

# The Palmetto Patriot

Quarterly Newsmagazine

Fall 2025



South Carolina Society  
Sons of the American Revolution

Organized April 18, 1889



## 244th Anniversary Battle of Eutaw Springs

# From the President's Desk

**Mike Monahan**

## Younger Compatriots Eager to Get Involved

**By Mike Monahan  
SCSSAR President**

● Compatriots, it was my high honor to represent the South Carolina Society as your State President at the July National Congress in Connecticut. I attended meetings, and voted on proposals and amendments that will affect us all. I met other State Presidents and we elected a new President General and his staff of Officers. Overall, it was a very enjoyable and educational annual event.

● Our State Society is doing well as we have increased our membership to over 900 members. Many of these new Compatriots are younger and eager to get started on their SAR journey. Local Chapter Presidents, you must assign your new members to a Chapter Committee and train them on all facets of the SAR. If you need help, please contact me.

● Our local citizens are learning more about the approaching 250th Revolutionary War Anniversary, thus, they are seeking membership in the SAR as they embrace

their heritage. The leadership of the South Carolina Sons of the American Revolution must honor their desire by welcoming them



to our Chapters by inviting applicants to your local Chapter meetings.

● The Sons of the American Revolution honors our Patriot Ancestors when we do grave-marking ceremonies, battlefield commemorations, monument wreath-laying events, Chapter meetings with appropriate guest speakers, Color Guard members visually educating citizens, and by our attendance at local historical events.

● My fellow Compatriots, we have much to be proud of as members in the South Carolina Society Sons of the American Revolution.

Mike Monahan  
President, SCSSAR

**The Palmetto Patriot  
Quarterly Publication  
SCSSAR**

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**Next Board of Governors**  
Saturday, Oct. 11

**Visit the SCSSAR website at [SCSSAR.org](http://SCSSAR.org)**

**The deadline for the Winter Edition of *The Palmetto Patriot* is Nov. 17.**

# July 26 Board of Governors

At the summer SCSSAR BOG meeting July 26, President Mike Monahan and Senior Vice President Gary Blanpied presented several awards to those that were not presented earlier at our annual banquet.



Jim Closson (center) received the Liberty Medal, which is given to accomplished Registrars.



Joe Babb (center) awarded the leaders of four "250" projects a 250 coin. From left: Joe Glavitsch, Jim Closson, Babb, Mike Monahan and Grantham Wood (accepted by Coby Alexander).

Jim Closson's project included planting a Liberty Tree after restoration of the grounds at a site in Jasper County.

Mike Monahan and his wife Ann had an SAR/DAR project to install two concrete 250-benches in the town of Beaufort.

Grantham Wood's is a million dollar project to rehabilitate a Colonial house in Marmut Grove.

Joe Glavitsch's project received a grant for \$50,000 to build a monument to recognize a woman named Dicey Langston during the American Revolution who supported the Militia near Travelers Rest SC.



James Wyrosdick (left) received a Certificate of Appreciation for his service as the Vice President General of the South Atlantic District of the NSSAR.



Chip Griffin (center) was awarded four medals, Silver Good Citizenship Medal, State Henry Knox Achievement Medal (Silver), State Roger Sherman Medal (Silver), and the Bronze Color Guard Medal.



David Smith (center) received an Oak Cluster for his continued devotion to the C.A.R.



250 Coin

The Board of Governors passed a resolution to have the banquet and annual meeting for the next three years at the Hilton Garden Inn, 8910 Farrow Rd., Columbia, South Carolina, 29203.

April 17, 2026 is the Banquet, and April 18, 2026 is the Annual Meeting.

The next two will be April 16-17, 2027 and April 7-8, 2028.



## Join us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SCSSAR/>



# 2025 Annual Congress



SCSSAR Members at Congress (from left): Jim and Jo Wyrosdick; Bill and Donna Allgood; Mike and Ann Monahan; Miles and Joann Montgomery; and TRex and April Legler.



SCSSAR President Mike Monahan.

*Congratulations to the Henry Laurens Chapter for placing 17th nationally for the President General's Streamer for 2024. The chapter met all requirements for the Americanism report placing 47th overall.*

**Pete Widell**

## The Hand of God

**From The American Patriot's Daily Almanac by Bill Bennett and John T.E. Cribb  
The Battle of Long Island**

August 27, 1776, brought one of the largest battles of the Revolutionary War, the Battle of Long Island, involving more than 40,000 men. It was not a good outcome for the Patriots. Marching through the night, the British took the Americans by surprise and overwhelmed most of their lines. George Washington, watching the enemy cut down his men, cried out, "What brave fellows I must this day lose!"

*Only grim resistance by Maryland and Delaware troops avoided a complete rout. "If a good bleeding can bring those Bible-faced Yankees to their senses, the fever of independence should soon abate," one British officer predicted.*

The Americans retreated to Brooklyn Heights, where they sat on the verge of disaster. Washington realized that he must somehow get his men off Long Island.

British warships were prepared to sail up the East River, which lay between Long Island and Manhattan, to cut off any retreat. Fortunately for the Patriots, winds kept the ships out of the river, but Washington realized that it was only a matter of time before he was trapped.

The general ordered a search for all available boats. On the night of August 29, under cover of rain, oarsmen began ferrying the army across the East River. One Connecticut officer remembered making eleven trips across the river that night, carrying men to safety. The troops hurried in strict silence—if discovered in retreat, the Patriot force would be annihilated.

*Only a portion of the army had crossed by daybreak. A heavy fog settled over Brooklyn, concealing the American movement. When it lifted, the stunned British realized that more than 9,000 men had slipped out of their grasp. The bruised Patriot army would live to fight another*

- NSSAR Officers**
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Archives of past copies of *The Palmetto Patriot* are on the Godfrey Dreher chapter website at [www.herritage.com/gdc](http://www.herritage.com/gdc)

# 2025 Annual Congress

The National Society  
of the  
Sons of the American Revolution®



Palmetto Patriot, South Carolina SAR  
Thomas C. Hanson, Sr., Editor

has been awarded the

**Grahame T. Smallwood, Jr. Award**

to the State Society of 500 or more members

with the best news publication with more than 10 pages

2024 – 2025



135<sup>th</sup> Congress  
Uncasville, Connecticut  
July 15, 2025

Date

*Darryl S. Addington*

Darryl S. Addington, President General

**The deadline for the Winter Edition  
of *The Palmetto Patriot* is Nov. 17.**

## 2025 COLONIAL BALL

Hear ye! Hear ye! We are excited to announce that your Society's 2025 Colonial Ball with debutante presentation will be held on Saturday, December 20, in the Carolina Ballroom, at The Francis Marion Hotel (387 King Street, Charleston, SC).

A prospective debutante must be 17 years of age by the time of the Ball (there is no upper age limit at this time). It is not too early to talk to your daughters, granddaughters, and nieces about your Society's

wonderful opportunity for the distinguished young ladies in your family. Arrangements are being formalized and information will be forthcoming. In the meantime, if you have any questions or would like an application for debutante presentation, you may contact myself or my staff.

The recognition the young ladies will receive at our Society's Colonial Ball will be something they, as well as yourself, will always remember. The elegant affair will

be held in the beautiful downtown area of Charleston, South Carolina, during the holiday season — while the City is bedecked with Christmas decorations.

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# 245th Anniversary Battle of Camden

**By John Goodwin  
President  
Joseph Kershaw Chapter**

On Saturday, Aug. 16, the Camden community gathered to honor history and remembrance through two meaningful events: the 245th Anniversary of the Battle of Camden and a wreath-laying ceremony for the Unknown Soldiers at Quaker Cemetery, known as the Camden 12.

The events were jointly sponsored by the Hobkirk Hill Chapter NSDAR, Joseph Kershaw Chapter NSDAR, the Historic Camden Foundation, and the Col. Joseph Kershaw Chapter SCSAR, reflecting the shared commitment of these organizations to preserve and honor the legacy of our nation's past.

Each ceremony was well attended, with over 70 participants present and 28 wreath presenters representing patriotic, civic, and heritage organizations. Their presence underscored the deep respect held for those who gave their lives in the cause of American independence.

Following the observances, Historic Camden graciously hosted a reception at the McCaa's Tavern, where guests enjoyed heavy appetizers prepared by Chef Justin Cherry. The fellowship provided an opportunity for attendees to reflect on the day's significance and connect with others dedicated to remembering the sacrifices that shaped our freedom.

Together, these commemorations not only honored the fallen but also reminded us of the enduring importance of preserving and telling the stories of America's earliest struggles for liberty.



**Photos by John Goodwin**

# 245th Anniversary Battle of Camden

Photos by Gary Blanpied

Camden Battlefield and the gravesite of the Camden 12 in the Presbyterian Cemetery next to the Quaker Cemetery in Camden.



From left: Scott Bruton, Hal Gonzales, Larry Gamble, John Goodwin, Lee Herron, Don Blazemore, Ted Walker, Steve Burke and Chip Griffin.



From left: Scott Bruton, State Color Guard Commander, Paul Cashion, Larry Gamble and Hal Gonzales.



Major General Julian Burns (ret), master of ceremonies, at 2024 event.



Gary and Deborah Blanpied



SC DAR chapter members, SCSSAR members and Brier Creek Skunk Brigade at gravesite of the Camden 12 in the Presbyterian Cemetery.

# 245th Anniversary Battle of Camden

Photos by Gary and Deborah Blanpied

Camden Battlefield and the gravesite of the Camden 12 in the Presbyterian Cemetery next to the Quaker Cemetery in Camden.



Stacey Ferguson and son fire cannon.



From left: Carolyn Nations, SC NSDAR 250 Chair, Scott Bruton, Color Guard Commander, SCSSAR, Gary Blanpied, Senior Vice President SCSSAR, Deborah Blanpied, and Skunk Brigade: Steve Burke, Lee Herron, Ted Walker and Don Blazemore.



Gary Blanpied, SCSSAR Senior Vice President.



Stacey Ferguson



Lee Herron



South Carolina and Georgia SAR mixed militia musket salute



South Carolina and Georgia SAR militia and Skunk Brigade and William Stroud Society C.A.R. members Briley and Tristan Walker

# Battle of Musgrove Mill: 245th Comemoration

By David Smith

Early on the Saturday morning of August 19, 1780, around 200 mounted Patriots arrived at the Enoree River near Musgrove Mill on what is now the Laurens and Spartanburg County line. These Patriot forces were Georgians under Col. Elijah Clarke, "Over Mountain Men" from Tennessee under Col. Isaac Shelby, and South Carolinians commanded by Col. James Williams. The ensuing conflict against a Tory garrison of more than 500 men saw heavy losses among the Loyalists, and few casualties in the Patriot ranks. This was a Patriot win.

Three days before this battle, Patriot Gen. Horatio Gates had been totally defeated by Gen. Charles Cornwallis in Camden, and just the day before, British Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton defeated Patriot Thomas Sumter at Fishing Creek. The British were unstoppable, or so they thought. This battle at Musgrove Mill was the turning point in bolstering the confidence of the Patriot Militia. From here, the militia rallied and Patriots saw victories at Kings Mountain, Blackstock's Farm, and Cowpens.

The General James Williams Chapter joined with the Battle of Musgrove Mill State Historic Site to host the 245th anniversary commemoration of this Patriot victory. On Saturday, Aug. 23, more than 40 people gathered to pay their respects at an event where Joseph Smith of the General James Williams Society was master of ceremonies. Greetings and remarks were given by Gary Blanpied, SC SAR Senior Vice President, and Ranger Dawn Weaver, Park Manager.

Historian Mark Stanford, Interpretive Ranger for the Battle of Musgrove Mill State Historic Site, spoke on the plans to

fully renovate the Visitors Center interior including incorporation of multiple fully interactive digital displays to bring visitors face-to-face with the 1780s battle. After the commemoration, Stanford gave a 45 minute lecture at the Visitors Center that covered events leading to the battle and the battle itself.

The commemoration concluded with a three volley musket salute by the SC SAR Color Guard followed by refreshments on the Visitor Center's porch and Ranger Stanford's presentation.



Joseph Smith, master of ceremonies.

Photos by Gary Blanpied



Chip Griffin, Midlands Vice President



Rick Morris, Piedmont Vice President



Ranger Dawn Weaver greets attendees.



From left: Paul Cashion, John Ingle, a Past President of the Daniel Morgan Chapter, Pete Widell and Scott Bruton, State Color Guard Commander.



Ranger Mark Stanford, speaker at the wreath laying and on the porch

# Battle of Musgrove Mill



Musket volley.



From left: Dawn Dale, Suzanne Clement and Kathryn Smith. Back row: Dan Woodruff, Scott Bruton, Joe Glavitsch and Will Wise.

## *Patriot ancestor of Ivan Bennett*

# Grave of Col. Antipas Gilman 1730-1801

Col. Antipas Gilman 1730-1801  
Smith Meeting House Cemetery  
Gilmanton New Hampshire  
Date of Visit August 2025



Ivan Bennett  
Past  
President Dr. George Mosse  
Vice President Gov. Paul Hamilton  
SC SAR Chair Education



# Grave marking for John King: Washington Life Guard

**Philip L. Andrew**  
**Secretary**

**Col. Robert Anderson Chapter**

PACOLET — On Saturday, June 14, in a peaceful wooded cemetery in Pacolet, South Carolina, adjacent to the grounds of the Spartanburg Gun Club, the Col. Robert Anderson Chapter held a dedication ceremony for the grave marking of John King, a Washington Life Guard.

Coincidentally yet appropriately, this day was also Flag Day, and, further, the 250th anniversary of the US Army. Previously, in the summer of 2024, the chapter had marked this grave with an SAR marker. The subsequent dedication ceremony was delayed by Hurricane Helene last September.

A total of 32 people made the half-mile trek through the woods to the desolate cemetery. Several direct descendants of John King were in attendance, including Robert Anthony, Elliott Fletcher, Sara Sealy, Karyn Bland, Carrie Walters, Judy Burn, LeighAnn King Moon, and Gina Wade.

Attending SAR dignitaries included John Boyd, SCSSAR Low Country Vice President and C.A.R. Senior State President, Ralph Welton, SCSSAR State Chairman, Patriot Grave Committee, and Tom Hanson, editor of the SCSSAR *Palmetto Patriot*.

The Kate Berry chapter of the DAR was also represented. Lastly, Milan Campbell, President of Spartanburg Gun Club, and Ginger Davis, President of the Spartanburg County Historical Association, attended, as

well as eight members of the Robert Anderson Chapter.

A chapter color guard manned by compatriots Glenn Farrow and Philip Andrew, was augmented by South Carolina Independent Rangers Robert Hall and Daniel Fowler. The invocation was provided by compatriot Tom Hanson. The Pledge of Allegiance to the US flag was led by chapter Vice President Tom Perry, and the SAR pledge was led by chapter Registrar David Bennett. A video of the dedication, courtesy of Tom Hanson, may be found here: <https://vimeo.com/1093380049?p=0s>

The Life Guards were more similar to our current Special Forces as compared to the Secret Service. Their primary responsibility was the protection of General George Washington. Details on John King's military service, and how he as a Virginian came to reside on the 280 acre farm where he continues to rest today, may be found on page 15 of the Fall 2024 issue of *The Palmetto Patriot*.

The Col. Robert Anderson Chapter appreciates each of the attendees who took time to remember Patriot John King, and in doing so made this event a notable success.

A short history of the Life Guards, courtesy of compatriot David Bennett, follows:

The Second Continental Congress created the Continental Army June 14, 1775. George Washington was appointed as general and commander-in-chief the following day. Enlistments in this first army expired at the end of 1775, and in 1776 a newly organized Continental Army was created by

George Washington and the Congress.

On March 11, 1776, Gen. George Washington issued a general order to colonels and commanding officers of regiments in the army, directing them to put forward four selectees each. These men would form Washington's personal guard. The unit was officially called the Commander-in-Chief's Guard, but today it is more commonly referred to as Washington's Life Guard.

Historical records show that the unit was also known as His Excellency's Guard, The General's Guard, and Washington's Body Guards. Washington himself is said to have referred to the soldiers as "My Guards." Most stories associated with this cadre simply use the name "Life Guard."

The uniform for members of the Life Guard consisted of a blue coat with white facings over a white waistcoat and breeches, as well as black half gaiters and a cocked hat with a blue and white feather.

On the type of men that Washington wanted to serve in the Life Guard, his orders were clear, specifying that they be "between five feet, eight inches and five feet, ten inches tall," "handsomely and well made," and "sober, intelligent, and reliable."

Those who served in the Life Guard had many different responsibilities. The infantry of the Guard was tasked with ensuring the safety of the commander-in-chief, protecting his papers and personal effects, and guarding army headquarters. The Life Guard also included a cavalry division that accompanied Washington in his marches, served as scouting patrols, and delivered the general's orders to various military posts.

In time, the Life Guard would come to be recognized as prime representatives of the ideal military standard. In the spring of 1778, Baron Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben, who had risen through the ranks of the Prussian army before joining the war effort in America, was so impressed with the professionalism and military standards of the Life Guard that he selected the corps as the demonstration unit for the Continental Army. Members were trained in von Steuben's methods and principles of drill, which were then demonstrated to various other units of the army.

The Life Guard would participate in



Photos by David Bennett

Watch video by Tom Hanson

<https://vimeo.com/1093380049?p=0s>

numerous engagements as light infantry attached to larger military units. Soldiers of the Life Guard fought in the Battle of White Plains and were part of Gen. Washington's strategic withdrawal across New Jersey. During the defense of Barren Hill in 1778, they formed part of the light infantry under the command of the Marquis de Lafayette. Life Guard members were also among those who stormed the last two remaining British-held redoubts at the siege of Yorktown.

The Life Guard was furloughed on June 6, 1783, but was assigned one final mission on the ninth of November of that year, that being to escort six baggage wagons back to Washington's Mount Vernon home. The wagons contained Washington's belongings as well as official records of the war. After the wagons were successfully delivered in December, the Life Guard was disbanded, along with the rest of the Continental Army.



Tom Hanson (right), *Palmetto Patriot* editor, delivers prayer, with Chapter President Joseph Glavitsch at left.



Descendants of John King at King's grave marker.



Color guard manned by compatriots Philip Andrew and Glenn Farrow (center) augmented by South Carolina Independent Rangers Robert Hall (left) and Daniel Fowler (right).



Robert Anthony (left), great-grandson of John King, shares King's history.

# General Thomas Sumter Commemoration

By Lt. Col. Larry Gamble USAF Ret.  
President

Col. Matthew Singleton Chapter

August 2

This year marks the 291st birthday of General Thomas Sumter.

I'll share some highlights of his life. He passed at age 98. He led a full life as a citizen soldier and statesman. A smart man, as demonstrated by his quick learning ability with an informal education, General Sumter's experiences shaped his character. He can easily be described as a hardworking man who built a prosperous estate that served the back country, and when military duty called, he answered.

A civic minded patriot, he would begin his service as a representative of the people before the war and would continue this public service until 1810.

Born in Virginia, he spent his early years learning to run his father's mill and raise farm animals. You could say his early education was practical and experience-based. Yet, it served him well, and today we'd call him a "lifelong learner."

He got his start in military, about age 20, when he enlisted in Colonel George Washington's Virginia Militia as a soldier fighting in the French and Indian War. He rose to the rank of Sergeant and fought with the British at Fort Duquesne in what is now Pittsburgh.

After the war and because of his good rapport with the Cherokee leaders, he was asked to accompany their treaty delegation to London. There, he acted as an official escort and interpreter when they got meet King George III.

Upon returning to his home in Virginia, he was arrested for a debt that lapsed while he was away on government business. In his time, people went to Debtors Prison for their unpaid obligations.

With a bribe of a guard, he was able to escape and headed south. Settling on the High Hills of the Santee River, he established a crossroads mercantile business with a trading store serving travelers and farmers in the area. He used his earnings to buy land and rose to the ranks of the Planter Class.

Eventually, he married a widow and moved to her plantation in present day Clarendon County. There he took over operation of the plantation while he continued the mercantile business with the trading stores, plus built a sawmill, and a grist mill to serve the area.

Respected and well liked, he was made a Justice of the Peace in 1766.

Fast forward to the Revolutionary War, General Sumter again answered the call to serve. As a wealthy landowner, he had the means and the ability to raise troops and provision them.

This earned certain privileges in that time, as field grade commissions were bestowed or bought while company grade officers were elected from the ranks by their troops. He would exercise that option later.

As tensions grew in the Colonies, Thomas Sumter was an elected delegate to South Carolina's First Provisional Congress in January 1775, continued in the role with the Second Provisional Congress in June 1775, and continued to serve his district throughout the War and afterward in South Carolina's Colonial legislature.

In April 1775, after the battles of Lexington and Concord occurred, South Carolina's Colonial leaders acted to boost their ability to organize, muster, and deploy their militia volunteers. Thomas Sumter was appointed to the Council of Safety, which acted as an executive branch established to manage the military affairs of the colony. On November 18, 1775, the Second Provincial Congress resolved "that every company of militia throughout the colony should be assembled, mustered, trained, and exercised once a fortnight."

As a delegate to the Provincial Congress and Committee of Safety member, Sumter was promoted to the rank of Captain in the South Carolina militia.

By December 1775, the American Cause was a full-on revolution for independence, and South Carolina's Patriot leaders sought to disrupt the Loyalist recruiting plans and sent an army of 3,000 militiamen to attack their recruiting centers. However, December 1775 was brutally cold in South Carolina with periods of heavy snow fall, hence the aptly named "The Snow Campaign."

During this deployment, Captain Sumter served under Colonel Richard Richardson as his Aide-de-Camp in what was a mostly effective operation to capture Loyalist leaders. A key result was that it solidified Patriot control over the backcountry.



[Photos by Christine Gonzales]

In February 1776, Captain Sumter raised his own militia infantry force at Stateburg. In June, his company was incorporated into the Continental Army at Charleston, and he was elected Lieutenant Colonel of the 2nd Regiment of the South Carolina Line, then promoted to Colonel. With his riflemen, now Colonel Sumter and his regiment were posted in Charleston protecting the "neck of the Charleston peninsula." They were ready if the British tried to make an advance from either river. But the British invasion force of General Charles Cornwallis was repelled at Sullivan's Island on June 28, 1776. Sumter and his men saw no action and the British sailed away.

Sensing a lack of continued military activity in the near future, Sumter resigned his commission and returned to operating the plantation and his mills.

However, this would change.

In 1779, General Cornwallis and the British forces were on the move again in the South. The Patriot militia managed some early wins against well-trained British regulars and Loyalists, but the tides were changing.

The British won at Stono Ferry in June 1779 and took Savannah in October.

Then, in March 1780, they laid siege to Charleston plus sent excursion forces to take Moncks Corner and Lenud's Ferry, all before Charleston fell on May 12, 1780. South Carolina committed over 5,400 men to protect Charleston, but the British brought over 13,000 soldiers and sailors to the squash the Colonial rebellion. Forced to an unconditional surrender, all the Patriots were taken prisoner and over 200 were either wounded or killed. South Carolina lost the equivalent of an army in this attempt to save Charleston.

# General Thomas Sumter Commemoration

With Charleston taken, the British were confident they had broken the South Carolina Colonists. At this point, the British started moving to the Upstate to divide the colony, looking for a quick end to the war. As they moved north, British forces led by Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton raided Sumter's Plantation and burned his home.

Taking the loss of his home personally, this increased Sumter's resolve to fight.

Colonel Sumter again organized local militia volunteers to form "Sumter's Brigade" of backcountry partisans. His troops informally referred to him as their general, not realizing the situation in South Carolina was bleak.

With the equivalent of an entire Army lost with the fall of Charleston in May, followed by another devastating loss at Camden in August, "Sumter's Brigade" was the only operational militia fighting force left to counter the British. In fact, most of the state's militia brigades disbanded or at best, needed time to reorganize and recruit their own replacements.

The reality was clear, the Patriots needed more mobile units, meaning horseback, instead of footman, the militia "infantries-a-foot" were out-matched against well trained British regulars.

The answer was seen in Light Dragoon forces or mounted infantry.

Undaunted, Colonel Sumter took his militia forces, the SC 1st Brigade, north to capture badly needed supplies and disrupt British operations when practical.

Sumter found his first encounter at Hanging Rock. There he defeated a larger combined force of Loyalist and British regulars to capture much needed supplies and disrupt British communications to Charleston.



Scott Bruton, South Carolina Color Guard Commander (right) and Chip Griffin, Midlands Vice President.



Scott Bruton (left), South Carolina Color Guard Commander, and Chip Griffin, Midlands Vice President.

On August 18 at Fishing Creek, Sumter was surprised, and he got routed by a smaller force commanded by Tarleton. The result was heavy casualties and the loss of his prisoners and the supplies acquired at Hanging Rock.

November 9, Sumter defeated a surprise attack by Major James Wemyss at Fishdam Ford near the Broad River. This small victory provided a needed boost to Patriot morale and helped cement Sumter's reputation as a quick thinking tactical leader.

On Nov. 20, 1780, Sumter was commanding 1,000 militia when they engaged a superior force of 500 British infantry regulars led by Maj. John Money and augmenting the cavalry and commanded by Tarleton. This resulted in an hours-long battle, at Blackstock's Plantation. Sumter strategically placed his troops in effective, defensive fighting positions around the plantation. The result was significant losses for the British and ultimately forced Tarleton to retreat.

It was during this battle, Sumter was severely wounded, taking six musket balls to his torso and needing one removed from his shoulder. Despite his own injuries, he continued commanding his outmatched forces. The result was his militia fighting and checking Tarleton then turning the tables to deal Tarleton's Legion its first defeat of the war.

Officially promoted to Brigadier General in January of 1781, Sumter was still out of the fight recovering until February. Gov. John Rutledge authorized him to reorganize his militia to include six new regiments of State Dragoons.

In March 1781, anxious to return to the fight, he would lead his troops at Fort Granby, Manigault's Ferry, and Fort Watson.

In May, his forces would capture the British garrison at Orangeburg. In Septem-

ber, his troops would fight at the decisive Battle of Eutaw Springs.

Thomas Sumter earned his nickname "The Gamecock" because of his determination, boldness, and aggressive tactics. His battlefield leadership style reflected the tenacity of those fighting rosters known as Gamecocks.

Some historians question General Sumter's legacy as a tactician and commander, claiming his ego was a hinderance to his strategic thinking. Yet, it was Sumter who had South Carolina's only viable militia fighting force after defeats at Charleston and Camden in 1780 and he went on the offensive.

After his wounds healed, Gen. Sumter returned to the battlefield at the right time in 1781 to boost Patriot moral and re-energize the American Cause in South Carolina. By his bold actions, his forces delivered much needed victories.

No matter what they say, General Sumter's commitment to the American Cause was total dedication. He used his means to organize troops, used his wit to prosecute the war with troops he had, and both fighting with distinction.

At this point, I'd like to close with a quote or something from his writings, but he doesn't have any widely attributed quotes like other Patriots who were prolific writers or delivered rousing speeches.

Instead, I hope you enjoyed this synopsis of his service to the American cause with these highlights of his leadership in militia warfare that led to his nickname "The Gamecock" for his boldness and aggressiveness in battle.

Sumter's relentless partisan warfare tactics were such a nuisance and disrupting to British General Cornwallis that he called Sumter one of his "great plagues" because of the frustration that Gamecock caused him.

# Chapter Capsules

## News items from SCSSAR chapters

### Col. Robert Anderson Chapter

#### Greer’s Freedom Blast celebration

For the second year in a row, the Col. Robert Anderson Chapter accepted an invitation to participate in the City of Greer’s Freedom Blast celebration Saturday, June 28. This annual one-day festival focuses on honoring United States veterans and active duty military service personnel who have guarded our precious freedom since the beginning of the American Revolution. Despite the usual summer heat, the event draws tens of thousands of people each year for fireworks, food, fun and music.



Manning the booth to promote the SCSSAR and the chapter’s commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the Battle of Great Cane Brake Dec. 6 are (from left) Compatriots Tom Perry, vice president; Will Wise; David Bennett, registrar; Bob Young; and Steve Murray (not shown). [Photo by Compatriot Steve Murray.]

#### Civil Air Patrol Award

The Col. Robert Anderson Chapter awarded the SAR Bronze Good Citizenship Medal to Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Cadet Major Dino Albert Barontini of the Greenville Composite Squadron on Monday, July 7. The award was presented to Cadet Barontini by Major David Bennett, CAP, who is also registrar of the SAR chapter.

Cadet Barontini has earned the Civil Air Patrol’s Amelia Earhart Award, which denotes his ability to live up to the standards of excellence of this great aviator. In doing so, he has demonstrated excellence in the areas of aerospace studies, officership and the responsibilities of command.

Cadet Barontini has proven his leadership skills in his position as commander of the Greenville squadron’s color guard and has also served as the leader of the squadron color guard team that competed in the Civil Air Patrol’s Mid-Atlantic Region Competition.

At school, Cadet Barontini is involved in the National BETA Club and the National Honor Society. He also started and now leads the school’s own color guard. Outside of school, he is a regular volunteer at the Roper Mountain Science Center in Greenville, where he is able to share his knowledge in the field of aerospace studies.

Cadet Barontini is pursuing his private pilot certificate, having received his cadet solo wings, and has applied for the Civil

Air Patrol’s Cadet Wings, a merit-based pilot training scholarship program.

He also has served as the commander of the squadron’s Staff Training Flight. This group within the squadron focuses on training cadets to be ready to assume staff positions. This is a vital position that ensures that the squadron has the cadet leaders it needs for future years.

Congratulations to Cadet Major Dino Barontini for his outstanding achievements. *David M. Bennett.*



#### Eagle Scout Court of Honor



Ted Walker (left), Vice President Chapter Renewal/Past State President/Henry Laurens Chapter, Historian, Aiken, participated in an Eagle Scout Court of Honor Ceremony at St. Angela Hall in Aiken, Aug. 23. Ted presented Noah Devine, Jack Hanna, Michael Tamburello, Jay Hooper, Brodie Wilkie and Gavin Wilkie the SAR certificate of recognition for their outstanding leadership and their promotion to the rank of Eagle Scout. [Photo by Claude Davis]

# Gov. Paul Hamilton Chapter

## Liberty Tree Sapling

By Wilson McElveen  
Chapter Secretary

On July 2, spectators were on hand to witness the presentation of a Liberty Tree sapling to the City of Beaufort. The sapling, a descendant of one of the original trees known to be a symbol of liberty and resistance during the American Revolution, is a Tulp Tree (*Liriodendron Tulipifera*).

In many of the colonies, "Liberty Trees" were an open and public space for colonists to meet and voice their opposition to British Rule. The more famous Liberty Trees in Boston and Charleston were destroyed by the British when they occupied these colonies during the Revolution. Of note, a root of the demolished Charleston Liberty Tree was made into the head of a cane and presented to Thomas Jefferson.

The tulip sapling given to Beaufort is a descendant of the Liberty Tree that stood on the campus of St. John's College in Annapolis, Maryland. This particular Liberty Tree, in 1824, provided shade for a speech made by the Marquis de Lafayette on his return visit to America. It was also a place of refuge for Francis Scott Key, author of our National Anthem, when he was a student at St. John's in the 1790s. The Annapolis Tulip tree survived for over 400 years until in 1999, when it died from damage sustained by Hurricane Floyd. Fortunately, the Allegheny Forestry Board collected seeds from the historic tree, and the sapling presented to Beaufort is an offspring of these seeds.

Primarily sponsored by the Beaufort 250 Committee, the Gov. Paul Hamilton Chapter, joined as a co-sponsor for the event. NSSAR History 250 Committee is also behind the goal of having a Liberty Tree planted in all 50 states before July 4, 2026. The saplings presented in Charleston and Beaufort enabled South Carolina to



From left: Ken Scarlett, Rich Thomas and Mayor Phil Cromer at Beaufort Arsenal, July 2. [Photo by Miles Montgomery]

join the 20+ states that have already planted the Liberty Tree descendants.

Among those on hand for the presentation on July 2 were Gov. Paul Hamilton Chapter members Randy Atkins, Frank Gibson, Miles Montgomery, Tom Mikell and Larry Rowland. Ken Scarlett, of the Charleston 250 and Rich Thomas of the Beaufort 250 presented the tulip sapling to Gov. Paul Hamilton member, Mayor Phil

Cromer, at a ceremony held at the historic Beaufort Arsenal on July 2. Plans are underway now to select an appropriate location to place the seedling and other ceremonies to commemorate its planting. The Gov. Paul Hamilton Chapter is proud to do its part in memorializing the American Revolution in sponsoring the tree planting and the recent installation of the SC 250 bench at Henry C. Chambers Waterfront Park.

# Gov. Paul Hamilton Chapter's Second Quarterly Meeting

**By Wilson McElveen  
Chapter Secretary**

The MCAS Officer's Club was the setting for the Gov. Paul Hamilton Chapter's Second Quarterly meeting held on June 13. A total of 58 were in attendance and this number included 23 chapter members and well as nine DAR members.

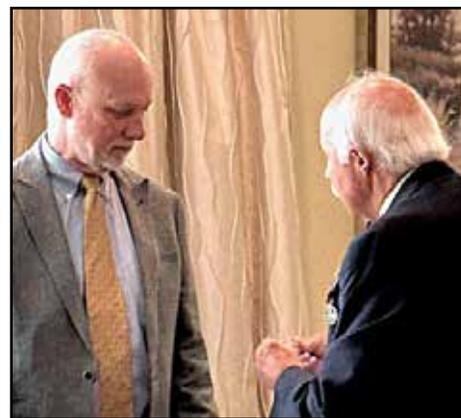
Following the invocation, blessing and pledges and the introduction of guests, President Randy Atkins called forward Shelby Antoine Robert III and John William Franks Jr. After their induction was read, their sponsor, Jody Henson, presented them with the SAR rosettes and their certificates of membership. Both were welcomed with a round of applause.

Next on the agenda was a presentation of special awards and recognition. Harold Mills called forward the two recipients and made the presentations. Commandeer William J. Murtagh, USN (Ret) was presented the SAR Good Citizenship Medal for his 22 years of service as the Senior Naval Science Instructor with the Hampton County High School, U.S. Navy JROTC. He led one of the top Navy JROTC programs in the USA from a small school and the small town of Varnville, South Carolina. Next, Shelby Antoine Robert III was presented the SAR Military Service Medal for his active duty service in the US Marine Corps from 1964 to 1967 as a ground-based radar repair sergeant. Shelby received two meritorious promotions to reach Sergeant (E-5) in just three years. Both were applauded for their recognition.

A buffet luncheon was served during which committee reports were read. Then after reading a long and notable list of the education, work history and accomplishments of our featured speaker, President Atkins then introduced the current President of the Beaufort County 250 Committee, Richard Thomas.



Sponsor Jody Henson pins rosette on new inductee Shelby Antoine Robert III.



Jody Henson (right) pins rosette on new member John William Franks Jr.



Award recipients Shelby Robert (left) and William Murtaugh.

Rich gave an informative presentation titled, "Early Revolutionary Conflicts in the Beaufort District (prior to the Declaration of Independence)," and in a 20 minute timeframe was able to eloquently inform his audience of pre-Revolutionary occurrences in the Low Country and the Beaufort area including The Philippia Affair (naval encounters), the Battle of Bloody Point at Daufuskie, the Battle of Yamacraw Bluff (aka the Battle of Rice Boats), and the Battle of Sullivan's Island, which occurred only one week before the Declaration of Independence was signed. He concluded



Beaufort County SC250 Chairman Rich Thomas gives presentation on the fight for freedom during the American Revolution in the Beaufort District

**[Photos by Wilson McElveen]**

by advising the group that over 100 battles occurred in the Beaufort District from 1779 to 1783.

Following other announcements and both old and new business, the meeting was adjourned.

# Thomas Heyward Jr. Gravesite Annual Pilgrimage and a Rededication Ceremony

**By Wilson McElveen  
Secretary  
Gov. Paul Hamilton Chapter**

The annual pilgrimage to the burial site of Thomas Heyward Jr. was held this year on March 1, and the rededication of the gravesite, which was sponsored by SC Jasper 250 Committee, occurred on May 3. American Patriot Thomas Heyward Jr., (1746 -1809) a signer of the Declaration of Independence, Founding Father and veteran of the American Revolution, is buried at the former Old House Plantation in Jasper County.

Members of the Gov. Paul Hamilton Chapter participated in the pilgrimage following an on-going tradition of the chapter participating in the annual event since 1986. SAR member, John Ethan Boyes, President of the Dr. George Mosse Chapter (hosts for the occasion), welcomed everyone to the site.

Gov. Paul Hamilton Chapter President Randy Atkins gave opening remarks for the ceremony and SC SAR State President and Chapter member Mike Monahan provided the wreath and delivered comments on behalf of the SC Society and the Chapter. Mike Monahan, Jody Henson and Randy Atkins were part of the procession to march



Thomas Heyward Jr. Rededication — SCSSAR President Mike Monahan (right) and Gov. Paul Hamilton Chapter President Randy Atkins.



Thomas Heyward Jr. Pilgrimage — From left: Randy Atkins, Ken Brownfield, Mike Monahan and Jody Henson. [Photo by Connie Atkins]

forward and saluted Thomas Heyward Jr. Former SAR State President Walker provided the artillery for the event.

Several members of the Gov. Paul Hamilton Chapter attended the Rededication ceremony in May. The Kingsbury Artillery was on hand to give a salute to Heyward, and SC250 Chairman Will Grimsley welcomed everyone with introductory remarks. An unveiling of the recent artifacts that had been located at the location was presented. A feature of the day was a video produced for the Jasper County 250 Com-

mittee to show attendees the achievements of Thomas Heyward Jr. and the efforts made in the archeological research at the Old House site.

Both events were complimented with beautiful Lowcountry weather, and members who attended from the Beaufort DAR and SAR chapters enjoyed being together for the rededication. The four-acre site where the grave is located at Old House is owned by Jasper County and is open to the public.

## America 250 ceremony in Edgefield, Aug. 2



From left: Ted Walker, John Joyner, Steven Earl Burke, Stephen Rigg, Judson LeViner, Alton Oneal McCloud, Paw Lee Herron, Richard Morris, Neel Flannagan and in front Briley Walker



From left: John Joyner, Ted Walker, Paw Lee Herron, Julie Hardaway, Neel Flannagan, Tammy Herron, Steve Burke and Alton McCloud.

## Meadow Garden brings Revolutionary history to life for Independence Day



[https://www.wfxg.com/community/meadow-garden-brings-revolutionary-history-to-life-for-independence-day/article\\_d042b7f2-aaa0-4746-80c6-26bac00a7433.html?utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=email&utm\\_campaign=user-share](https://www.wfxg.com/community/meadow-garden-brings-revolutionary-history-to-life-for-independence-day/article_d042b7f2-aaa0-4746-80c6-26bac00a7433.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share)

From Ted Walker, Past President SCSSAR

Archives of past copies of *The Palmetto Patriot* are on the Godfrey Dreher chapter website at [www.herritage.com/gdc](http://www.herritage.com/gdc)

James Herritage

## Francis Marion Symposium Oct 17-18

MANNING — The 23rd Francis Marion Symposium will take place Oct 17-18. Save the date and register by Sept. 17 for Early Bird special, \$100 or couple \$185.

“Explore Revolutionary War Southern Campaigns, Times of Francis Marion, 1732-1795.”

Agenda and presenters are coming out weekly on Facebook.

Carole Summers <[gcsommers@ftc-i.net](mailto:gcsommers@ftc-i.net)>

Swamp Fox Murals Trail Society / Francis Marion Advocates: a 501(c)(3), non-profit

P.O. Box 667, Manning SC 29102803-478-2645, cell: 803-460-9626

Francis Marion Symposium: Oct 17-18, 2025 [www.francismarionsymposium.com](http://www.francismarionsymposium.com)

Clarendon Revolutionary history: [www.clarendonmurals.com](http://www.clarendonmurals.com)

Facebook: Francis Marion Symposium - 2025 - October 17 and 18

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=francis%20marion%20symposium%20-%202025%20-%20october%2017%20and%2018>

# Cambridge Chapter Summer Social

By Joe Babb

On Aug. 18, during the Cambridge Chapter's annual Summer Social, Chip Tinsley, President of the Cambridge Chapter, introduces the keynote speaker, Michael Burgess, an award-winning U.S. History teacher from Silver Bluff High School in Lexington.



Chip Tinsley



Michael Burgess

Mr. Burgess addressed the attendees on "The Soul of America: The Challenge of Teaching the American Revolution in the 21st Century."



Sunni Bond (right) and Martha Kindervater

During the social, Sunni Bond, Registrar of the Star Fort DAR Chapter, presented Martha Kindervater, a new member of the Star Fort Chapter.

Diane Culbertson, Honorary State Regent of the DAR and Chaplain of the South Carolina 250 Commission, brought greetings from the DAR and an update on a few events planned for the Sestercentennial.



Diane Culbertson (right) and Martha Kindervater

Diane Culbertson, Honorary State Regent of the DAR, officially inducts Martha Kindervater into the DAR.

Joe Babb, member and Past President of the Cambridge Chapter and Chairman of the State SAR 250 Committee, brought greetings to the group and shared the bench initiative.



Joe Babb



Diane Culbertson

Photos by Anne Babb



## Emily Geiger's Wild Ride & Rebecca's Revolution!

*Two South Carolina ladies take you on adventures of how women survived the American Revolution 1776 - 1782!*







*With no vote, & danger on all sides, they got clever...*

Starring Karen DeLoach & Chris Weatherhead

Sept. 16, 21, 23, 28 See Locations/Times on...  
[www.actorsTheaterofSC.org](http://www.actorsTheaterofSC.org)





<p><b>Tuesday, September 16 - 7:00 - 9:00 pm</b> Lexington School Library Auditorium Lexington County Lexington 22903 Highway 6 Waynesville, SC 29186</p>	<p><b>Thursday, September 18 - 7:00 - 9:00 pm</b> Actors' Theater of SC Auditorium Dorchester County Edisto 2050 Marine Bridge Bluff, South Carolina, SC 29915</p>	<p><b>Thursday, September 23 - 7:00 - 9:00 pm</b> Actors' Theater of SC Auditorium 2000 N. S.B. Hwy 52 Bluffton, SC 29910</p>	<p><b>Saturday, September 28 - 10:00 - 1:00 pm</b> Dorchester County Historical Landmarks Pavilion 114 Miles Square Park Dorchester, SC 29540</p>
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# Allen Jeffers, African American Patriot at the Great Cane Brake

By E. Wayne Wilson  
Col. Robert Anderson Chapter SCSSAR

On December 22, 2025, we will observe the 250th Anniversary of the Battle of the Great Cane Brake, part of the Snow Campaign. This is said by some to be the First Land Battle of the American Revolution in South Carolina, and it was one of the few engagements fought in Greenville County.<sup>1</sup> The question comes up from time to time, to what extent did Black men fight for American Independence in such engagements? Such was the case here. Our inquiry was inspired by of all things a toy soldier. W.Britain is a well-known vendor of toy soldiers. Don Troiani is a respected military artist and historian. In 1993 W.Britain and Troiani partnered. One of their offerings is a "Black Militiaman of the Spartanburg, S.C. Militia." W.Britain's website states:

As early as 1775 the Spartanburg [Spartan] Regiment was organized. While research into service of men of color during the American Revolution is ongoing ... we do know that in South Carolina 41 served in Continental regiments, 21 in militias, and nine in the navy. Of these 48 were free-men at the time of their Revolutionary War service. Our figure represents a member of the Spartanburg [Spartan] Militia as he might have appeared during the Battle of Cowpens on 17 January 1781.

What is the basis for this claim? Who is the Black militiaman depicted? Are there others? Did any serve during the Great Cane Break and Snow Campaign? Troiani and historian John Rees released "a comprehensive, authoritative, and well-researched study" of Black fighting men, *Don Troiani's Black Soldiers in America's Wars 1754-1865*. This work provided several leads. One was Allen Jeffers. The DAR's *Forgotten Patriots* was consulted. The South Carolina section cautions that "most Revolutionary War records do not indicate race or color." Jeffers is found on the list of "Forgotten Patriots." He was an African American [S.1770].<sup>2</sup> A 2016 *Draft Resolution for Consideration by the South Carolina General Assembly Honoring South Carolina's Revolutionary War Patriots* notes that at least 121 African Americans served in the Revolutionary War on the American side. Jeffers was one of those Patriots listed. And then there is the *African American Revolutionary Soldiers Honor Project*©, "South Carolina Free Men of Color in the American Revolution." Jeffers is found there as well. We have found our Great Cane Brake and Snow Campaign African

American Patriot. He is Allen Jeffers!

On October 2, 1832, seventy-seven year old Allen Jeffers appeared in the Court of Special and Common Pleas of Richland District. After being duly sworn he made on his oath a declaration to obtain benefits of the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832. Jeffers stated he was born in North Carolina but was brought to South Carolina as a child. He had no recollection as to where in North Carolina, but from family "hearsay" his birthplace was on the Pamlico River. Although he stated he had no record of his age, a date of birth, December 19, 1754, was subsequently used. Jeffers lived near the Fork of the Congaree and Wateree Rivers when drafted and resided there after the war in what was then part of Richland District. The Santee River is formed by the convergence of the two rivers.

No doubt the old soldier's mind was filled with memories and emotions as he recalled clashes won and lost, friends killed and wounded, and days as a British prisoner. His story began when he was drafted in 1775 as a young man. He recalled serving in the "Snow Camps," a term of his generation for the Snow Campaign late that year. We are told no more specifics of his first tour, but Jeffers statement that he was drafted and that Col. William Thomson commanded Rangers before taking command of the Third Continental Regiment is consistent with what we know from other sources. Alexander S. Salley Jr.'s *The History of Orangeburg County South Carolina From Its First Settlement to the Close of the Revolutionary War*<sup>3</sup> helps with our understanding of his declaration.

South Carolina had a militia from early times as there were Spanish and Indians threats. Additional duties were added over time but the militia changed little other than in size. All able bodied men were required to register and serve. Militias were organized into geographical areas called beats. Most men served in line companies as infantry as opposed to elite volunteer companies. Free White men provided their own longarm and accoutrements. Free Black men and slaves served as laborers, cooks, and musicians. Around 1776 there were twelve line regiments in South Carolina. The largest were Camden and Orangeburg in the midlands.<sup>4</sup> Jeffers statement that he was drafted in 1775 is consistent with what we know of that time. If too few volunteers came forward to meet a need, there was a draft and it existed throughout the war. For example, in a letter dated September 2, 1775, Colonel Thomson instructs subordinates to "meet me on Saturday next the Instr. at the Ridge, with two hundred Men (sic) well armed, out of our Regiment of Foot,<sup>5</sup> if you cant (sic) raise them as Volunteers, You (sic) must

## Footnotes

<sup>1</sup> The late Dr. Bobby Gilmer Moss, South Carolina professor and historian, made this claim. Others point to the action near Ninety Six on November 19-21, 1775, just prior to the Great Cane Brake and Snow Campaign.

<sup>2</sup> An Alpha.Numeric designation in brackets [A.NNNN] denotes a Revolutionary War Pension Application reference number.

<sup>3</sup> This paper makes extensive use of Salley's *History*. Quotes, unless otherwise stated, come from *History*. Salley, Alexander Samuel, John Ulrick Giessendanner, John Giessendanner, Woodrow Wilson Collection, and South Carolina Infantry, 3D Regt. *The History of Orangeburg County, South Carolina*. Orangeburg, S.C., R.L. Berry, printer, 1898. Pdf. < <https://www.loc.gov/item/01010828/> > (Accessed July 7, 2025).

<sup>4</sup> Stauffer, Michael E. *South Carolina's antebellum militia*. South Carolina Department of Archives & History, 1991.

<sup>5</sup> This was the regiment of provincial militia Colonel Thomson commanded before being selected to command a regiment of regulars. At the time Col. Thomson was made Lieutenant Colonel of the Rangers, he commanded the militia regiment of Orangeburgh District. Salley. *History*. 430.

# Allen Jeffers, African American Patriot at the Great Cane Brake

draft them, & assure them that they will receive Pay (sic) as the other Provincials in this Province from the day they leave home to they (sic) day they return.” When troops were first called in 1775, a draft was ordered in sections of the colony including the Orangeburg District.<sup>6</sup>

Jeffers mention of the Fork of the Congaree and Wateree places him in a known location. Colonel Thomson’s plantation Belleville’s location is equally known. It was on a ridge south of the Congaree River between Fort Motte and present day US 601. Although Thomson was an indigo planter and Jeffers a free Black man, they lived in the same area. Jeffers mention of Colonel Thomson more than once suggests a measure of respect. It is likely Jeffers was drafted into Colonel Thomson’s Orangeburg Regiment of Foot. This might explain his joining the Third Regiment Rangers, commanded by Thomson, in 1778.

But let us not get ahead of ourselves. This inquiry began with our interest in the Battle of the Great Cane Brake<sup>7</sup> and The Snow Campaign in late 1775. The battle was fought about four miles beyond the Cherokee Boundaryline on the Reedy River in present day Greenville County. The location, a large cane brake on the Reedy, lent its name to the clash. This begs the question, what is a cane brake? Accord to *NCpedia*, a cane brake was a large tract of river cane plants (*Arundinaria gigantea*) that grew in large expanses along rivers and creeks in the colonial southeastern United States. The evergreen plant can reach a height of twenty feet. It grows in thick patches with a root system that chokes out all else. Just after the clash there with the Tories, a snow storm of epic proportions, upwards of two feet, descended on the area, hence The Snow Campaign designation.

The year 1775 was a pivotable year in South Carolina. Unrest had been fomenting since the French and Indian War. Carolinians as well as other Americans were becoming more independent in governance of local matters. This was more a concern of Low County elites than of backcountry settlers concerned with carving out a life on the frontier.<sup>8</sup> Although there was opposition to a break with Britain in the Low Country, it was more united in its defiance of Britain. The backcountry was a different matter altogether. It was divided, some areas evenly split between those loyal to the King and those inclined towards revolution. But to many, the commotion was a Charleston problem. They had rather not be

bothered. However, the backcountry’s support was needed by Low Country Elites for a successful rebellion. They sent a delegation to the backcountry to garner support for the Patriot cause. The machinations of this effort are beyond the scope of this paper.

Directly leading to the Battle of the Great Cane Brake was the seizure of wagons bearing one thousand pounds of gunpowder and two thousand pounds of lead. This was a gift to the Cherokee as their hunting season approached. The deal, brokered by William Henry Drayton,<sup>9</sup> was in exchange for the Cherokee promise not to attack settlements on the frontier. Patrick Cunningham and a band of some 60 Tories, at odds with the Provincial Congress and jockeying for favor with the Cherokee, carried out the seizure on October 31, 1775, about “18 miles below Ninety-six.” When word of this seizure reached the Provincial Assembly on November 7, orders went out to “Col. Richardson<sup>10</sup> forthwith to assemble six companies of rangers, Captain Ezekiel Polk’s<sup>11</sup> company of volunteers, draughts of militia from Richardson’s, Thomson’s, Savage’s, Neel’s and Thomas’s regiments, and with such troops pursue such instructions as should, from time to time, by order of the Congress, or the Council of Safety for the time being, be signified [shown] to him by the President.”

In late November Col. Richard Richardson and Lt. Col. William Thomson marched some 2,500 troops into the upcountry in pursuit of militant Loyalists and to bring a semblance of peace to the troubled area. Patriots from both Carolinas joined. On December 8, Richardson ordered Patrick Cunningham and his band of Loyalists to surrender and turn over the stolen munitions. Several Loyalist leaders were captured and other groups disbanded, but the party led by Cunningham fled west into Cherokee territory where they camped on the Reedy River. Colonel Richardson sent Thomson and some 1,300 rangers and supporting militia in pursuit. Richardson tells the story of what happened in two letters. On December 22 he wrote Henry Laurens from Camp Raborn’s Cree[k], Hollingsworth’s Mill:

I thought to let you hear from us ... as we have got to the very extremity of the roads north-westward, take the liberty to inform you, that on Saturday last, the 16th instant, we were joined by Col. Rutherford, of Rowan, and Col. Graham, of Tryon counties, in North Carolina, with about

## Footnotes

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, 503.

<sup>7</sup> Some accounts refer to the clash as “the expedition against the Tories on Reedy River.”

<sup>8</sup> At this time the “backcountry” was everything more than fifty miles or so west of the Atlantic coastline.

<sup>9</sup> According to the National Park Service “Drayton’s views made him one of the most popular Whigs in the colony. He won a seat in the Provincial Congress in January 1775 and soon after sat on all important revolutionary committees. Drayton used his powers to lead raids against the city’s royal post office and armories, thereby obtaining important information regarding the intentions of the British and arms for the patriot forces. During the summer of 1775, Drayton led a five-man commission on a six-week tour of the backcountry to suppress the large number of loyalists in the region. In the face of great odds, Drayton managed to procure a treaty of neutrality from loyalist leaders at a conference in the town of Ninety Six.” < <https://www.nps.gov/people/william-henry-drayton.htm> > (Accessed July 5, 2025).

<sup>10</sup> Richard Richardson (1704-1780) immigrated from Virginia in the 1730s and settled on the upper Santee River. A planter, legislator, and soldier, he became a leading spokesman of the backcountry. *Find a Grave*, Richard Richardson, Memorial Number 37274052. Dabney, Kendra. *South Carolina Encyclopedia*, Richardson, Richard. 2016, updated 2022 < <https://www.sccyclopedia.org/sce/entries/richardson-richard/> > (Accessed July 23, 2025).

<sup>11</sup> Ezekiel Polk (1747-1824) was a sibling of Gen. Thomas Polk (1730-1794) and likewise a great uncle of President James K. Polk. *Find a Grave*, Memorial Number 9190.

# Allen Jeffers, African American Patriot at the Great Cane Brake

five hundred men.... On Wednesday, the 20th inst., I was joined by Maj. Andrew Williamson, Capt. Hammond, and a small party of Col. Bull's regiment, amounting in the whole to about eight hundred, so that our army is now formidable, between four and five thousand, a number most desirable to view, though we have had no occasion for more than my own regiment to have done the business. Notwithstanding, the number has a good effect, strikes terror, and shows what can be done on occasion, and, upon the whole, it may prove a happy event, we have been successful in disarming most of this unhappy people; they are coming in with fear and trembling, giving up their arms, with a sensible contrition for the errors they have been guilty of.... There is still a camp we cannot yet come up with, consisting of the principal aggressors, which were, by best information, camped on the Cherokee land. I detached yesterday about thirteen hundred horse and foot, about an equal number, under the command of Cols. Thomson, Martin, Rutherford, Neel, Polk, Lyles, Major Williamson, and others, commanding all volunteers.... We have all at times got small parts of the ammunition they got, and delivered with their arms; and yesterday two barrels, say fifty pounds, and have a slight information of some more.... I shall, therefore, crave your permission to discharge the North Carolinians, ... and Cols. Neel and Thomson ... to their different quarters.... The spirit of discord will so far subside, that they will hardly raise any more commotions.

Richardson's letter ended with a post script:

P.S. This minute since, or while I was writing my name, a messenger from Col. Thomson and the detachments arrived with the *agreeable account* [emphasis added], that they had surprised and taken the camp of Cunningham, & c., and taken the greatest part prisoners, with all their ammunition, guns, wagons, and utensils. P. Cunningham had escaped, and some principals, but the most are taken, & c.

Fortunately, we have a firsthand narrative of that agreeable account. On January 2nd, 1776, Col. Richardson sent, from the Congarees, to Henry Laurens the following report:

Sir: In my last I informed you of the detachments I had sent out, and in a postscript, of my intelligence of success. Our people surrounded their camp by daylight in the morn-

ing after a long march of near twenty-five miles, and lying on their arms till day [December 22], they then attacked and took about one hundred and thirty prisoners, with baggage, arms, ammunition, & c., which completed the conquest of that flying party which had till then kept out of reach. They were encamped at a convenient place called the Brake of Canes on the Cherokee land; Patrick Cunningham escaped on a horse bare backed (and they say without breeches) telling every man to shift for himself. None of our men were killed or wounded, except the son of Col. T. Polk, a fine youth, was shot through the shoulder, and was in great danger.<sup>14</sup> Some five or six of the other party, I am told, were killed; happily the men were restrained or every man had died.<sup>15</sup> The next day they returned to camp, the snow set in, and continued for thirty hours without intermission, which, with the hardship and fatigue the men had suffered before made them very uneasy, and seeing no more could be done they grew so uneasy it was out of my power to keep the troops together any longer. I, therefore, on Christmas-day dismissed the North Carolina troops, ... [and] the same day Colonels Neel and Thomas, and Major Williamson.... I then as I found the service pretty well done and no possibility of detaining the men longer, the snow then lying on the earth in the smoothest places at least fifteen inches deep (most say two feet) I (sic) marched in the best manner we could downward. Eight days we never set foot on the earth or had a place to lie down, til [sic] we had spaded or grabbed away the snow, from which circumstance, many are frost bitten, some very badly; and on the third day a heavy cold rain fell, together with sleet; and melted the snow and filled every creek and river with a deluge of water; but with all these difficulties we reached this place [the Congarees] yesterday with the prisoners.... About ten Captains and a hundred and twenty of the most mischievous men...; all the powder; Ninety-six and New Camp men. We retook seven kegs of gun-powder, six of which I delivered to Maj. Williamson to be sent to Mr. Wilkinson for the Cherokees; many arms have been delivered up, and I caused the men to sign an instrument of writing, which they did willingly with fear and trembling, by which they forfeit their estates, real and personal, if they ever take up arms against, or disquiet the peace and tranquility of the good people of this colony again, and to assist them if they are ever called upon.

Thus ended the Snow Campaign. Backcountry Loyalists, in the

## Footnotes

<sup>12</sup> Salley. *History*, 307-308.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, 324-327.

<sup>14</sup> The young man was William Polk (1758-1834), son of Thomas Polk (1730-1794). His wound left him unfit for service for 8-11 months. William was the father of CSA General and Right Reverend Leonidas Polk (1806-1864) killed during Sherman's Atlanta Campaign. William's father, Thomas Polk, was a great uncle of the 11th US President James K. Polk. William's Revolutionary War Pension Records are found at S.3706. *Find a Grave*, Memorial # 9190, 14009891. *NCpedia*, Mcfarland, Daniel M. "Polk, William," 1994. Revised by SLNC Government & Heritage Library, February 2023. < <https://www.ncpedia.org/biography/polk-william> > (Accessed June 29, 2025).

<sup>15</sup> Moss notes that "had Colonel Thomson not intervened, the two hundred Loyalist in the camp would have been slaughtered by the wrought-up Patriots. Moss, *The Snow Campaign*, 19.

# Allen Jeffers, African American Patriot at the Great Cane Brake

words of Prof. John W. Gordon, were “crushed and overawed by this loss.” They either laid low or fled the area. The campaign was a win for the Provincial Congress, demonstrating it had the will and wherewithal to suppress Loyalist and trouble makers. Patriots now controlled the backcountry and the frontier was reasonably quiet until the fall of Charleston in May 1780.<sup>16</sup>

Following his first tour, Allen Jeffers enlisted for three years on May 12, 1778, with Capt. Richard Brown’s company of Col. William Thomson’s Third Regiment of Continentals. The application notes that “Col. Thomson had commanded the 3rd Regiment of Rangers before” assuming command of the Third Regiment of Continentals. Upon enlistment he set off for Charleston immediately, “joined the corps and lay around Charleston for nearly a year.” He recalled his Regiment marching out of Charleston to Savannah, captured by the British in the final days of 1778. By fall of 1779, Americans had decided to take back Savannah but realized they would need French assistance. Jeffers recalled September 11, 1779, when his unit was involved in what he described as a “brush” before the first Battle of Savannah on October 9, 1779. He had seen Casimir Pulaski<sup>17</sup> many times before Pulaski received a mortal wound. By this time, he had been placed under Capt. George Liddle who commanded his company for “a while” before it was placed under the command of Felix Warley. The company was marched up the Savannah River to Purysburgh where they “lay ... awhile” until marching to Charleston where they remained till the fall and surrender on May 12, 1780. Jeffers became a prisoner of war, was released, and received a discharge from a Colonel Henderson.<sup>18</sup> He stated this discharge had been “worn out or lost long ago.” On August 13, 1782, Jeffers enlisted with the First South Carolina Company commanded by Col. C. Pinckney<sup>19</sup> for

a period of one year. With the war winding down, it appears he served only 10 months. The last roll and muster he appears on is for the period March 1 to May 1, 1783. During his time of service, he stated he was never a substitute. Thus ended the distinguished military career of Allen Jeffers.

Jeffers’ pension application was witnessed by Gideon Griffin [W.8877] and Morgan Griffin [S.18844], who being duly sworn, stated they knew the applicant, Allen Jeffers and knew he served three years during the Revolution under Col. William Thomson in Captain Brown’s Company. In fact, Gideon and Morgan had enlisted and served with him. Furthermore, they knew that Jeffers enlisted with the State Troops for ten months following his second tour. In their words, Jeffers was “an honest good old man of veracity.” Jeffers was granted a pension of \$40 per month. These were not the only neighbors and kin Allen Jeffers served with. Records indicate Osborne Jeffers, Berry Jeffers [W.10145], George Jeffers, Benjamin Holly [W.8931], Drury Harris [SC.2077], Edward Harris [R.4649], and Benjamin Carter [SC.1224] served the Patriot cause with Allen from the same neighborhood. Osborne and Berry Jeffers were brothers, possibly cousins of Jeffers.

Census records show that Jeffers remained in Richland District after the war. Some sources indicate he received a bounty of four hundred acres from the state on May 2, 1785, and July 5, 1790. In 1835, Jeffers moved to Rhea County, Tennessee with his son-in-law. He applied to have his pension paid in Tennessee. Jeffers’ wife had died in South Carolina and not having any kin in his home state “that would take charge of him,” he lived with his son-in-law till he died May 11, 1839. Currently, his final resting place is known but to God. Rest in peace, PATRIOT ALLEN JEFFERS, and thank you for your service.

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## Footnotes

<sup>16</sup> Gordon, John W. *South Carolina and the American Revolution*, 32. Moss, B.G. *The Snow Campaign*, 19-20.

<sup>17</sup> Casimir Pulaski (1745-1779) was born in Poland. The “Soldier of Liberty” is remembered for fighting for freedom on two continents. “The Father of the American Cavalry,” he gave the Americans their first true legion on horseback. National Park Service, *Casimir Pulaski*, < <https://www.nps.gov/people/casimir-pulaski.htm> > (Accessed August 2, 2025).

<sup>18</sup> Likely William Henderson (1748-1788) who commanded the South Carolina 6th Regiment until it was disbanded in February 1780 due to low enlistments. He was transferred to the South Carolina 3rd Regiment (Rangers) under Col. William Thomson. Henderson was taken prisoner at the Fall of Charleston on May 12, 1780, and exchanged in November 1780. This suggests that Jeffers was also a prisoner of war during this period. Lewis, J.D. *The American Revolution in South Carolina, Brigadier General William Henderson*. 2008. < [https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/patriot\\_leaders\\_sc\\_william\\_henderson.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/patriot_leaders_sc_william_henderson.html) > (Accessed July 22, 2025).

<sup>19</sup> Likely Charles Cotesworth Pinckney (1746-1825). Reorganized in 1782 following the surrender of Charleston, the First South Carolina was furloughed in May 1783 at Charleston and disbanded in November. Lewis, J.D. *The American Revolution in South Carolina, SC First Regiment (Infantry)*. < [https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_sc\\_first\\_regiment.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_sc_first_regiment.html) > (Accessed July 25, 2025).

*Thanks to Joseph Glavitsch, President of the Col. Robert Anderson Chapter, and Wayne Roberts for the idea for this monograph and their input and encouragement to the final endeavor.*

# 250th Anniversary Battle of Cane Brake

## December 6 Hopkins Farm in Simpsonville

The Col. Robert Anderson Chapter SCSSAR will commemorate the 250th anniversary of the 1780 Battle of Cane Brake. This was the only battle of our Revolution fought in Greenville County. Durant Ashmore will give the key note address and compatriots Scott Bruton and Wayne Wilson will talk about two Patriot militiamen who fought in this opening round of the “Snow Campaign.”

## Cane Brake 250th Pins

**David M. Bennett**  
**Registrar, Col. Robert Anderson Chapter**

Every year, the Col. Robert Anderson Chapter in Greenville holds an event commemorating the Battle of Great Cane Brake, which took place in December of 1775 near what is now Simpsonville, South Carolina. As the year of America’s 250th anniversary approached, the chapter was looking for a way both to promote its planned enhanced event on Dec. 6 this year and to gain greater public recognition of the battle both within and outside of the chapter.

The Battle of Great Cane Brake was the only pitched battle to take place in what would later become Greenville County but was still designated as Cherokee territory in the mid-18th century.

Inspired by the looming dilemma, one of the chapter’s newest members, Compatriot Steve Murray, who joined SAR just last fall, came forward with a handsome design for a Cane Brake 250th logo. Depicting a backcountry militia irregular making ready for battle among shoots of river cane, the chapter heartily adopted the design and immediately developed plans for displaying it on posters and other materials to be

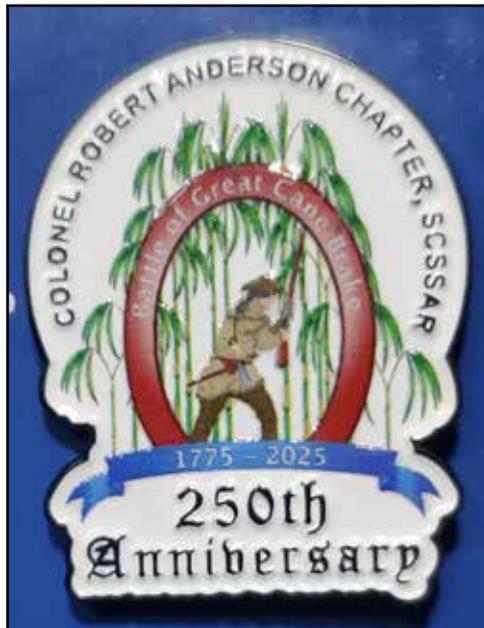
used in promoting the chapter’s Cane Brake 250th anniversary event.

But that wasn’t enough for chapter members. Knowing that the chapter’s budget for honoring the semiquincentennial of the United States was limited, a small group of active members voluntarily contributed funds to have colorful metal pins made up

in sufficient numbers to distribute them among all current chapter members plus an additional quantity to pass out among the public to promote attendance at the event. These contributions allowed the chapter to purchase the promotional pins without dipping into the chapter’s reserve funds.

Pins are being distributed to members of the chapter at regular meetings and by mail. The pins were also among other SAR-related items that were given out to persons who visited the chapter’s information booth at the Freedom Blast Celebration in Greer on June 28.

Chapter President Joe Glavitsch has gratefully recognized the following chapter members for their generous financial contributions to the success of this project: Vice President Tom Perry, Registrar David Bennett, Compatriot Steve Murray and Compatriot Wayne Wilson.



## A Call to Arms!

The Col. Robert Anderson Chapter each year in December commemorates the Battle of Cane Brake. This year is the 250th anniversary of the battle. A request for America 250 funding for a marker at the battlefield was denied because it is on private property: (Hopkins Farm). Against a total cost for the marker of \$3,900, \$1,300 was raised in two days and we're asking for your help. We need to raise \$2,600 by Oct. 15 to have the marker installed for our commemoration. We are asking for your support in purchasing the monument. We need to finalize the purchase no later than Oct. 15 to allow completion for our celebration on Dec 6.

You may contribute to this memorial in two ways. Mail a check to me or donate to our GoFundMe account as shown. Please make your check payable to the Col. Robert Anderson Chapter, SCSSAR. Thank you for your support!

Thomas E Perry, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)  
121 Creek Crossing Way  
Greer, SC 29651

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-erect-a-monument-for-revolutionary-war-heroes>

## Col. Robert Anderson ROTC Awards Program

**By Thomas E Perry, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)  
Vice President**

The Col. Robert Anderson Chapter, SCSSAR completed the annual ROTC/Jr ROTC and SEA Cadet awards program at the conclusion of the 2024/2025 school year. We had a good response from the Greenville, South Carolina, area schools with high school, University and Sea Cadet programs identifying deserving cadets for the Silver/Bronze ROTC or Sea Cadet Medal.

Several compatriots from our chapter eagerly stepped forward to assist in the presentation of the medal to the cadets earning the awards. Compatriots Wayne Wilson, Russell Shumway, Will Wise, Joe Glavitsch and Tom Perry represented the Chapter by presenting medals to several of the cadets during their school's award ceremonies.

The schools participating in the Bronze ROTC Awards program and the recognized cadets are as follows:

Berea High School – Cadet Anthony Williams

Blue Ridge High School – Cadet James Lappin  
DW Daniel High School – Cadet Zara McLaughlin  
Easley High School – Cadet Justin Fallas  
Liberty High School – Cadet Gavin Duncan  
Mauldin High School – Cadet Campbell Garrett  
Pickens High School – Cadet Kelley Odom  
Southside High School – Cadet Elijah Brown  
Wade Hampton High School – Cadet Kaye'anna Smith  
Sea Cadet Bronze SEA Cadet Medal -PO1 Jonathan Leese  
The schools participating in the Silver ROTC Awards program and recognized cadets are as follows:  
Clemson University – Air Force ROTC –  
Cadet Hudson Spargo  
Army ROTC – Cadet Jonathan Stipe

Furman University – Cadet John "Prescott" Hughes  
Our chapter continues to promote the mission of the SAR through various community interactions and looks forward to participating in the ROTC Awards program next year.

Colonel Robert Anderson Chapter, SCSSAR

Battle of Great Cane Brake

1775 - 2025

250th  
Anniversary

December 6, 2025

Cane Brake 250th Anniversary logo created by Steve Murray, Col. Robert Anderson Chapter compatriot.

# Calhoun County Adopts 'Rebecca Motte Day' Proclamation

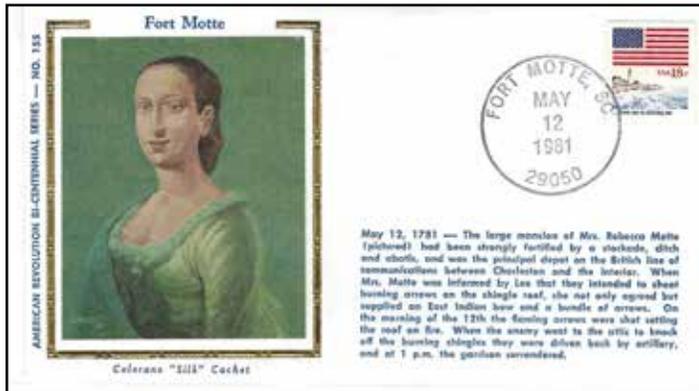
County Council,

Thank you for adopting the "Rebecca Motte Day" proclamation at Council's May 12, 2025 meeting. This date was the 244th anniversary of American Patriots — led by Francis Marion and Henry Lee — forcing the British garrison to surrender May 12, 1781 at Rebecca Motte's Mount Joseph plantation. This British post was known as Fort Motte.

County Council's proclamation was adopted the same day that Luther Wannamaker's family and the South Carolina American Revolution Sestercentennial Commission (a.k.a. SC250) hosted an afternoon event at Fort Motte to commemorate the actions of Rebecca Motte and other women during the American Revolution. This event included a "Mothers of Independence Day" proclamation (attached image), signed by Gov. McMaster.

Only a few days ago, I rediscovered an ornate commemorative envelope (attached image) in my Fort Motte historical research papers. It was given to me years ago by Lindsay Pettus (now deceased), a conservationist / historian friend from Lancaster SC. The envelope bears the words "American Revolution Bi-Centennial Series." It is postmarked "MAY 12, 1981" at "FORT MOTTE, SC 29050". This date, of course, was the 200th anniversary of the Patriot victory at Fort Motte.

Thanks again,  
Richard Watkins



If you or anyone in your Chapter does not receive The Palmetto Patriot, please send an email to Tom.Hanson@Hanson Communications.org

## Roll Call of the Departed

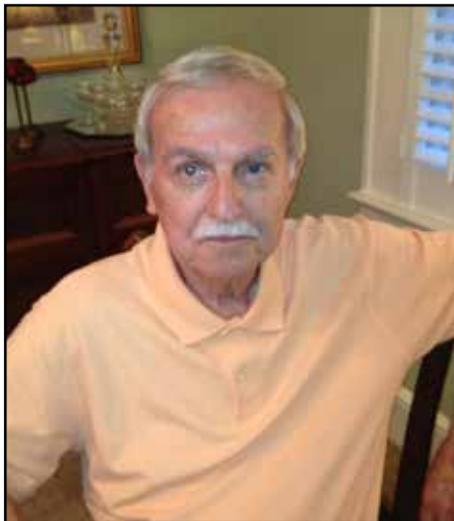
Compatriot William “Bill” Galloway (1928-2025) passed away on Aug. 21, 2025 at age 97.

Bill was a member of the Col. Matthew Singleton Chapter, joining in 2016 with his son Ronnie. His Patriot ancestor was Abraham Galloway (1755-1821) P-163670, who served as a Private for 36 days in the South Carolina Militia and provided subsistence aid to the General Hospital in Charleston.

We offer our sympathies and prayers that Ronnie and the family find strength and comfort during this time.

This is the link to his obituary: <https://sumterfunerals.com/tribute/details/1702/William-Galloway/obituary.html>

**William Keith Sandow**, a member of the Col. Thomas Taylor Chapter, passed away June 28.



**Please send SCSSAR member obituaries to [Tom.Hanson@HansonCommunications.org](mailto:Tom.Hanson@HansonCommunications.org)**

## SCSSAR Welcomes New Members

**David Wright Durham**, approved Aug. 1, 2025

**Lucian Scott Kinder**, approved Aug. 1, 2025

### How to submit items to *The Palmetto Patriot*

*The Palmetto Patriot* welcomes articles and photos from compatriots in the South Carolina Society.

Here are some pointers.

Keep articles as short as possible while still telling the story. Send articles in Microsoft Word format to [Tom.Hanson@HansonCommunications.org](mailto:Tom.Hanson@HansonCommunications.org)

Send digital photographs as attachments and not embedded into the Word document.

Make sure you images are high resolution, at least 200 DPI, and that no time or date stamps appear in the images.

Limit the number of photographs to those you would like most to appear in the publication.

In group shots, have participants drop their hands to their sides to avoid fig leaf poses.

When taking photos at meetings, get as close to the speaker as possible, and avoid shooting the backs of audience heads.

**From Eric Barnhill, Gen. Andrew Pickens Chapter:** Fill the frame with the subject, unless you are trying to capture a large area (monument, battlefield). Better to get head shots than feet shots. Choose your background carefully. Often it just takes a minute to look around and find a more appropriate background. Watch your lighting. Better to have subjects face the lights (sun for outdoor shots) and be careful of indoor lights, your camera may set the exposure for lights if they are in the shots. Articles are always more interesting when pictures accompany them. Take lots of digital pictures and choose the ones that best capture the subject. Check your spelling, spell check sometimes makes words you don't want.

**Please meet the deadlines that are mentioned in each issue of *The Palmetto Patriot*.**

## Thomas Jefferson Bond, Jr. Memorial Photographic Award

This award was created and funded by Wilma 'Sunni' M. Bond as a memorial to Thomas J. Bond, Jr. (1936-1997). The annual award shall recognize and reward the compatriot whose photographic entry is selected as the most representative of patriotism. The money given to the NSSAR by Mrs. Bond is to be invested in such a manner as to yield at least \$1,000 annually in earnings, earnings up to \$1,000 to be presented to the winner. If the earnings in any year are less than \$1,000, the award shall be given in increments of \$100 (i.e., \$900). Any excess earnings shall be added to the principal. An SAR certificate, appropriately embossed, shall accompany the award. Incidental administrative expenses, i.e., the cost of the certificate, may be deducted from earnings prior to any excess reverting to principal. Should the name of this award ever be changed by NSSAR, the original \$20,000 donation shall revert to the Bond Memorial Trust as of the date of any such name change.

Entries are to be no greater than 8 1/2" x 11" in size, unmounted and unframed, and may be in color or black-and-white. Only one entry per compatriot will be accepted. Entries are to be sent to NSSAR Headquarters for judging during the Spring Leadership Meeting. All photos to be considered must be received by the Executive Director no later than February 15 of each calendar year.

Judges shall be the SAR Magazine Editor, Historian General and Chairman (Chairmen) of the Historic Sites and Celebrations Committee(s). If the latter is unavailable or if that committee is ever absorbed by some other entity, the other two shall select the individual(s) to serve as the third judge with preference being given to the chair of a committee devoted to patriotism. Judges will reach their decision in whatever manner they deem appropriate, so long as only one picture is selected as the winner. Announcement of the winner and presentation of the check and certificate will occur at Recognition Night during the Annual Congress each year. The SAR Magazine Editor is requested to run a reproduction of the winning photo each year in the issue of the SAR Magazine in which Congress events are reported.

All entries become the property of the National Society Sons of the American Revolution and will not be returned. The award was first presented in 1998.

Mrs. Bond donated an additional sum to NSSAR that will bring the annual award to \$3,000, beginning in 2026 (The additional donation has to have a year to earn interest before the actual award is increased).

**From Rick Morris, Piedmont Vice President:** Mrs. Sunni Bond is a member of a local DAR Chapter and very supportive of our Cambridge Chapter. Thomas Bond was Registrar General, and at the time of his death, preparing to run for Secretary General. The award was first announced at the 1997 NSSAR Congress, just a few months after Tom's untimely death. Sunni Bond had the privilege several times of presenting the check and certificate in person.

Please encourage any photographers in your SAR chapter to enter this award contest. The award is given annually at the National Congress. **Sunni Bond (Mrs. Thomas J. Bond Jr.), Registrar, Star Fort Chapter NSDAR, Greenwood, South Carolina.**



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# Annual Commemorations and Events

By **Scott Bruton**  
State Color Guard Commander

*The Parker's Guide to the Revolutionary War in South Carolina*, current edition, identifies the location of more than 580 actions that took place in our state. Every Chapter is asked to host or co-host at least one annual commemoration associated with one of these actions.

Commemorations are ranked as a "National Event" (top priority), "State Event" (secondary priority), or "Chapter Event" (third priority). The State and Chapters may not schedule events in conflict with National events, and Chapters may not host events in conflict with a State event. Chapters within the same region are discouraged from hosting events that conflict with each other. The interest is in having all compatriots free to attend every event. If there is a conflict in dates, the State President or his representative and the State Color Guard attend events based on their priority (1st National, 2nd State, 3rd Chapter).

Note that the Historic Sites Committee has oversight and authority over all National events that take place in South Carolina according to State Bylaws. Host Chapters are under the cognizance of this State Committee regarding how these events are commemorated.

## National Events

### Battle of Cowpens.

Hosted by: SC SAR delegated to the Daniel Morgan Chapter

Battle date: 17 January 1781.

Commemoration date: 17 January.

Location: 4001 Chesnee Hwy. Cowpens National Battlefield, Cherokee, Co. or Jolly Park, Gaffney.

### Battle of Buford's Massacre (Battle of the Waxhaws).

Hosted by: SC SAR delegated to the Gen. Francis Marion Chapter.

Battle date: 29 May 1780.

Location: 262 Rocky River Rd. Buford Massacre Battlefield, Lancaster, Co.

Notes: Supported by the Friends of Buford's Massacre Battlefield organization.

### Memorial Day.

Date: 30 May

Locations: Various Locations

Notes: Check with Chapter President.

### Flag Day.

Date: 14 June

Locations: Various Locations

Notes: Check with Chapter President.

### Let Freedom Ring.

Date: 4 July

Locations: Various Locations

Notes: Check with Chapter President.

### Battle of Eutaw Springs.

Hosted by: Battle of Eutaw Springs Chapter.

Battle date: 8 September 1781.

Location: 12933 Old Number Six Hwy. Battle of Eutaw Springs Marker, Eutawville.

Notes: Normally a 2-day event (Friday & Saturday).

### Battle of Kings Mountain.

Hosted by: Daniel Morgan Chapter and NCSSAR Battle of Kings Mountain Chapter.

Battle date: 7 October 1780.

Commemoration date: 7 October.

Location: 1201 Kings Mountain Rd. Kings Mountain National Military Park, Cherokee, Co.

Notes: 1. Event hosting & expenses alternated each year between NCSSAR & SCSSAR.

2. Commemoration date is always 7 October. The event is controlled by the National Park Service when at the National Park.

3. The South Atlantic District meeting is normally held on 6 October. The meeting expense is alternated annually between the NCSSAR and the SCSSAR.

### Veterans Day.

Date: 11 November

Locations: Various Locations

Notes: Check with Chapter President.

### Wreaths Across America.

Date: TBD

Locations: Various Locations

Notes: Check with Chapter President.

## State Events

### Battle of Blackstock's Plantation.

Hosted by: Gen. James Williams Chapter

Battle date: 20 November 1780.

Commemoration date: Saturday closest to 20 November.

Location: 568 Monument Rd. Enoree, SC., Battle of Blackstock's Plantation battlefield, Union, Co.

Notes: Commemoration date set by the Battle of Musgrove Mill State Historic Site managing Ranger. Saturday closest to the battle date.

### Battle of Hobkirk Hill.

Hosted by: Col. Joseph Kershaw Chapter

Battle Date: 25 April 1781.

Commemoration date: Saturday closest to 25 April.

Location: Hwy 521. Board Street & Greene Street in Camden, South Carolina.

### First Siege of Ninety-Six or Ninety-Six Crossroads.

Hosted by: Cambridge Chapter.

Battle date: May – June 1780

Commemoration date: Day of the battle.

Location: 1103 SC-248. Ninety-Six National Historic Site, Greenwood, Co.

### Battle of Sullivan's Island (Fort Sullivan) or Carolina Day.

Hosted by: Maj. Gen. William Moultrie Chapter.

Battle date: 28 June 1776.

Location: 1214 Middle Street Sullivans Island. Charleston, Charleston, Co.

# Annual Commemorations and Events

## Huck's Defeat or Battle of Williamson's Plantation.

Hosted by: Col. William Bratton Chapter.

Battle date: 12 July 1780.

Location: 1442 Brattonsville Rd. McConnells South Carolina. Historic Brattonsville, York, Co.

Commemoration date: Saturday closest to 19 August.

Location: 398 State Park Road. Clinton South Carolina. Battle of Musgrove Mill State Historic Site, Laurens, Co.

Notes: Commemoration date set by the Battle of Musgrove Mill State Historic Site managing Ranger. Saturday closest to the battle date.

## Battle of Camden.

Hosted by: Col Joseph Kershaw Chapter

Battle Date: 16 August 1780

Commemoration date: Saturday closest to 16 August.

Location: 1606 Flat Rock Road Camden, South Carolina 29020

## Battle of Great Cane Break.

Hosted by: Col. Robert Anderson Chapter.

Battle date: 22 December 1775.

Commemoration date: Saturday closest to 22 December (but not 24 or 25 December)

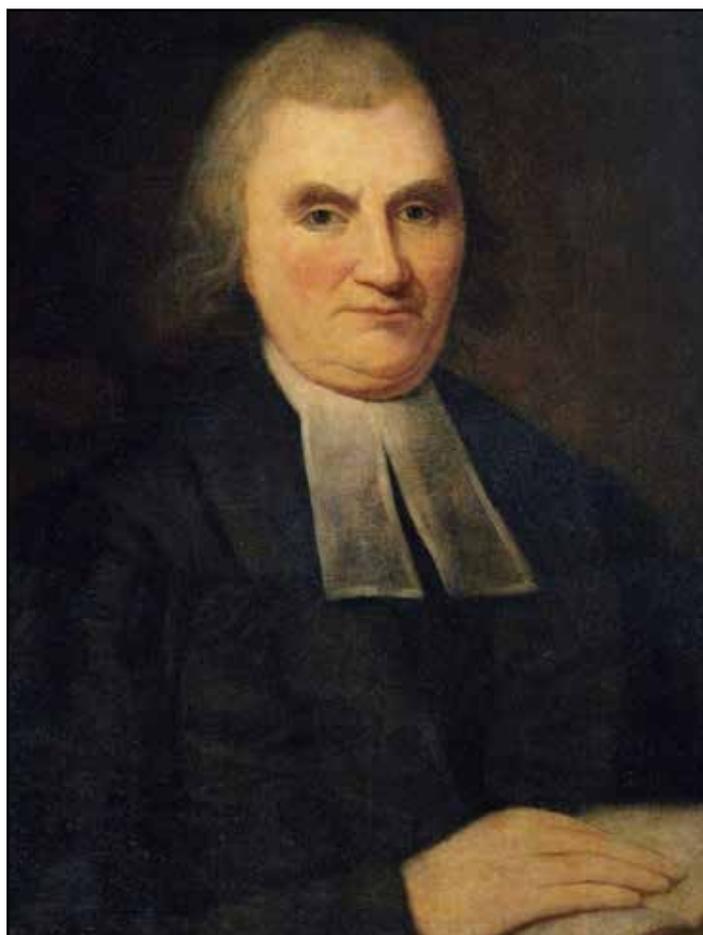
Location: Fork Shoals Road near Simpsonville, South Carolina. Hopkins Farm, Greenville, Co.

Notes: Hopkins Farm owners invite SCSSAR to use their facility & visit the site.

## Battle of Musgrove Mill.

Hosted by: Gen. James Williams Chapter.

Battle date: 19 August 1780.



Rev. Dr. John Witherspoon  
President of Princeton College  
Delegate, Second Continental Congress

## To hesitate at this moment is to consent to our own slavery

And it is a fact of history that though the genius of a great statesman penned the Declaration of Independence, it was the convincing eloquence of a minister of the gospel that compelled the members of the Continental Congress to affix to it their signature. That minister, a member of the Congress, was the Rev. Dr. Witherspoon, President of Princeton College. The Congress hesitated. The destiny of a nation was suspended upon one hour of agonizing suspense. The historic document lay unrolled upon the table. At that critical moment the venerable President of Princeton arose, and with great emotion uttered these words:

To hesitate at this moment is to consent to our own slavery. That notable instrument upon your table, which insures immortality to its author, should be subscribed this very morning by every pen in this house. He that will not respond to its accent and strain every nerve to carry into effect its provisions is unworthy the name of freeman. Whatever I have of property, of reputation, is staked on the issue of this contest; and although these gray hairs must soon descend into the sepulcher, I would infinitely rather that they descend hither by the hand of an executioner than desert at this crisis the sacred cause of my country.

Christianity and the American Commonwealth, The Influence of Christianity in Making This Nation, by Methodist Bishop Charles B. Galloway, 1899, pages 99-100.

**Table of Events by Chapter**

<b>CHAPTER</b>	<b>EVENT / BATTLE</b>	<b>MONTH</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
Andrew Pickens			
Cambridge	1 <sup>st</sup> . Siege of Ninety-Six	June	Ninety-Six <u>Nat'l</u> Battlefield
Daniel Morgan	Kings Mountain	October	Kings Mountain <u>Nat'l</u> Battlefield
	Cowpens	January	Cowpens <u>Nat'l</u> Battlefield
Eutaw Springs	Eutaw Springs	September	Eutawville
Francis Marion	Buford's Massacre	May	near Buford
George Moss			
Godfrey Dreher			
Henry Laurens			
Hezekiah Maham			
James Williams	Musgrove Mill	August	Musgrove Mill State Historic Site
	Blackstock's Farm	November	Blackstock Battlefield
Joseph Kershaw	HobKirk Hill	April	Camden
	Camden	August	Camden Battlefield

Lemuel Benton			
	Fort Watson	April	Summerton (Fort Watson)
Matthew Singleton	Gen. Sumter Cemetery	August	Thomas Sumter Memorial Cemetery
Paul Hamilton			
Philemon Waters			
Robert Anderson	Great Cane Break	December	Simpsonville (Hopkins Farm)
Robert Crawford			
Thomas Lynch			
Thomas Taylor			
William Bratton	Huck's Defeat	July	Brattonsville
William Moultrie	Sullivan's Island	June	Charleston

Lemuel Benton			
Matthew Singleton	Fort Watson	April	Summerton (Fort Watson)
	Gen. Sumter Cemetery	August	Thomas Sumter Memorial Cemetery
Paul Hamilton			
Philemon Waters			
Robert Anderson	Great Cane Break	December	Simpsonville (Hopkins Farm)
Robert Crawford			
Thomas Lynch			
Thomas Taylor			
William Bratton	Huck's Defeat	July	Brattonsville
William Moultrie	Sullivan's Island	June	Charleston

**Table of Events by Month.**

<b>MONTH</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>EVENT</b>
January	Cowpens	
February		
March		
April	Fort Watson	HobKirk Hill
May	Buford's Massacre	
June	1 <sup>st</sup> Ninety-Six	
July	Huck's Defeat	
August	Gen. Thomas Sumter	Camden
August	Musgrove Mill	
September	Eutaw Springs	
October	Kings Mountain	
November	Blackstock's Farm	
December	Great Cane Break	

# Calendar 2025

## March

1 March 2025 Thomas Hayward event, Ridgeland, SC 10am  
6 March 2025 Lafayette Event at Lafayette House 235 Third St, Cheraw, SC  
7-8 March 2025 Historic Camden Lafayette events , Camden, SC  
7 – 8 March 2025 Battle of Battle Creek, Battle Creek Battlefield, GA 8am  
13 March 2025 Lafayette event, Mepkin Abbey Henry & John Laurens Grave Marking, 1098 Mepkin Abbey RD, Moncks, Corner, SC  
15 March 2025 Lafayette Reception, Huger House 54 Meeting Street, Charleston, SC  
15 March 2025 Battle of Guilford Courthouse, Greensboro, NC 8am  
18 March 2025, Lafayette Event Beaufort, SC  
20-22 Mar 2025 SC NSDAR Conference, Columbia SC

## April

3-6 April 2025 SCSSAR Annual Meeting Camden, SC  
11-13 April 2025 National C.A.R. Conference, Arlington Va  
April 2025 Fort Watson Event  
19 April 2025 Patriot Day, Frederica Naval Action, Saint Simons Island, GA (National Event) GASSAR  
26 April 2025 Living History display, Purple Martin Festival, St. Matthews, SC

## May

24 May 2025 Memorial Day weekend.  
May 2025 Battle of Buford's Massacre , Battle Field, Lancaster, SC usually around Memorial Day

## June

June 2025 Battle of Ninety-Six  
June 2025 Battle of Sullivans's Island / Carolina Day Charleston, SC  
14 June 2025 Flag Day  
25 -28 June 2025 NSDAR Continental Congress, Washington, DC

## July

7 – 8 July 2025 South Eastern Regional C.A.R. Conference, FL  
14 – 17 July 2025 NSSAR Congress, Connecticut

July 2025 Huck's Defeat, Brattonsville, SC

## August

August Thomas Sumter Event  
August Musgrove Mill Event  
August Battle of Camden  
29-30 August 2025 Battle of Eutaw Springs, National Event

## September

September 2025 Siege of Augusta, Augusta, GA

## October

7 October 2025 Kings Mountain, National Military Park, SC

## November

November 2025 Battle of Blackstock, Blackstock Park, SC

## December

December 2025 Battle of Cane Break, Hopkins Farm, Simpsonville, SC

# SAR 1776 Campaign: Advancing America's Heritage

**Please help us finish construction of our visionary Outreach Education Center, Museum Exhibits and National Headquarters.**

The SAR 1776 Campaign recognizes donations in the amount of \$1,776 and

fractions or multiples thereof.

Based on the cost of museum exhibits of the type we are building at about \$600 per square foot, a donation of \$1,776 will build about three square feet. Donation recognitions start at \$25 for our car or refrigerator magnet.

The Sons of the American Revolution Society has a story to tell, and your continued support will allow us to champion our rich heritage for all to hear and see.

### Donation Recognition Levels (Please Circle Category Desired):

- \$25 Car / Refrigerator Magnet
- \$148 Silver Sons of Liberty Pin
- \$296 Gold Sons of Liberty Pin
- \$592 Delegate Lapel Pin (one square foot)
- \$1,184 Drafter Lapel Pin (two square feet)
- \$1,776 Signer Lapel Pin (three square feet)

### Wall-Mounted Quills (will recognize donations at the levels of):

- \$5,328 Bronze Quill
- \$8,880 Silver Quill
- \$17,760 Gold Quill

Streamers will be awarded for: \$592 from Chapters and \$1,184 from State Societies

Total Donation Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ National Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

The SAR Foundation, Inc. is recognized by the IRS as a 501c3 non-profit organization. All donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

Please make checks payable to: The SAR Foundation, Inc., 809 W. Main Street, Louisville, KY 40202-2619

For Credit Card Donations:  
Please Circle: Master Card Visa Discover AMEX Other \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Maryland's Liberty Tree Seedling Presented to Eutaw Springs Chapter



This seedling was presented to the Battle of Eutaw Springs Chapter of the SCSSAR by Ken Scarlett, Chairman of the Charleston County 250th Committee. This seedling descended from America's last surviving Liberty Tree from 13 original colonies. The Maryland Liberty Tree grew at St. John's College in Annapolis, Maryland. From left: Ken Scarlett, Lynn Doster and Doug Doster. [Photo by Deborah Scarlett]

### Still Looking for Patriot Graves

The Patriot Graves Committee requests members provide photographs, GPS coordinates and location data of any Revolutionary War Patriot graves in their communities.

Please send this information to Chairman Ralph Welton at [edwlsur@clmson.edu](mailto:edwlsur@clmson.edu)

For South Carolina Society  
SAR use only

\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
Date received

\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
National Life Number

\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
State Number

## Application for Enrollment in the South Carolina Society SAR Life Membership Plan

I, \_\_\_\_\_, age \_\_\_ years, a currently active member of the \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter, National Number \_\_\_\_\_, State Society Number \_\_\_\_\_, hereby apply for enrollment in the SCSSAR Life Membership Plan. My check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_, based on the chart below and made payable to Treasurer SCSSAR is attached. *I acknowledge that I am responsible for maintaining my annual Chapter dues, which are not included in the National Life Membership Plan or the SCSSAR Life Membership Plan.*

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of applicant (type or print) Date of Birth

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant Date Signed

**We hereby acknowledge receipt of the foregoing Compatriot's application for enrollment in the SCSSAR Life Membership program and approve same.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of SCSSAR Secretary Date Signed

### SCSSAR Life Membership Dues

In accordance with a motion made and passed by the SCSSAR Board of Governors in January 2014, the following rates for SCSSAR Life Membership were established per the following chart. **In order to apply, the applicant must be a currently active member, and his application for NSSAR National Life Membership must already be approved or be submitted to the State Society for forwarding to NSSAR Headquarters.**

<b>Age = \$ Cost</b>					
<b>0-40 = 500</b>	<b>41 = 490</b>	<b>51 = 390</b>	<b>61 = 290</b>	<b>71 = 190</b>	<b>81 = 90</b>
	<b>42 = 480</b>	<b>52 = 380</b>	<b>62 = 280</b>	<b>72 = 180</b>	<b>82 = 80</b>
	<b>43 = 470</b>	<b>53 = 370</b>	<b>63 = 270</b>	<b>73 = 170</b>	<b>83 = 70</b>
	<b>44 = 460</b>	<b>54 = 360</b>	<b>64 = 260</b>	<b>74 = 160</b>	<b>84 = 60</b>
	<b>45 = 450</b>	<b>55 = 350</b>	<b>65 = 250</b>	<b>75 = 150</b>	<b>85 = 50</b>
	<b>46 = 440</b>	<b>56 = 340</b>	<b>66 = 240</b>	<b>76 = 140</b>	<b>86 = 40</b>
	<b>47 = 430</b>	<b>57 = 330</b>	<b>67 = 230</b>	<b>77 = 130</b>	<b>87 = 30</b>
	<b>48 = 420</b>	<b>58 = 320</b>	<b>68 = 220</b>	<b>78 = 120</b>	<b>88 = 20</b>
	<b>49 = 410</b>	<b>59 = 310</b>	<b>69 = 210</b>	<b>79 = 110</b>	<b>89 = 10</b>
	<b>50 = 400</b>	<b>60 = 300</b>	<b>70 = 200</b>	<b>80 = 100</b>	<b>90+ = 0</b>

For SCSSAR use only

**Enrollment Approved:** \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed  
Signature of SCSSAR Secretary

## APPLICATION FOR ENROLLMENT IN THE NSSAR NATIONAL LIFE MEMBERSHIP PLAN

National Headquarters – 809 West Main Street – Louisville, KY 40202

<b>For Headquarters use only:</b>
Date Received:

Name of Applicant:	National Number:	Life Member Number:
Address:		Date of Birth:
City:	State:	Zip Code:
Telephone:	Email:	

I, , age  years, a currently active member of the  Society, State Society Number , hereby apply for enrollment in the NSSAR National Life Membership Plan. My check in the amount of \$ , based upon the chart below and made payable to the “Treasurer General, NSSAR,” is attached. ***I acknowledge that I am responsible for maintaining my annual State Society and Chapter dues, which are not included in the National Life Membership Plan.***

Signature of Applicant:	Date of Signature:
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**We hereby acknowledge receipt of the foregoing Compatriot’s application for enrollment in the NSSAR National Life Membership Program and approve same.**

Signature of State Secretary:	State Society:	Date of Signature:
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### NSSAR National Life Membership Dues

In accordance with a motion made and passed by the 133<sup>rd</sup> Congress in July 2023, the following rates for the National Life Membership Program were established per the following chart. **In order to apply, the applicant must be a currently active member, and this application must be submitted to his (primary) State Society for forwarding to the NSSAR Headquarters.**

| Age = \$Cost |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1 = \$1,521  | 16 = \$1,414 | 31 = \$1,262 | 46 = \$1,045 | 61 = \$759   | 76 = \$435   | 91 = \$166   |
| 2 = \$1,516  | 17 = \$1,406 | 32 = \$1,250 | 47 = \$1,027 | 62 = \$739   | 77 = \$413   | 92 = \$154   |
| 3 = \$1,510  | 18 = \$1,397 | 33 = \$1,238 | 48 = \$1,010 | 63 = \$718   | 78 = \$392   | 93 = \$144   |
| 4 = \$1,504  | 19 = \$1,388 | 34 = \$1,225 | 49 = \$992   | 64 = \$697   | 79 = \$371   | 94 = \$134   |
| 5 = \$1,497  | 20 = \$1,379 | 35 = \$1,212 | 50 = \$974   | 65 = \$676   | 80 = \$351   | 95 = \$126   |
| 6 = \$1,491  | 21 = \$1,369 | 36 = \$1,198 | 51 = \$955   | 66 = \$655   | 81 = \$331   | 96 = \$119   |
| 7 = \$1,484  | 22 = \$1,360 | 37 = \$1,184 | 52 = \$936   | 67 = \$634   | 82 = \$311   | 97 = \$112   |
| 8 = \$1,477  | 23 = \$1,350 | 38 = \$1,170 | 53 = \$917   | 68 = \$612   | 83 = \$292   | 98 = \$106   |
| 9 = \$1,470  | 24 = \$1,340 | 39 = \$1,156 | 54 = \$898   | 69 = \$590   | 84 = \$274   | 99 = \$100   |
| 10 = \$1,463 | 25 = \$1,330 | 40 = \$1,141 | 55 = \$879   | 70 = \$568   | 85 = \$256   | 100 + = \$95 |
| 11 = \$1,455 | 26 = \$1,319 | 41 = \$1,126 | 56 = \$859   | 71 = \$546   | 86 = \$239   |              |
| 12 = \$1,448 | 27 = \$1,308 | 42 = \$1,110 | 57 = \$839   | 72 = \$523   | 87 = \$223   |              |
| 13 = \$1,440 | 28 = \$1,297 | 43 = \$1,095 | 58 = \$819   | 73 = \$501   | 88 = \$207   |              |
| 14 = \$1,431 | 29 = \$1,286 | 44 = \$1,078 | 59 = \$800   | 74 = \$478   | 89 = \$192   |              |
| 15 = \$1,423 | 30 = \$1,274 | 45 = \$1,062 | 60 = \$779   | 75 = \$457   | 90 = \$179   |              |

<b>For Headquarters use only:</b>	Signature of NSSAR Registrar:	Date of Signature:
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# 244th Anniversary Eutaw Springs

**By Douglas Doster  
Vice President  
Battle of Eutaw Springs Chapter**

The 244th Anniversary Commemoration of the Battle of Eutaw Springs was held with great success on Friday, Aug. 29, and Saturday, Aug. 30.

This year's events included a free, narrated (by David Reuwer), bus tour of the Fort Motte, Fort Watson and Eutaw Springs battle sites. Friday evening a dinner/program was held at Clark's Inn and restaurant in Santee. The Saturday morning Patriotic Program at the Historic Church of the Epiphany in Eutawville was followed by a wreath-laying ceremony and the unveiling of a new Eutaw Springs Historic Marker.

Many attendees had lunch at Sweetman's BBQ restaurant near Holly Hill. The events ended with an honor wreath gathering that afternoon at Gen. Francis Marion's tomb, Belle Isle Plantation, near Pineville. Ted Walker of the Henry Laurens Chapter brought his cannon to the event. The Washington Light Infantry participated with a five man color guard at Saturday's wreath laying ceremony.

Details of the two day event are as follows:

- 31 people attended the reception Thursday evening at Clark's Restaurant. The reception was hosted by the Eutaw Springs Battleground Association, Inc.
- 47 people rode the Friday bus tour with others carpooling. Over 50 people in all participated in the tour. Many thanks to David Reuwer for his inspiring narration on the tour.
- 68 people attended the Friday night dinner at Clark's Restaurant. Thanks to Peggy Pickett for her presentation on South Carolina Patriot Ladies of the American Revolution.
- Approximately 85 persons attended the patriotic program at the Historic Church of the Epiphany Saturday morning. S.C. Revolutionary War Sestercentennial 250th Committee Chairman Gen. Will Grimsley (Ret) spoke.
- Attendance at the wreath laying ceremony and historic marker unveiling was well over 100.
- 34 wreaths and other tributes were presented at the wreath ceremony.
- 18 people attended the honor wreath

gathering at Gen. Francis Marion's tomb Saturday afternoon. Compatriot Keith Gourdin, a descendant of the Marion Family, gave comments on Francis Marion's life before, during and after the Revolutionary War.

- Representatives from seven states attended.
- Two National Society SAR officers attended: Earl "Matt" Mathews, South At-

lantic District Vice President General, and NSSAR Treasurer General, Brooks Lyles Jr.

- Former NSSAR Color Guard Commander Scott Collins attended.
- 23 SAR Chapters were represented including SCSSAR State President Mike Monahan
- 15 DAR Chapters were represented including NSDAR State Regent Alice Caskey
- Two C.A.R. Societies were represented including S.C.S.C.A.R. State President John Verenes.
- One Order of the Cincinnati was represented by Major Gen. Julian Burnes (Ret)
- The Washington Light Infantry was represented by a five man color guard.
- The S.C. Revolutionary War Sestercentennial 250th Commission was represented by Commissioner Gen. Will Grimsley and Mike Tyler.

The Battle of Eutaw Springs 245th Anniversary will be held Aug. 28 and 29 of 2026. Mark your calendar.



Brooks Lyles, NSSAR Treasurer General. [Photo by Scott Bruton]



Scott Collins, outgoing National Color Guard Commander and Doug Doster (center) with Color Guard in front of Historic Church of the Epiphany. [Photo by Scott Bruton]

# 244th Anniversary Eutaw Springs



SCSSAR President Mike Monahan (left) and Doug Doster. [Photo by Gary Blanpied]



Neel Flannagan inducted as a new member into the Skunk Brigade.



SCSSAR President Mike Monahan (right) and John Verenes, S.C. C.A.R. State President.



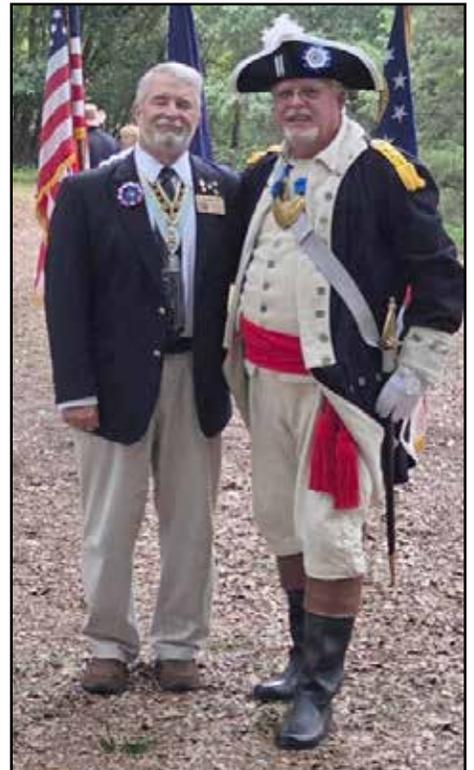
Mike Monahan



Mike and Ann Monahan



**FRIDAY NIGHT BANQUET** — From left: SCSSAR President Mike Monahan, Brooks Lyles, John Ethan Boyes, Ted Walker and Larry Gamble.



Brooks Lyles, NSSAR Treasurer General (left) and Scott Bruton



Front row (from left) John Goodwin, Don Blazemore, Lee Herron, Ann Monahan, Mike Monahan and Linda Walker. Back row (from left): Dess Smith, Ted Walker, Alton McCloud, Steve Burke.

# 244th Anniversary Eutaw Springs

Photos by Deidra Bruton



Watch video at <https://vimeo.com/1114939467?fl=pl&fe=sh>



Watch video at <https://vimeo.com/1114940186?fl=pl&fe=sh>

**ARTILLERY CANON CREW** — Ted Walker, Commander; Dess Smith, Powder Monkey; Don Blazemore, lipstick; Steve Burke, ram rod; Alton McCloud, worm and mop; and Lee Herron, vent, prick and prime. [Photo by Linda Walker]

# 244th Anniversary Eutaw Springs



FRIDAY BUS TOUR [Photo by Marie Goff]



Doug Doster at wreath laying ceremony. [Photo by Brantley Doster]



South Atlantic District Vice President General Earl "Matt" Mathews of Florida (left) with SC Gov. Paul Hamilton Chapter Com-patriot Jody Henson, also a dual member of the New Bern Chapter of the North Carolina Society. Henson brought greetings and a wreath from his NC Chapter in honor of Capt. Christopher Gooden of the 2nd NC Regiment, who was killed in action at the Battle of Eutaw Springs. [Photo by Anita Henson]



Washington Light Infantry Brigade [Photo by Harold Blich]

## New Battle of Eutaw Springs Historical Marker



The new Battle of Eutaw Springs Historical Marker arrived July 31. Tom Conner and Doug Doster with the help of another couple of men installed it for its dedication/unveiling Saturday, Aug. 30 in conjunction with the wreath-laying ceremony. The new marker replaces the original one that disappeared many years ago. Many thanks to the S.C. Revolutionary War Sestercentennial Commission, the SCSSAR Battle of Eutaw Springs Chapter and other patriotic people who assisted in this long overdue replacement project. [Photos by Doug Doster]

# 244th Anniversary Eutaw Springs

Photos by Gary Blanpied



Dedication of monument (from left) Julia Wanamaker, Alice Caskey and General Will Grimsley.



From left: Dean Hunt, Miriam Lovett, Deborah Blanpied and Rhonda Robison.



Cynthia Lee sings the S.C. State song "Carolina" at the morning patriotic program.

State Regent Alice Caskey with DAR ladies



Granby Ladies with the Washington Light Infantry before they marched in at Wreath Laying ceremony.



Will (left) and John Verenes (right) with John Ethan Boyes (center) of C.A.R. John Verenes is SC CAR president.