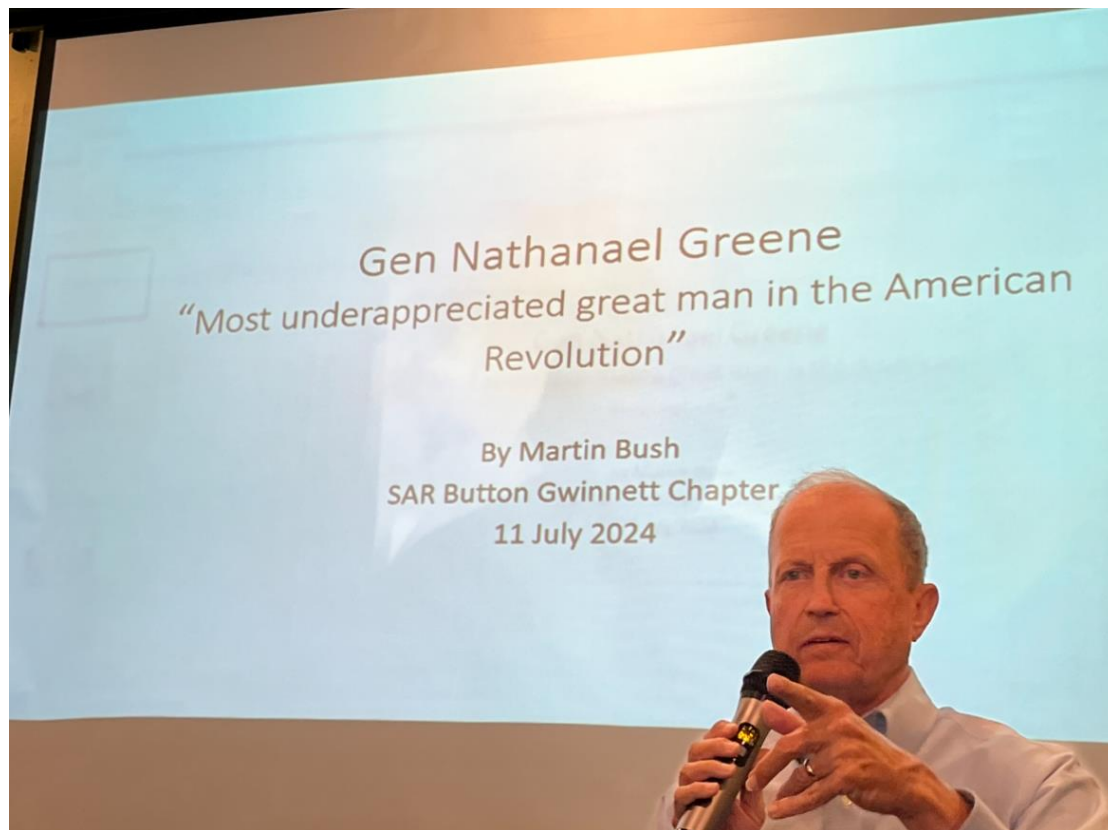
Streamers Received:

246th Anniversary of the Frederica Naval Action

244th Anniversary of the Battle of Ramsour's Mill

Presented to Button Gwinnett Sergeant at Arms Don Schmidt by Chapter President Ray Kyle

Button Gwinnett Second VP Marty Bush presented a program titled "General Nathanael Greene".



First VP Jack Martin (Left), presented Program Presenter/Second VP, Marty Bush (right) with the SAR Certificate of Appreciation for his presentation on General Nathanael Greene.



Biography of Marty Bush

Marty spent over twenty years supporting Department of Defense software requirements as an Account Executive - AE (sales) and a DOD team lead for Red Hat, HP and Tripwire. In these roles - he worked with both the System Integrator program teams (Lockheed Martin Aeronautics, Boeing (Defense Space and Security) and Air Force program teams to support Air Force customer requirements.

He received numerous sales awards including - AE of the year at Red Hat (NAPS) and Tripwire.

Marty graduated from Virginia Tech - Blacksburg, VA in 1973.

While at Virginia Tech he was a member of the Corps of Cadets and Army ROTC. He was Band commander and a member of Scabbard & Blade his senior year.

He was commissioned in the Army upon graduation and served in the US Army Reserves (Infantry) - 1973 - 1979.

Marty received an MBA from Georgia State University in 1978 and the CFA (Chartered Financial Analyst) designation from the CFA Institute in 1988.

He grew up in Richmond, VA and visited many colonial sites - including Yorktown, Williamsburg, and Jamestown. He has always had a keen interest in American history and has read numerous books about the American Revolution and its predecessor conflict - the French and Indian War.

His grandmother, mother, and his wife were/are members of DAR. He is glad to be a member of the Button Gwinnett SAR chapter and looks forward to today's briefing/presentation.

Marty is a member of the Button Gwinnett and Georgia SAR Color Guard and received the SAR Military Service Medal at the Button Gwinnett SAR Chapter 25th Anniversary meeting in April. Marty's wife Debbie is an Honorary Regent of the William Day Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution.

Registrar Status Report (As of July 23, 2024 , there are 101 chapter members)

New member applications approved but not yet inducted:

- James Reason – At National Mar 28, 2024 (approved July 3, 2024)
- Parker Reason – At National Mar 28, 2024 (approved July 3, 2024)

New Memorial applications at National:

- None

Supplementals at National:

- 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
- Raymond Kyle – 2 @ National - John Sledge & Fletcher Sullivan (pending)
- David Sikes – 2 @ National – Patriots Thomas Blitch & Robert Marlow
- Raymond Anderson – 1 @ National – Patriot Absalom Hooper

New Member applications at State:

- Merle "Skip" Nunn – referral through Harold Ford June 6, 2024 (signed by T Jacques 6/24/24)

New Memorial Application at State:

- None

New Member Applications in Process:

- William Benson Wood – referral from 2023 Wreaths Across America (Philadelphia Winn DAR)
- Brandon Hembree – referral from Amy Koon May 3, 2024 (Suwannee Creek DAR)
- Michael Miller – referral from Lynn Jacques 2023 Wreaths Across America (Philadelphia Winn DAR)

Supplementals at State:

- None

Supplementals in process :

- Bill Schultz – Out for Signature Transfer into Button Gwinnett Chapter

Reinstatement in process:

- Adam Hoke Webb – Reinstatement in process - notified at Feb 8, 2024 chapter meeting

Transfer into Button Gwinnett Chapter: (Under consideration)

1. Frank Leslie Bradfield Jr. – Chris Bradfield's father
2. Frank Leslie Bradfield III – Chris Bradfield's brother

2024 Committee Assignments

If you would like to serve on one of these Committees, please contact President Ray Kyle or the Committee Chair.

- Audit – Ray Kyle, Chairman, Harry Kitchings & Jack Martin (Completed Jan 18, 2024)
- 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 (Team Eldon Evans & Bruce Maney)
- Eagle Scout – David Patrick
- JROTC – Marty Bush
- Color Guard – Bill Palmer
- Publicity – Don McCarty
- Newsletter – Tom Jacques
- *Button Gwinnett SAR Chapter 25th Anniversary – April 6, 2024 – Tom Jacques (Complete)*

Upcoming Meeting dates and presentations:

2024

Aug 8	David Wellons: "Prelude to the Revolution - The Intolerable Acts"
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

2025

Jan 9	Eldon Evans: "Westward Migration on the Old National Trail"
Feb 13	Mike Watkins: "Weapons & Armaments"
Mar 13	Harry Kitchings: "John Hancock"
Apr 10	Carter Wood: "Gwinnett vs. McIntosh Duel"
May 8	Gary Page: "America's First Diplomat"
Jun 12	Lynn Jacques: "The 250th Anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill"
Jul 10	Eli Stancel: "The Frontier"
Aug 14	Terry Manning: "10 New Things You Didn't Know About George Washington"
Sep 11	Shep Hammack: "Hyam Salomon, Financier of the American Revolution"
Oct 9	Becky West: "The Real Story of Paul Revere"
Nov 13	Jim Reason: "The War in Georgia"
Dec 11	Installation of 2026 Chapter Officers

Completed Events to date in 2024

Feb 29-Mar 2	National SAR Spring Leadership Meeting, Louisville, Ky
Mar 2	Battle of Brier Creek
Mar 3	President Andrew Jackson's Hermitage 250th Marker
Mar 11	Alcova Elementary School in Dacula - Traveling Trunk Program
Mar 21-23	Georgia DAR State Conference - Atlanta Marriott Northwest at Galleria
Mar 24	DAR Patriot Grave Marking John Glover
Mar 29	Vietnam Veterans Ceremony - Johns Creek
Apr 6	Button Gwinnett SAR Chapter 25th Anniversary Lunch meeting
Apr 7	14th Annual Fort Yargo Market Fair
Apr 11	Hunter Newton - Eagle Scout Court of Honor
Apr 12	Lyman Hall 300th Birthday - Gainesville, GA noon
Apr 13	Patriot Grave Marking - Dickerson Lumpkin, Jr. Talbotton, GA
Apr 20	National (GA) - Frederica Naval Action St Simons
Apr 27	Georgia Society SAR Board of Managers, Barnesville, GA
Apr 28	Church Service & Five Patriot Grave Markings - Midway, GA
May 10	National (FL) - Battle of Pensacola Commemoration
May 11	Patriot Grave Marking - Silas Mercer, Wilkes Co., GA
May 25	National (SC) - Buford's Massacre Commemoration
May 24-25	Flag Placement at Cemeteries
May 27	Oconee County Veterans Memorial
May 27	GJAC Memorial Day Ceremony Lawrenceville, GA
Jun 8	Flag Retirement Ceremony (Robert Forsyth & Piedmont)
Jun 15	Flag Day - VFW Post 5255 - Lawrenceville, GA - 10:00am (Color Guard)
Jun 22	National (NC) - Battle of Ramsour's Mill
Jun 26-30	133 rd DAR Continental Congress, Washington, DC
Jun 29	Battle of Alligator Creek Bridge, FL
Jun 30	New Hope UMC Patriotic Sunday Service 10:00am (Color Guard)
Jun 30	Patriotic Concert - First Methodist Church Gainesville - 4:00pm (Color Guard)
Jul 3	Freedom Fireworks - Washington, GA - 5:00pm (Color Guard)
Jul 4	Musket Salute at Atlanta Braves Game - 7:20pm
Jul 4	4th of July Parade, Braselton, GA
Jul 10-16	NSSAR National Convention, Lancaster, PA
Jul 18-20	National (VA) - Fairfax Resolves, Alexandria, VA
Jul 27	GASSAR Summer BOM, Barnesville, GA (Zoom)

Upcoming Events

Aug 10	Battle of Camden, Camden, SC
Aug 17	National (KY) - Battle of Blue Licks, Carlisle, KY
Aug 18	Five Patriot Grave Markings Dedication Ceremony - Lexington, KY

Aug 23 Grave Markings (NC) as part of the 250th Anniversary of the New Bern Resolves
 Aug 24 New Bern Resolves, New Bern, NC
 Aug 25 Brenda Davison Jessel Service (Wife of past Georgia SAR President Davd Jessel
 Aug 31 National (SC) - Battle of Eutaw Springs, Eutaw Springs, SC
 Sep 07 National (VA) - Battle of the Capes, Virginia Beach, VA
 Sep 12-14 **Georgia DAR Fall Forum**, Atlanta Airport Marriott, College Park, GA
 Sep 14 National (VA) - Vigil at Washington's Tomb, Mt. Vernon, VA
 Sep 14 National (TN) - The Gathering at Sycamore Shoals, Elizabethton, TN
 Sep 17 National (GA) - Constitution Day, St Paul's Church, Augusta, GA (Tuesday)
 Sep 21 (GA) - Patriot Grave Marking (Details to be announced)
 Sep 28 (GA) - First Siege of Augusta, Augusta, GA
 Sep 28 GSSNSCAR Fall Meeting & 242nd Commemoration of the Siege of Augusta
 Oct 3-5 National Society SAR - Fall Leadership - Louisville, KY (Thursday-Saturday)
 Oct 5-6 Elisha Winn Fair (Traveling Trunk Programs) Saturday & Sunday
 Oct 7 National (NC/SC) - Battle of Kings Mountain (Monday)
 Oct 19 Fort Daniel Faire
 Oct 26 Georgia Society SAR Board of Managers
 Nov 2 Veterans Day program at the Shrine Temple in Atlanta 5:00pm
 Nov 3 NSDAR Bench Dedications, Mount Oglethorpe, GA (Color Guard)
 Nov 9 Grave Marking - Patriot Gabriel Smith Bowden, GA
 Nov 11 Oconee County Veterans Day Event - 11:00-12:00noon
 Nov 11 Veterans Day - Snellville Veterans Memorial in Snellville, GA 3:00-5:00pm
 Nov 16 NSDAR Historical Marker Dedication Colquitt County Courthouse (Color Guard)
 Nov 23 National (GA) - Siege of Fort Morris - Come & Take It (Color Guard)
 Dec 14 Wreaths Across America - 2 Lawrenceville events Philadelphia Winn DAR
 (Color Guard) Time TBA

2025 Events

Jan 11 Grave Marking - Patriot Stephen Day Grovetown, GA
 Jan 17 National (SC) - Battle of Cowpens
 Jan 31 - Feb 1 **Georgia Society SAR State Conference**
 Feb 7 Heroes of the Hornets Nest
 Feb 7 Kettle Creek Battlefield Association - Annual Dinner
 Feb 8 Commemoration of the Battle of Kettle Creek events in Washington, GA
 Feb 22 George Washington Birthday
 Feb 27-Mar 1 National Society SAR - Spring Leadership - Louisville, KY
 Mar 8 Commemoration of the Battle of Brier Creek
 Mar 19-23 127th Georgia DAR Society State Conference, Augusta Marriott (Augusta, GA).

July 3, 2024 – Washington, GA Freedom Fireworks celebration

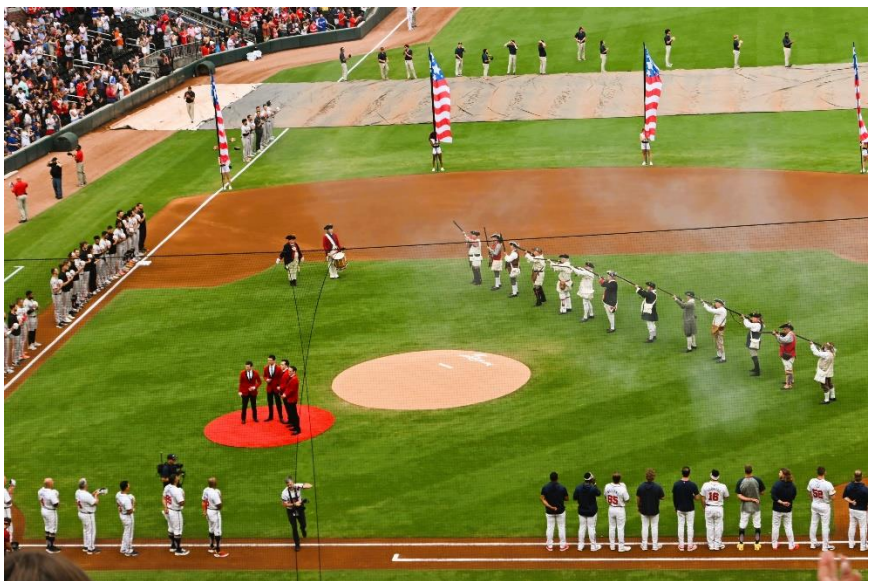
President Ray Kyle, First VP Jack Martin and Compatriot Ralph Galpin of the Button Gwinnett Chapter participated with the Georgia Color Guard in Washington, GA Freedom Fireworks celebration led by Georgia and National Color Guard Commander Scott Collins

DOWNTOWN SQUARE WASHINGTON GA
JULY 3RD 2024
FREEDOM FIREWORKS EXTRAVAGANZA
LIVE MUSIC FEATURING TANNER DUCKWORTH BAND
GUITAR PRODIGY PLAYING AMERICANA, COUNTRY, GOSPEL AND CLASSIC ROCK
FREE ADMISSION
STBL AUGUSTA-BASED SOUL, FUNK, OLDIES AND R&B
FOOD TRUCKS, GAMES FOR KIDS, WATERMELON EATING CONTEST
WEDS, JULY 3RD 2024 | THE DOWNTOWN SQUARE, WASHINGTON GA 30673
MUSIC STARTING AT 6PM | FIREWORKS SHOW BEGINNING AT DUSK
★ WWW.WASHINGTONWILKES.ORG ★



July 4, 2024 - Musket Salute at Atlanta Braves Game

Tom Jacques, Gordon Woodard and David Sikes of the Button Gwinnett Chapter participated with the Georgia Color Guard in a Thirteen Musket Salute at the Atlanta Braves Game led by Georgia and National Color Guard Commander Scott Collins



National Society SAR 134th Congress - Lancaster, Pennsylvania

The Tindall Family was the Button Gwinnett Chapter representatives at the SAR 134th Congress. Randy was one of the Georgia SAR Delegates and Noah was in uniform at all events and part of the Color Guard with Scott Collins commanding. Emily is the Georgia State DAR/SAR/S.R. Relations Chair. Randy is the current Georgia C.A.R. Sr President, a position previously held by Emily until this year. Note: Noah's Blue and Buff Continental Uniform originally belonged to Button Gwinnett Chapter Compatriot and Color Guard Member Dennis Wolfe and was donated by his wife and Philadelphia Winn Member Beth Wolfe.

Memorial Service, Opening Ceremonies, Education Luncheon, PG Banquet, Closing Ceremonies



250th Fairfax Resolves all events different

- Plaque at Historic Pohick Episcopal Church, Lorton, VA
- Plaque at Market Square in Alexandria, VA where resolves were signed
- Plaque dedication at Historic Christ Church, Alexandria, VA
- Plaque dedication at Washington's Home in Alexandria, VA

Pictures provided by Randy Tindall and Bill & Janet Edelen



C.A.R. Day(s) of Service



This year we had the special opportunity to serve at the Button Gwinnett SAR Chapter's 25th Birthday as members of the Color Guard, honoring SAR veterans, and making cards for veterans.

Under the GOLD Dome : Page for a Day

by Noah T. (age 13)



Representative Chuck Efration
Georgia House of Representatives
2024 Session

When they say "rise and shine" in Georgia, they mean it, especially if you are going to beat traffic going to the Georgia Capitol. Very early in the morning, I was super excited as I was preparing to go to the Gold Dome to serve as a Page for Representative Chuck Efration, my Representative and the Majority Leader of the Georgia House of Representatives. Double check in the mirror, yes, I was dressed for success to serve with my representative.

Paging at the Georgia State Capital is a great service opportunity and fun! Every State has a Capitol and most have paging opportunities that students can participate in. In many states, the State House and Senate will host a

Page program, allowing students 12-18 to serve as a Page to a Senator, Representative, or even the Lieutenant Governor. Typically, you will serve for the Senator or Representative of your district, and this is a unique opportunity to learn first hand what your Senator or Representative stands for, and their opinions on different laws and bills being debated and voted on. You also get to see if they are representing their constituents well. After initiation with the House of Representatives' staff, all the Pages entered the House Chambers and were introduced by the Speaker of the House to the members. We then sat along the back row to watch the proceedings of the House and our duties began. It was a busy day with highly controversial bills being addressed, messages being delivered all over the chamber, and as the day concluded Representative Efration introduced me to the Speaker of the House, Mr. Jon Burns.

What a day! My feet tired, yes, but my eyes and ears were wide open as I learned so much about how the Georgia State government works. I highly recommend that any C.A.R. member who gets the opportunity to serve as a Page in their State Capital do so. It will be a busy day, but one you will be thankful for.

Congratulations Elisha Winn members! Your outstanding service in the Elisha Winn House Period Garden and during the Elisha Winn Fair has resulted in the award of this amazing grant. Great TEAMS produce great results in their communities! You are the best and we are very proud of you!



The National Society of the Children of the American Revolution

1776 D Street, Northwest Room 224 Washington, DC 20006-5303

Telephone: (202) 638-3153 Email: hq@nscar.org

Website: NSCAR.org

May 30, 2024

Dear Local Society,

On behalf of the National Society Children of the American Revolution, it is with great excitement that we write to you today! This was the first time in N.S.C.A.R. history that it has ever done a National Grant Program. We are pleased to let you know that your Grant application was approved, and the non-for-profit organization where you nominated your funds to be donated received a check in the amount of the following:

\$1,061.10

Thank you for all of your investment into your community through time, donations, and heart. Please feel free to reach out to the non-profit that received your Grant, ensuring they have received the check and utilizing it as an opportunity to reinforce relations with this organization. The organization which you submitted to receive these funds is as follows:

Gwinnett Historical Society - Elisha Winn House

185 W Crogan Street, Lawrenceville, GA 30045

bwarbing@bellsouth.net

If there is anything that N.S.C.A.R. acknowledges, it is that partnering with difference-makers strengthens our impact on upholding American values and bettering people's lives. N.S.C.A.R. looks to preserve the past and cultivate a better future for tomorrow.

Thank you for your continued investment in your community.

With much gratitude,

Victoria Smith
Honorary National President
2023-2024

Mrs. Diana Decker Brokaw
Honorary Senior National President
2022-2024

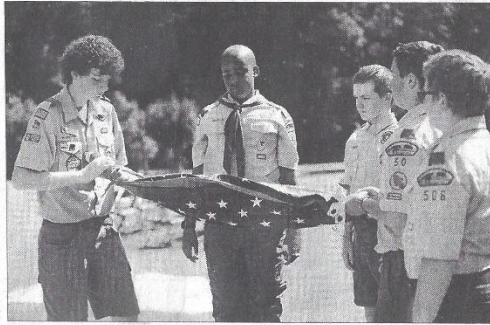
VFW Post 5255 In Lawrenceville honors Flag Day

By Lynn Jacques

On June 15, citizens and dignitaries from around Georgia gathered at VFW Post 5255 in Lawrenceville to celebrate the 247th anniversary of the adoption of the "Stars and Stripes" as the official flag of the United States of America. It was not until an Act of Congress in 1949 that June 14th became known as National Flag Day.

Ceremony arrangements were planned by the Gwinnett Flag Day Committee with the theme of "Celebrating America and Honoring Our Flag." This year's event included the addition of a Flag Retirement Ceremony, providing attendees with the opportunity to dispose of an American flag that was no longer serviceable and in a manner that shows dignity and respect. Boy Scouts from Troops 50, 81, 231, and 506 demonstrated this process using a flag previously flown over the U.S. Capitol and provided by the Office of Congresswoman Lucy McBeth during the 2023 Flag Day Ceremony.

Additional information on the Flag Retirement ceremony was provided by David Berndt, Director of



Special Photo

The American flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed (retired) in a dignified way, preferably by burning. As part of the Flag Retirement ceremony, the American flag may be displayed one final time, then properly folded and retired. Pictured L-R: Boy Scouts Joshua Stoesen, Aiden Haskell, Caden Kaczanski, Connor Dunn, and Liam Dannemiller.

the Gwinnett County Veterans Memorial Museum.

There was special recognition in memory of Patricia Ann Vores Sims, a Gwinnett Flag Day Committee member and resident of Snellville. A Proclamation and an American flag previously flown over the City of Snellville was presented to Patricia's husband Truitt C. Sims, Jr. and her son Truitt C. Sims III, by Gwinnett Flag Day President Mike Sabbagh and

Advisory Member Warren Auld.

Mr. Kerry Dyer, Chief Operating Officer from Georgia Department of Veterans Service, presented Gwinnett Flag Day President, Mike Sabbagh, with a Proclamation on behalf of Georgia Governor Brian P. Kemp in recognition of the 13th Annual Gwinnett Flag Day Ceremony.

The Office of United States Senator Jon Ossoff provided a flag previously

flown over the U.S. Capitol, which was raised up onto the flag pole at the VFW by members of the Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH), Chapter 465, Atlanta. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Eagle Scout Connor Dunn from Boy Scout Troop 50 and the National Anthem and God Bless America was performed by the Up Front Quartet.

The Georgia State Soci-

ety Color Guard and Militia, Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) and the Button Gwinnett Chapter SAR, presented colors and provided a gunpowder Musket Volley and a Mourn Musket Salute.

Additional organizations and individuals participating included VFW Post 5255, Auxiliary VFW Post 5255, VFW Post 4180, American Legion Post 127, American Legion Post 251, Repent-

ed Motorcycle Ministry — Georgia Chapter 14, Church on Main, Ismaili CIVIC, Gwinnett Technical College — Music Appreciation Instructor Mohamed Belal, Philadelphia Winn Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), the Elisha Winn Society, Children of the American Revolution (C.A.R.), Tom M. Wages Funeral Services, and Bobby Armes, O'Kelley and Sorohan Law.



Photo: Boon Vong

The National Anthem was performed by the Up Front Quartet (far left) while Georgia State Society SAR Color Guard presented colors (center) and Boy Scouts from Troops 50, 81, 231, and 506 (far right) stand at attention and salute the American flag.



American Spirit Magazine

Inside This Issue

July/August 2024

Glimpse into the lives and passions of the diverse group of women who comprise today's DAR membership.

More Articles

Learn about the interesting historical articles from this issue.

To Come in Our Next Issue

Preview the exciting stories to be featured in the next issue of American Spirit.



My Patriot

Revolutionary Discovery

Descendant of Mathieu Devaux dit Platillo, a French national who served under Bernardo de Gálvez, seeks to make America's founding story more inclusive.

By Lena Anthony



Like many aspects of the American Revolution, Jane Henderson Bronner's connection to the war is not covered in the typical history textbook. Growing up in the 1970s, she learned that the American Revolution took place in the 13 Colonies, not Spanish Louisiana. She learned that the Patriots were Colonists, certainly not merchants from far-flung places like France.

"Discovering that I had ties to the Revolutionary War was a surprise in and of itself" said Mrs. Bronner a member of Atlanta DAR Chapter, Atlanta, Georgia. "Discovering that my Patriot was part of an unexpected, untold side of the story has made it all the more exciting."

Mrs. Bronner's Patriot, Mathieu Devaux dit Platillo, was a merchant from Marseille, France, who served in the New Orleans militia during the Revolutionary War under General Bernardo de Gálvez, the colonial governor of Spanish Louisiana at the time.

Gálvez is credited with supporting America's quest for freedom through direct and indirect methods. After blockading the Port of New Orleans, which prevented British boats from entering the Mississippi River, he provided direct aid in the form of arms, ammunition, supplies and money. Additionally, when Spain officially joined the war in 1779, strategic campaigns against the British in present-day Alabama and Florida helped pave the way for America's victory at Yorktown. (Read more about Gálvez on page 36.)

As with many Patriots, what is known about Platillo's military service comes from sparsely worded military records. He was born in February 1737 in Marseille, France. Sometime between 1760 and 1770, he arrived in New Orleans for reasons unknown but most likely because he was a merchant. A local militia member, he served in the artillery under Gálvez in the Battle of Baton Rouge in September 1779. Spain, which had entered the Revolutionary War just months earlier, dealt a decisive blow to the British at Baton Rouge, effectively stripping them of their Mississippi River access.

Mrs. Bronner has reason to believe that her Patriot was more to Gálvez than just a militiaman, thanks to a document discovered by her brother, Michael Henderson, a retired lieutenant commander of the U.S. Navy, a family historian and past president of Button Gwinnett Chapter Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), Gwinnett County Georgia.

The document in question—the manumission papers of Agnes Mathieu, the siblings’ fourth-generation great-grandmother—was the subject of a 2010 episode of PBS’s “History Detectives.” The siblings were interested in the document because of its signer. While local clerks signed most emancipation documents of that time, this one featured the unmistakable signature of Gálvez.

“Why would Bernardo de Gálvez have signed my great-grandmother’s manumission document three months after the Battle of Baton Rouge if not for some relationship between him and my great-grandfather, who fought under him?” she said. “I believe in all my heart this was his gift and reward for my great-grandfather’s service—to grant her freedom.”

Just as the Revolutionary War part of Mrs. Bronner’s story is outside of what she learned in school, so is her Patriot’s love story.

“We learned that white men were not allowed to be with Black women, and yet, here are my fourth-generation great-grandfather and great-grandmother not only living together but also having children and making a life together.”

According to Platillo’s will, discovered by Mrs. Bronner’s brother, the couple had six children who survived to adulthood and five grandchildren. “Because of the laws of that day, my great-grandfather was not able to leave property to my great-grandmother,” she said. “But in his will, he did state clearly that she was the mother of his children.”

After 30 years of researching their family’s Louisiana history, Michael joined SAR, becoming the first African American inducted into the Georgia Society SAR. Their mother, Frances Phillips Henderson, later became a member of New Orleans DAR Chapter, New Orleans, Louisiana. Mrs. Bronner joined the Atlanta DAR Chapter earlier this year.

“I believe that it’s important for me to have joined, especially at a time like this, because I understand now that my story represents a different perspective on the American Revolution,” she said. “On the eve of the 250th anniversary of our nation’s founding, it’s important that we tell this story in all its fullness, not just for people like me so that we can know and understand that we belong too, but for all Americans, so that all of us can understand and appreciate that diverse individuals came together—and still do—to create the rich tapestry that is America.”

Since becoming a Daughter, Mrs. Bronner has wasted no time getting involved. She has attended her Georgia State Conference, completed the New Members Course, attended a naturalization ceremony in Atlanta, made appearances at several events hosted by the Georgia Society SAR and logged a dozen Service to America hours for recognizing the security department at the hospital where she works on Employee Appreciation Day. “I wanted to honor the unsung heroes—the officers that keep our hospital safe,” she said. “They were so appreciative but also shocked because they said no one had ever recognized them before.”

No matter how she gets plugged into the organization, she knows recruiting new members will be part of her role. “An African proverb states that until the lion has his own storyteller the hunter will always have the best part of the story,” she said. “I want to encourage all women to know their story, be their own storyteller and embrace whatever they find.”

Mrs. Bronner’s journey to understanding her family’s history is far from over. Many questions remain about her great-grandparents in Louisiana, including why Platillo came to America in the first place, how his property and wealth were distributed after his death, and whether he would have considered his American dream achieved—questions to which Mrs. Bronner and her brother intend to uncover answers.

“Family history is like an onion, and we’re slowly peeling back the layers to reveal more of our story,” she said.



Please join us!

Button Gwinnett Chapter Meeting

Thursday, August 8, 2024

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM for dinner/socializing

The meeting portion will begin at 7:00 PM.

David Wellons: “Prelude to the Revolution – The Intolerable Acts”

Frontera Mex-Mex Grill

1430 Five Forks Trickum Road

Lawrenceville, GA 30044

678-376-7680

Celebrating our 25th Chapter Anniversary in 2024



Do you Qualify for the National Society Sons of the American Revolution War Service or Military Service Medals?

As part of the Button Gwinnett SAR Chapter 25th Anniversary Celebration to be held on April 6, 2024 we would like to recognize our Chapter Compatriots who served in any branch of the U.S. Military by presenting you with either the National Society Sons of the American Revolution War Service Medal or Military Service Medal if you have not previously received either of them from our Chapter.

Compatriots Bill Palmer and Bruce Maney have agreed to be Co-Chairs of the Veterans Medal Committee.

In accordance with the NSSAR Official Handbook, Volume V: Individual Medals, Awards and Certificates, updated January 1, 2024, pages 17 and 18, shown below, Proof of Military Service (DD-214 form) must be presented by the member to the Chapter Secretary, who will determine the Chapter Member's eligibility for the War Service Medal or Military Service Medal.



SAR Medals and Their Order of Precedence (1-50)

1. SAR Badge
2. Minuteman Medal
3. Gold Good Citizenship Medal
4. War Service Medal
4. Military Service Medal
5. Heroism Medal
6. National Society Medal of Distinguished Service



NSSAR Handbook V: War Service Medal - Proof of Service:

Proof of service, in the form of a copy of the member's discharge (or other U.S. or Allied Government proof in the case of a member in active service), must be presented to the NSSAR Veterans Recognition Committee, State Society Secretary or Chapter secretary (depending on presenting authority) before the medal can be purchased and/or worn.

Such proof must show that the Compatriot:

1. served, or is serving, honorably in: a. the armed forces of the United States, b. the military forces of a country allied with the United States, or c. a United Nations Peace Keeping Force; and
2. served against a common enemy in a war or action recognized by a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States; and Effective: January 1, 2024 - 18
3. received a campaign medal, combat ribbon or badge as shown on the DD-214 form (or equivalent).

Bronze bars are available indicating service in WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Southwest Asia, Kosovo, Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Global War on Terrorism.

Subsequent Presentation Authorized: A Compatriot may receive additional Bronze Service Bars or Oak Leaf Clusters for subsequent qualifying war service.

Note: The National Defense Service Medal is not considered a campaign medal for purposes of qualifying for the War Service Medal.

NSSAR Handbook V: Military Service Medal - Proof of Service:

Proof of service, in the form of a copy of the member's discharge (or other U.S. or Allied Government proof in the case of a member in active service), must be provided to the NSSAR Veterans Recognition Committee, State Society Secretary or Chapter Secretary (depending on presenting authority) before the medal can be purchased and/or worn.

Such proof Effective: January 1, 2024 - 19 - must show that the Compatriot:

1. served, or is serving, honorably in the armed forces of the United States,
2. the military forces of a country allied with the United States, or
3. a United Nations Peace Keeping Force.

Subsequent Presentation NOT Authorized: A Compatriot may receive this medal only once. Oak leaf clusters or other ribbon attachments are not authorized.

For additional information, contact President Tom Jacques at ThomasLjacques@gmail.com.

From Compatriot John Goodwin

244th Anniversary of the

Battle of Camden

Saturday, August 10th
Camden, South Carolina

9:00 am Wreath Laying at the Battlefield
Pavilion Area
1606 Flat Rock Road

3:00 pm DAR & SAR Drop-in
McCaa Tavern
Historic Camden
222 Broad Street

4:30 pm Wreath Laying Honoring the Camden 12
Quaker Cemetery
713 Meeting Street

Event Sponsors:
Historic Camden

Hobkirk Hill Chapter, NSDAR

Joseph Kershaw Chapter, NSDAR

Col. Joseph Kershaw Chapter, SAR

District Event of the South Atlantic District NSSAR



Service information for Brenda Davison Jessel from her daughter Heather O'Connor

Greetings y'all! Heather O'Connor (Heather Herriott O'Connor) here again.....

Firstly, thank you for the outpouring of love shown to our family as we process the loss of my amazing mother, Brenda.

My husband Chris OConnor, and me will be heading to Georgia on Wednesday with Jess aka David Jessel.

Details for the Celebration of Life service for Brenda Davison Jessel will be held at First Baptist Church of Newnan Georgia on August 25th. Receiving of Family & Friends will be at 1:30PM.

The Service is set at 3PM, with light refreshments in the Fellowship Hall for anyone who would care to stop in. Hugs are free and gladly accepted. If there are questions, I may be reached at brendajdaughter@gmail.com

thank you again Heather O'Connor

PS. Those involved in the different & many societies, please wear your insignia as appropriate.



Brenda Davison Jessel is with Chris OConnor and Heather Herriott O'Connor.

July 15 at 4:34 PM · 🧑🏻‍🤝‍🧑🏻

This is [Heather O'Connor](#) - Brenda & David's daughter.....our update as sent out to many of you is below (please feel free to reach out to me as we will be traveling to GA for arrangements and such)

7/15 MONDAY

Family, Friends & all who see this message...our hearts are heavy, yet spirits lifted as we say goodbye to the person, wife, mother, sister, grandmother, great-grandmother, aunt, confidant, mentor and friend, Brenda. Her home address of 10 College St is now in a Heavenly mansion surrounded by streets of gold and walking with Jesus. We take comfort in knowing she loves each us and we each carry amazing memories of our small in stature and mighty in spirit red-headed firecracker. Thank you all for the prayers & support for Brenda (Mom) and continued prayers & support for our family. Details & arrangements will be communicated. We ask you take today to remember Brenda!



The picture above is one of the last that Brenda posted on her Facebook page during her trip with David to Washington DC in advance of the DAR Continental Congress. Brenda was the Daughters of the American Revolution National Chair of DAR Relations with the Sons of the American Revolution & Sons of the Revolution.

Brenda Joyce Davison Herriott Jessel – Obituary Jul 29, 2024 The Newnam Times-Herald



Brenda Joyce Davison Herriott Jessel, 83, passed away peacefully on July 15, 2024, surrounded by her loved ones at the Alexander T. Augusta Medical Center, Ft. Belvoir, Virginia.

Brenda was born on October 1, 1940, in San Diego, California. Brenda dedicated her life to serving Christ through her many associations including: Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) - National Chair - DAR SAR/S.R. Relations (current), State Corresponding Secretary 2010-2012, State Chaplain 2012-2014, State Librarian 2014-2015, State Recording Secretary 2015-2016, State Registrar 2016-2018, Honorary Chapter Regent, Chapter Regent 2004-2006, Cameo Society President 2023-2025; United States Daughters of 1812 - State President 2024 (sashed in May), Honorary Chapter President (Benjamin Hardin Chapter); National Society New England Women, Sarah Josepha Buell Hale Colony (NSNEW) - Past Colony President 2021-2024, Past National Publicity & PR Chairman, Past National USO Chairman; Colonial Dames of the 17th Century - State Historian 2019-2021, State Chairman National Defense 2023-2025, Chapter Historian 2019-2021, Past Chapter President 2015-2017; Daughters of America Colonists (James Edward Oglethorpe Chapter) - Chapter President 2023-2025, Past Chapter Corresponding Secretary 2021-2023, Past Chapter President 2019-2021; Continental Society Daughters of Indian Wars (CSDIW) - Past Chapter Governor 2020-2022 (Coweta #1 Chapter); Southern Dames of America - Past Chapter President 2020-2022 (Chattahoochee Valley Chapter); Dames of the Court of Honor - Inducted May 24, 2024.

Brenda held memberships in the following National Societies: Daughters of the American Revolution; United States Daughters of 1812; Daughters of Colonial Wars; Colonial Dames XVII Century; New England Women; Southern Dames of America; Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims; Descendants of American Farmers; Continental Society Daughters of Indian Wars. Notably, Brenda was a Docent for the Governor's Mansion on a regular basis, and Election poll worker within her community.

Brenda was an active member of First Baptist Church, Newnan, Georgia in the Prayer Ministry, Women's Ministry, Explorers Bible Study, Children's Choir as well as a supporter of the Coweta Pregnancy Services and locally as an active member of Keep Newnan Beautiful, Bicentennial Committee & Cultural Arts Commission. Brenda was a member of the VFW Post 2667 Auxiliary & Post 57 Newnan American Legion Auxiliary.

She loved being busy and traveled extensively with her husband, David G Jessel, in service to the many organizations she and David belonged.

Brenda was widowed in 1976 raising two children, Heather Alexa Herriott O'Connor & Jack Adair Herriott III until she remarried LCDR David G Jessel in 1980 and the amazing journey in service this beautiful couple maintained together for forty-four years has become the stuff of legends. She is survived by her husband, David; her children Heather (Chris) O'Connor, Jay (Lizbeth) Herriott;

Justin (Melanie) Jessel; stepsons David Scott (Stacy) & Christian (Jennifer) Jessel; her beloved grandchildren - Shanon, Marissa, Leyanah, Sarah (Kyle), Adam, Matthew, Grace, Ava, Leo, Garrett, and great granddaughter Jaydan. She is also survived by her siblings - Barbie (Marv) Summers & Dale (Cynthia) Davison. She was preceded in death by her parents and a sister.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday, August 25, 2024, at 3:00 PM at First Baptist Church Newnan, with fellowship & light refreshments to follow. All are welcome to attend and celebrate Brenda's life. In lieu of flowers, it would be appropriate for those who wish to memorialize her life to do so by a donation in her name made to General Daniel Newnan Chapter, NSDAR :: Daughters of the American Revolution (georgiastatedar.org); Georgia State Society - National Society United States Daughters of 1812 (usdaughters1812.org); About the SAR Foundation - Sons of the American Revolution Foundation. A repository will also be available for donations to the many and varied societies to which Brenda belonged.

Brenda will be deeply missed by all who knew her, and her legacy of kindness, generosity, smile and service to Christ will live on in the hearts of her family and friends. "The brightest stars are those that shine for the benefit of others."

Lynn and I had the privilege of working with Brenda while she was the National DAR SAR/S.R. Relations Chair, Lynn was the Georgia DAR SAR/S.R. Relations Chair and I was the Georgia SAR - DAR Liaison Chair. The picture below was from the Georgia DAR State Conference dinner on March 22, 2024 - taken with Georgia DAR State Regent Betty Brown Harrah.



At the Georgia SAR State Conference on January 26, 2024 - Friday Awards evening banquet
Brenda was one of the Four DAR Daughters presented with the SAR Daughters of Liberty Medal
by Georgia SAR President Dr. David Ludley.

National Chair DAR Relations with SAR & SR - Brenda Jessel (Oak Leaf Cluster)

Georgia DAR State Regent - Betty Brown Harrah

Georgia Chair DAR Relations with SAR & SR - Lynn Baxter Jacques (Oak Leaf Cluster)

Georgia DAR State Organizing Secretary - Kathleen "Kitty" Worrell Watters



The Daughters of Liberty Medal is the highest lady's medal and consideration in awarding this medal should be given only after the SAR Medal of Appreciation or the Martha Washington Medal has been presented.

It may be presented to a lady recommended by any officer of a Chapter, State or National Society, SAR in appreciation for her unselfish devotion, tireless efforts and assistance to the SAR, and who has dedicated her time, energy, ability and/or finances to the organization in support and furtherance of the stated objectives of the SAR.

Patriot Spotlight - Enoch and David Danforth

On **July 24, 1779** - The Battle of Castine began on Penobscot Bay in Maine.

Two of the Patriots of Button Gwinnett SAR Chapter members Scott, Robert and Gray Jacques were Enoch Danforth who was a sailor on the "Vengeance" and his son David who was a private in Col. Samuel McCobb's regiment.

The Penobscot Expedition was a 44-ship American naval armada during the Revolutionary War assembled by the Provincial Congress of the Province of Massachusetts Bay.

The flotilla of 19 warships and 25 support vessels sailed from Boston on July 19, 1779 for the upper Penobscot Bay in the District of Maine carrying an expeditionary force of more than 1,000 American colonial marines (not to be confused with the Continental Marines) and militiamen. Also included was a 100-man artillery detachment under the command of Lt. Colonel Paul Revere. *(Yes the same Paul Revere who was a member of the Boston Tea Party and the Alarm of April 19, 1775).*

The Expedition's goal was to reclaim control of mid-coast Maine from the British who had captured it a month earlier, naming the newly British territory New Ireland. It was the largest American naval expedition of the war.

The fighting took place on land and at sea around the mouth of the Penobscot and Bagaduce Rivers at Castine, Maine over a period of three weeks in July and August 1779.

The Expedition was the United States' worst naval defeat until Pearl Harbor 162 years later, in 1941.



Castine Maine is located less than 20 miles from where Lynn Baxter & Tom Jacques grew up in Verona Island and Bucksport respectively. Lynn also had a Patriot Ancestor John Gilkey who was held as a prisoner of war in Castine during the American Revolution.

Both of these Patriots are ancestors of Philadelphia Winn DAR Chapter, Honorary Regent, Lynn Baxter Jacques.



DANFORTH, ENOCH. Mariner, ship "Vengeance," commanded by Capt. Thomas Thomas; engaged June 27, 1779; discharged Aug. 27, 1779; service, 2 mos., on Penobscot expedition. Roll sworn to in Suffolk Co.

DANFORD, DAVID. Private, Capt. Benjamin Lemont's co., Col. Samuel McCobb's regt.; enlisted July 9, 1779; discharged Sept. 24, 1779; service, 2 mos. 15 days, at Penobscot.

I recently added articles on Patriot Ancestors related to Battles that they participated in during the current calendar month. June was related to the Battle of Bunker Hill and July is related to the Battle of Castine or the Penobscot Expedition.

If you would like to present an article for your patriot ancestor please contact editor Tom Jacques.

Lynn found a very nice location for my Past President's gift from the Button Gwinnett SAR Chapter in our front entry hall. It is immediately seen by anyone entering our home.

