



# The Piedmont Piper

bi-monthly newsletter for the Piedmont Chapter of the  
Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution

Edition CXXXVII (137th Issue)

[www.PiedmontChapter.org](http://www.PiedmontChapter.org)

Sept 2017

## Message From Piedmont Chapter President Rick Reese



As a young boy my family often vacationed in the summer in North Carolina. One year we had rented a house on the beach in Nags Head. It was always fun to play in the sand with my sister, my cousins, and my dog when we went to the beach. That year was like many others, except that mid-week we were alerted to the approaching of hurricane Barbara (1953). Since the house was on the beach and rather old, our family evacuated to the nearby inland town of Manteo, NC late at night.. The next morning we

*Continued on page 2*

## In This Issue

- Old Soldiers Day Parade
- Chapter Meeting Highlights
- Eagle Scout Recognition
- Thomas J. Bond, Jr Award
- Color Guard Activities and Schedule
- The Storm that saved Washington
- In Memoriam

## Old Soldiers Day Parade – August 5th 2017



On Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup> Alpharetta held its 65<sup>th</sup> annual Old Soldiers Day parade. The Piedmont Chapter SAR sponsored a float representing the Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution. The Georgia SAR Color Guard presented the colors and led the parade. Marching color guard members included NSSAR President General **Larry Guzy**, Mount Vernon Chapter President **Shep Hammack** and chapter member **David Wiley**, Coweta Falls member **Dan McMichael** in militia garb and his grandson dressed as a drummer. Piedmont Chapter member **John Mortison** played his bagpipes at the opening ceremony to begin the parade. The Piedmont Chapter float was manned by chapter members **George Thurmond**, **Rick Reese**, with Mount Vernon Chapter member **Bob McCleskey** and Robert Forsyth Chapter member **Chris Russo**, who passed out candy to the assembled crowd of adults and children along the parade route.



## The Old Soldiers Day Celebration

An Historical event is celebrated on the first Saturday of August in Alpharetta, Georgia, known as Old Soldiers Day. This is sponsored by The **American Legion, Department of Georgia, Post #201**, Alpharetta. Present day veterans are privileged to participate in and carry on the heritage established by old soldiers.



### Message From Piedmont Chapter President Rick Reese

all left the hotel rooms and went outside to look for an open restaurant for breakfast. We were greeted with a street and sidewalk covered in water, row boats traveled up and down the street as we walked through the water toward a local restaurant. We finally found one that was open. As the restaurant door was opened water went in with us, and we found the floor was ankle deep in water as well. We ordered breakfast from what must have been a somewhat limited menu. For a seven year old boy this seemed like a big adventure to me, and all very exciting. Over the years I have experienced many more hurricanes. Some were very powerful, and some were not so bad. As an example, my Marine Corps Reserve unit was called on to assist with cleanup efforts after hurricane Agnes in 1972. In the Baltimore neighborhood we went to clean up, most of the homes were one story dwellings. You could see the water marks on the outside walls almost up to the roof line. The most striking image I saw was a concrete in-ground pool that had been lifted out of the earth and was leaning against a tree in tact..I learned to respect the power of such storms, and leave the area when advised to do so.



**Kile Lewis** won the drawing this week. Kile won David McCullough's Book 1776. Congratulations Kile, and welcome to the Piedmont Chapter! Our next winner could be YOU, attend our next meeting and you are automatically entered to win, as well as our FREE meeting drawing. See page 8 for our next meeting details!

## Piedmont Chapter Meeting Highlights

Saturday July 15th, 2017

After the social hour and breakfast, President **Rick Reese** called the meeting to order at 8:30. Chapter Chaplain Bob Allgood led the invocation and Sergeant-at Arms **John Wassell** led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance as well as the Pledge to the SAR.

The honorable **Maurice Hilliard, Jr.** who in addition to serving as a Judge of the Roswell Municipal Court, was a the first full-time lawyer in Roswell, having started practice 1961. Judge Hilliard brought to the podium a very thick and heavy book, which contained, in one volume, the official Code of Georgia, 1911. He gave a very informative presentation on the Rule of Law, tracing the American system all the way back through the Magna Carta to the Ten Commandments.



Vice President **Ron Redner** presented Judge Hilliard with a Certificate of Appreciation.

### INDUCTIONS



President **Rick Reese** inducted **Kile Lewis** and his sons **Salter** and **Burke** (left), as well as **John Jenness** (son of compatriot **Jamie Ruff**) (below) as our newest members. Please welcome them to the Piedmont Chapter.





## Piedmont Chapter Meeting Highlights

Saturday Aug 19th, 2017



After the social hour and breakfast, President **Rick Reese** called the meeting to order at 8:30. Chapter Chaplain Bob Allgood led the invocation and Sergeant-at Arms **John Wassell** led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance as well as the Pledge to the SAR. After the recognition of guests by President Reese, Compatriot **Jim McIntire** spoke the membership about our dialects, "Sounds of Home" and how they define our culture.



Compatriot Bob Sapp was presented with a Supplemental Ancestor Certificate for his ancestor David Bowen.



A new member was inducted by phone by President **Rick Reese**, Joseph Copp was inducted over the phone on Sunday July, 30th. Compatriot Joseph Copp is currently studying at a seminary in Minnesota.

At the last chapter meeting we had a book drawing, for "To Try Men's Souls" by Newt Gingrich and William R. Forstchen. Be sure to come to our September meeting to try your luck next month to win a book.

**ANNOUNCEMENT:** Grave marking for Patriot Roswell King on October 14 at 11 am at the Founders Cemetery in Roswell.

### Piedmont Color Guard Schedule

Sept 16 (S) GSSDAR Constitution Week Luncheon, Atlanta,  
 Sept 16 (N) Vigil at Washington's Tomb, Mt. Vernon, VA  
 Sept 18 (S) William Few Commemoration, St. Paul's Church,  
 Augusta, GA  
 Sept 23 (S) GSSDAR Constitution Week Luncheon, Atlanta  
 Sept 24 (S) Mrs. J. Ralph Hampton grave marking  
 Sept 28-30 (N) NSSAR Fall Leadership, Louisville, KY  
 Oct 6 (S) Fisher Craft Grave Marking, Decatur City Cemetery  
 Oct 6 (N) South Atlantic District Meeting, Spartanburg, S.C  
 Oct 7 (S) Kings Mountain, Blacksburg, SC  
 Oct 7-8 Winn House Fair, Lawrenceville, GA  
 Oct 9 (S) Siege of Savannah

Oct 14 (P) Patriot Roswell King Grave Marking Roswell, GA  
 Oct 21 (P) Piedmont Chapter Meeting Adult Rec Center  
 Oct 28 (S) BOM Meeting Barnesville, GA 10:00 hrs  
 Oct 29 (S) Patriot Leonard Wills Grave Marking Mt. Moriah  
 Baptist Church, Dallas, Ga.  
 Nov 04 (S) Grave marking for Patriot Elisha Hearn sponsored  
 by the Casimir Pulaski Chapter, Putnam Co. 1100 hrs  
 Nov 11 Veterans Day Ceremony Watkinsville, GA 11AM  
 Nov 11 Veterans Day Ceremony Snellville, GA 6 PM  
 Nov 18 (P) Piedmont Chapter Meeting Adult Rec Center  
 Nov 18 (S) Fort Morris "Come and Take It!", Midway, GA  
 10am  
 Dec 02 (S) Battle of Vann's Creek, Elbert County, GA

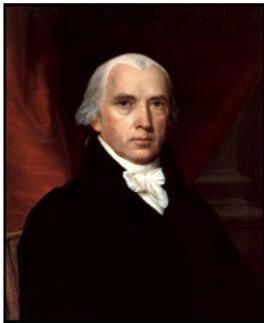


## The Storm that Saved Washington

Hurricanes have been in the news lately, Harvey and Irma have caused great destruction and loss of life. Hurricanes are a serious fact of life and are very dangerous. We all may know someone, who has been personally affected by the latest storms. In modern times we do have the ability to predict and issue warnings, giving us a fighting chance to save lives and secure property. That was not always the case. The first hurricane warning service was set up in the early 1870s from Cuba with the work of Father Benito Viñes, who served as director of the Meteorological Observatory of the Royal College of Belén. He established a network of observation sites and developed the first method to forecast tropical cyclone movement, with the oldest known forecast made for a hurricane in late August 1873. Imagine what it must have been like before 1873, not to have any idea these storms were on the way. Here is one example that might surprise you.



### The Burning of Washington, D.C.



President James Madison

The White House burned on August 25, 1814, the result of an attack by British forces during the War of 1812. It is the only time that the American capital was occupied by enemy forces. Less than a day after the attack began, a sudden very heavy thunderstorm—**possibly a hurricane**—put out the fires. It also spun off a **tornado** that passed through the center of the capital, setting down on Constitution Avenue and lifting two cannons before dropping them several yards away and killing British troops and American civilians alike. Following the storm, the British troops returned to their ships, many of which were badly damaged. There is some debate regarding the effect of this storm on the occupation. While some assert that the storm forced their retreat, it seems likely from their destructive and arsonous actions before the storm, and their written orders from Cochrane to "destroy and lay waste", that their intention was merely to raze the city, rather than occupy it for an extended period. Whatever the case, the British occupation of Washington lasted only about 26 hours. Despite this, the "*Storm that saved Washington*" as it became known, did the opposite according to some. The rains sizzled and cracked the already charred walls of the White House and ripped away at structures the British had no plans to destroy (such as the Patent Office). The storm may have exacerbated an already dire situation for Washington DC.

An encounter was noted between Sir George Cockburn 10th Baronet and a female resident of Washington. "Dear God! Is this the weather to which you are accustomed to in this infernal country?" enquired the Admiral. "This is a special interposition of Providence to drive our enemies from our city," the woman allegedly called out to Cockburn. "Not so, Madam," Cockburn retorted. "It is rather to aid your enemies in the destruction of your city", before riding off on horseback. Yet, the British left right after the storm completely unopposed by any American military forces.

The Royal Navy reported that it lost one man killed and six wounded in the attack, of whom the fatality and three of the wounded were from the Corps of Colonial Marines.

The destruction of the Capitol, including the Senate House and the House of Representatives, the Arsenal, Dockyard, Treasury, War Office, President's mansion, bridge over the Potomac, a frigate and a sloop.

A separate British force captured Alexandria, on the south side of the Potomac River, while Ross's troops were leaving Washington. The mayor of Alexandria made a deal and the British refrained from burning the town.

President Madison returned to Washington by September 1, on which date he issued a proclamation calling on citizens to defend the District of Columbia. Congress returned and assembled in special session on September 19. Due to the destruction of the Capitol and other public buildings, they initially met in the Post and Patent Office building. The thick sandstone walls of the White House and Capitol survived, although scarred with smoke and scorch marks.

The building took eight years to build and the first President to live in The White House was John Adams. The building remained as is until 1814, when it was burned during the War of 1812. After the fire, James Hoban, the original architect, was commissioned to lead the rebuilding of the White House and by 1817 the building had been rebuilt.



## Chapter Activities

### Eagle Scout Courts of Honor

President **Rick Reese Jr.** attended Eagle Scout Courts of Honor presenting Certificates of Recognition to those scouts who have reached the rank of Eagle. In addition each scout is encouraged to apply for the scholarship program offered by the SAR.



**Rishi Mocherla 7-10-2017 Troop 2000      Srikar Yendapally 09-10-17 Troop 3143**

National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) invites all Eagle Scouts (under 19 years of age) interested in the American Revolution to participate in the Arthur M. & Berdena King Eagle Scout Award. The contest is open to all Eagle Scouts who are currently registered in an active unit and have not reached their nineteenth birthday during the year of application (January 1 to December 31). While the preliminary rounds of the contest begin at the local level, Scouts may eventually advance to the state or national levels, eventually held in June during the annual SAR Congress, and awarded up to \$10,000.

Scouts may apply more than one year if he meets the age requirements, but no more than \$10,000 total may be granted to any one Eagle Scout. Prizes and recognition may also be awarded at the SAR chapter and society level. Each Eagle Scout must complete an application form, a four-generation ancestor chart, and a 500-word patriotic themed essay.

"Contest entrants need complete only one application for the SAR chapter-level competition."

For more information please refer to our chapter website [www.piedmontchapter.org](http://www.piedmontchapter.org)



**Noah Frederick Lange**, age 15 of Johns Creek, GA passed away Tuesday, July 18, 2017. This young man was a friend of our Piedmont Chapter who supported our flag retirement ceremonies in 2016 and 2017 by playing taps at those ceremonies. Noah was also a member of the Martha Stewart Bulloch Society Children of the American Revolution, serving as society Historian. His troop got permission to complete his Eagle Project allowing him to achieve the Eagle Rank posthumously. President **Rick Reese** presented his Eagle Recognition Certificate to his parents on September 5th at the Troop 10 Court of Honor.



### Chapter Activities *continued*



#### July 2nd, 2017 - "Honor Our Heroes" at the World Harvest Church

On this day, Georgia Color Guard members **Bill Kabel**, **Bob Sapp**, **George Thurmond**, and **Rick Reese, Jr.** presented the colors for two services honoring first responders and the heroes from all military branches at the World Harvest Church in Roswell. This is an event that our Color Guard has supported for many years.

### In memoriam

Mike Ruff (James M. Ruff, Sr.), father of our fellow Piedmont Member **Jamie Ruff**, of Loganville, Georgia, passed away on Saturday, August 19, 2017 at home. Mike was a valued member of the Button Gwinnett Chapter, and staunch supporter of the GASSAR Color Guard. The family plans to have him interred in the national cemetery in Dalton, and have a compatriot grave marking at that time. The thoughts and prayers of our entire chapter are with our friend and compatriot **Jamie Ruff** and his entire family.



Compatriots,

It is with deep sadness that I relay the message from **Chuck Rann** about the passing of his mother Georgia King Bruce Rann this morning at 94 years of age.

Please keep Chuck, his mother, and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Expressions of sympathy may be sent to:

Chuck Rann  
9757 Hightower Rd.  
Roswell, GA 30075-4102



## Piedmont Member wins Thomas J. Bond, Jr. Award

Congratulations to Frederic M. Reese, III (Rick), Piedmont Chapter editor of the Piedmont Piper newsletter, for his award winning photograph. The award was presented at the NSSAR Annual Congress this past July in Knoxville, TN.

### About the Award:

Thomas J. Bond, Jr., was a member of the District of Columbia Society, a former Registrar General, and a candidate for Secretary General at the time of his passing on May 29, 1997. During the 107th Congress, Mrs. Wilma M. Bond announced the establishment of the Thomas Jefferson Bond, Jr. Memorial Photographic Award. This award is to be presented each year on Recognition Night during the Annual Congress. It is designed to recognize and reward the Compatriot whose photographic entry is selected as most representative of patriotism. Judging the entries will be the Editor of the SAR Magazine, the Historian General, and the Chairman of the Historic Sites and Celebrations Committee.

### About Rick's Winning Photograph:

This is a picture of the Georgia Color Guard marching to the gravesites of the two Revolutionary War veterans buried at the Marietta (GA) National Cemetery. John Clark later became a Major General and Governor of Georgia. John Hames died at the age of 96 and was a private serving in South Carolina. The picture was taken by Compatriot Frederic Miller Reese, III on May 28, 2016 at the Scout Day ceremony to honor all veterans who served our country during all wars.



### EDITORS NOTE:

I am honored to have received the Thomas J. Bond, Jr. award, and happy to bring recognition to the Piedmont Chapter. It has been a great pleasure to be a part of the Piedmont Chapter, serving as editor and attending so many great and worthwhile activities in our community. I wish to take this opportunity thank all of my compatriots for the kind words and congratulatory emails I have received. A special thank you my father, and our Chapter President, **Rick Reese, Jr.** for his encouragement. I look forward to many more photographs and Pipers to share them in. - Rick Reese, III



# The Piedmont Piper

Rick Reese • Publisher | Rick Reese III • Editor/Photographer

This publication is the newsletter for the **Piedmont Chapter of the Georgia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution**. It is printed six times per year, January, March, May, July, September and November. It is distributed to current and prospective members of the chapter and to certain officers of the state and national organizations and to certain officials of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

The Piedmont Chapter serves communities of the northern suburbs of Atlanta, Georgia including Cobb, Cherokee and Northern Fulton County. Meetings are held monthly throughout the year on the third Saturday at 8:30 a.m. at the Roswell Adult Education Center 830 Grimes Bridge Road Roswell, Georgia. Most members choose to arrive by 8:00 a.m.

to enjoy breakfast together.

Prospective members are always welcome at monthly membership meetings. Men, eighteen years of age and older, who are interested in documenting their relationship to their American Revolutionary ancestors and in joining an active group with similar interests are urged to contact the **Chapter Registrar, Jamie Ruff 404.428.8040** or any other chapter officer.

## **DEADLINE FOR MATERIAL TO BE INCLUDED IN THE NEXT EDITION:**

The deadline for material for the next issue is **Nov 1st, 2017**. In addition to the material, please include a copy of any photos to be included. Please direct all inquires or suggestions regarding the Piedmont Piper to the editor Rick Reese III [rick@rickreese.com](mailto:rick@rickreese.com).

## **Upcoming Events**

### **Chapter meeting Saturday September 16, 2017**

Roswell Adult Recreation Center

830 Grimes Bridge Road

Roswell, GA

8 AM Breakfast—8:30 AM meeting

**Guest Speaker: GA State Senator John Albers**

**Topic: Our National Anthem**

### **Chapter meeting Saturday October 21, 2017**

Roswell Adult Recreation Center

830 Grimes Bridge Road

Roswell, GA

8:00 AM Breakfast, 8:30 AM Meeting

**Guest Speaker: Hank Freedman (veteran of WWII)**

**Topic: Military Highlights from WWII**

## ***2017 Officers of the Piedmont Chapter***

President, Frederic M. Reese, Jr. 9141 Branch Valley Way Roswell, GA 30076 Phone 847.778.9235 [RickReese68@att.net](mailto:RickReese68@att.net)  
Vice President, Ron Redner, 12291 King Road, Roswell, GA 30075 Phone 404.401.0204 [ronredner@renderad.com](mailto:ronredner@renderad.com)  
Secretary, Eric E. Thorstenberg 220 Enclave Court, Roswell, GA 30076 Phone: 770.740.9321 [eetesq@gmail.com](mailto:eetesq@gmail.com)  
Treasurer, Craig Benton, 4880 Hampton Lake Drive, Marietta, GA 30068 Phone 404.583.5196 [Krang1@comcast.net](mailto:Krang1@comcast.net)  
Chaplain, Bob Allgood, 545 Laurel Oaks Lane, Milton, GA 30004 Phone 678.393.8854 [boballgood@bellsouth.net](mailto:boballgood@bellsouth.net)  
Registrar, Jamie Ruff, 1205 Compass Pointe Crossing, Alpharetta, GA 30005 Phone 404.428.8040 [RuffJam@gmail.com](mailto:RuffJam@gmail.com)  
Editor, Frederic M. Reese, III. 9141 Branch Valley Way Roswell, GA 30076 Phone 678.404.7886 [Rick@rickreese.com](mailto:Rick@rickreese.com)  
Chancellor, Eric E. Thorstenberg 220 Enclave Court, Roswell, GA 30076 Phone: 770.740.9321 [eetesq@gmail.com](mailto:eetesq@gmail.com)  
Historian/ Librarian, Bill Lusk, 1355 Summit Rd. Milton, GA 30004 Phone 770-754-4428 [bill@luskco.com](mailto:bill@luskco.com)  
Sergeant-at-Arms, John Wassell, 285 Gatsby Place, Johns Creek, GA 30022 Phone 678.825.2881 [jobetwa@mindspring.com](mailto:jobetwa@mindspring.com)  
Webmaster, Charles R. Rann 9757 Hightower Road, Roswell, GA 30075 Phone 678.773.4721 [chuckrann@gmail.com](mailto:chuckrann@gmail.com)

**The Piedmont Piper**  
9141 Branch Valley Way  
Roswell, GA 30076

**First Class Mail**