



The Piedmont Piper EXPRESS

2025 Highlights of the Piedmont Chapter of the Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution

YOUTH AND EDUCATION

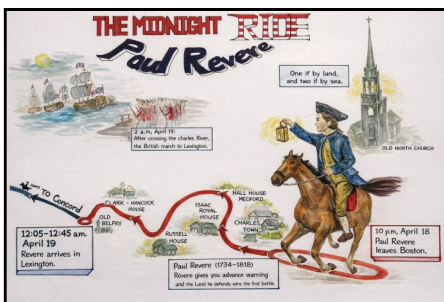
KNIGHT ESSAY CONTEST

On February 24, 2025, **Rick Reese, Jr.**, **Al Finley**, **Stacey McCarver**, presented certificates of achievement and check to Piedmont Chapter first-place winner of the Knight Essay Contest, **Geoffrey Zhu** of the Wesleyan School in Peachtree City Georgia.



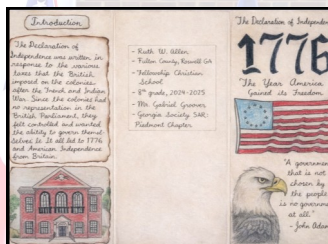
POSTER CONTEST

Our Chapter winner for the Poster contest is **Yewon Kang** of East Side Elementary School. This being year ending in an odd number means this years Theme is includes Revolutionary person or persons.



On March 24th, **Com-patriots Al Finley and Stacey McCarver** presented awards to the **1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners** from **East Side Elementary School** in Marietta, Georgia. Pictured from right to left: **1st Place – Yewon Kang**, **3rd Place – Sadie Smith**, and **2nd Place – Alexandra Munn**.

BROCHURE CONTEST



This year's winning brochure submission was entered by **Luke Allen**, an 8th-grade student from Fellowship Christian School. Second Place was awarded to **Samuel Camak**, and Third Place to **Emory Dodson**, also of Fellowship Christian School (Fulton County). A total of 83 brochure entries were received this year.

On March 21, 2025, **Rick Reese Jr.**, with **Craig Benton** and **Scott Chapel**, presented the **Traveling Trunk** program to the **4th grade class at Bethel Christian Academy in Marietta**. The hands-on presentation featured artifacts and materials, helping students better understand daily life during the American Revolution.



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JROTC

Members of the Piedmont Chapter proudly presented Bronze JROTC / NJROTC Medals to exceptional cadets at their annual high school awards ceremonies, recognizing leadership, military bearing, scholarship, and citizenship.



Edward Aceves-Islas
Bronze JROTC Medal —
Rick Reese, Jr. | Apr 25

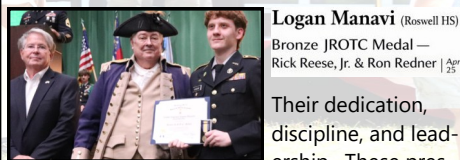


John Brennan
Bronze NJROTC Medal —
Stacey McCarver | Apr 25

The Piedmont Chapter SAR is honored to support and recognize these young men for



Michael Sagnari (Sprayberry HS)
Bronze NJROTC Medal —
Stacey McCarver | May 3



Logan Manavi (Roswell HS)
Bronze JROTC Medal —
Rick Reese, Jr. & Ron Redner | Apr 25

Their dedication, discipline, and leadership. These pres-

entations also serve as a reminder of the important role our chapter plays in encouraging the next generation of leaders through continued involvement in local schools and youth programs.

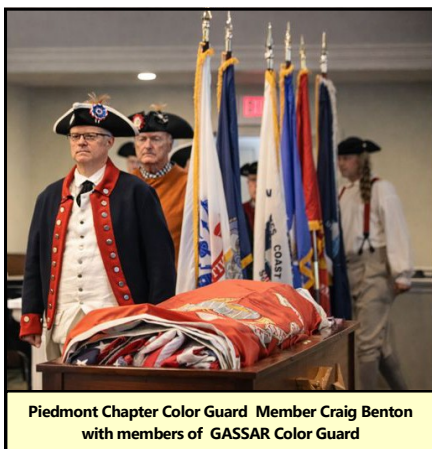
VETERANS ACTIVITIES



Chapter Members **Al Finley, Rob Ufford, Ron Redner**, Present the "Big Check" to the Atlanta VA

On December 5th 2025, the Piedmont Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution announced that it had raised \$18,200 in support of Atlanta-area veterans, with a special emphasis on women veterans served by the Atlanta VA Healthcare System. This fundraising total builds upon the Chapter's ongoing partnership with the Atlanta VA. Rob Ufford, Chairman of the Piedmont Chapter Veterans Committee, noted at the time that this donation marked the fourth consecutive year of coordinated support for Atlanta VA women veterans. He emphasized that the Chapter's veterans outreach program is rooted in both gratitude and action—honoring service not only through remembrance, but through tangible assistance that improves lives today.

FLAG RETIREMENT



Piedmont Chapter Color Guard Member Craig Benton with members of GASSAR Color Guard

On **June 14, 2025, Flag Day**, members of the **Piedmont Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution** joined with the **Robert Forsyth Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution** to conduct a solemn and dignified **United States Flag Retirement Ceremony** in **Cumming, Georgia**.

The ceremony was carried out with deep respect for the symbolism and sacrifice embodied in the American flag. **More than 4,000 U.S. flags**, collected throughout the year via dedicated flag-retirement boxes maintained by the **Piedmont Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution** and the **Robert Forsyth Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution**, were honorably and respectfully retired in accordance with the U.S. Flag Code.

ROSWELL REMEMBERS

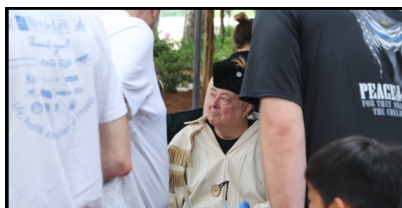
Each year, the **Piedmont Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution** participates in the "**Roswell**



Piedmont Chapter Color Guard Stacey McCarver, Craig Benton, Rick Reese III, Ron Redner

Remembers" Memorial Day program at Roswell City Hall, centered on the **Faces of War** memorial. Now in its 26th year, the event is one of the largest Memorial Day observances in the Southeast, drawing

thousands to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice.



Rick Reese, Jr. at the Piedmont Booth engaging the community members in attendance

The chapter staffs an educational booth featuring **Revolutionary War artifacts, 18th-century daily life**, and the stories of the patriots who fought for American independence, while also engaging visitors interested in tracing their Revolutionary War heritage and learning more about SAR membership.

LIBERTY TREE PROJECT AMERICA 250

As the nation approaches the **250th anniversary of American independence**, the **Piedmont Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution** continues to play a central role in the **NSSAR Liberty Tree Project**, a nationwide initiative to plant **250 Liberty Trees** by **July 4, 2026**.

The project is led nationally by **Compatriot Ron Redner, NSSAR Liberty Tree Chairman** and a proud member of the Piedmont Chapter. To date, **200 Liberty Trees** have been planted across the country. **Rick Reese Jr.** was instrumental in developing the Liberty Tree Project website, which tracks plantings nationwide and is now maintained by his son, **Rick Reese III**.



A recent highlight was the **Piedmont Chapter-sponsored Liberty Tree planting** at the **Jimmy Carter Presidential**

Center in Atlanta. This planting honors America's upcoming Semiquincentennial and recognizes President Jimmy Carter's legacy of public service.

WELCOME NEW PIEDMONT MEMBERS



From left to right: new inductees **Bob Bogel, Brian Van Jay Gundy, Ben Eskew, Larry Sabiston, Mark and Logan Broadway, Paul Eskew, Perry Windsor, Mathew Windsor and Mathew Hanley**. Please welcome these new compatriots to our chapter.

IN MEMORY OF RICK REESE JR. — OCT 22, 1946 • NOV 19, 2025

Lovingly submitted by his son Rick Reese, III



Rick Reese Jr. wore many hats, but at the heart of every role he filled was the same unwavering commitment to service, and education. An integral member of the **Piedmont Chapter**, the **Georgia Society**, and the **National Society**. **Rick's** impact reached far beyond titles or committees. He was, above all else, a good friend—one who always stepped forward to help, lead, and support others. Despite significant physical limitations later in life, **Rick** never allowed obstacles to define him. With the quiet determination of a Marine veteran, he persevered—showing up, following through, and giving his best wherever he was needed. His dedication was not performative; it was steadfast, practical, and deeply rooted in his belief that service to history and country mattered. **Rick** served the SAR at multiple levels with distinction, including: **GASSAR State Education Chair, Education Committee Chairman, Electronic Communications Committee Chairman, Past President**, Piedmont Chapter to name a few. His contributions to school programs, digital resources, and national commemorative initiatives—especially those tied to the upcoming 250th anniversary—will continue to benefit future generations of compatriots and students alike. **Rick** will be remembered just as much for his kindness, humility, and willingness to lend a hand. He was someone you could count on—whether the task was large or small, visible or behind the scenes. **Rick** leaves behind a legacy of perseverance, leadership, and quiet strength. He honored his service as a Marine veteran through a lifetime of continued dedication to education, patriotism, and community. His absence will be felt deeply, but his influence will endure in the programs he helped build and the people he inspired. He will be greatly missed—and gratefully remembered.