

The Palmetto Patriot

Quarterly Newsmagazine

Spring 2026



South Carolina Society
Sons of the American Revolution

Organized April 18, 1889



**245th Anniversary
Battle of Cowpens**

**Annual Meeting April 17 - 18 Columbia
Hilton Garden Inn on Farrow Road**

From the President's Desk

Mike Monahan

My Activities as SCSSAR President

Here is a list of my recent activities as President of the SCSSAR:

- October 2-5, NSSAR Fall Leadership Conference held at The Galt House Hotel, 140 N. Fourth St, Louisville, KY
- October 6, South Atlantic District Meeting, Holiday Inn Express, Gaffney SC
- October 7, Commemoration of the Battle of Kings Mountain, Jolly Park, Gaffney, SC
- October 10, Funeral services for past SCSSAR President Rick Corbett, Trinity Parish Columbarium, Columbia, SC
- October 11, SCSSAR Board of Governors meeting, Shandon United Methodist Church, Columbia, SC
- October 23, Heritage Society of Beaufort's Fall Fundraiser, Beaufort, SC
- November 14, Gov. Paul Hamilton Chapter Board of Directors meeting at Blackstone's Cafe, Beaufort, SC
- December 2, SCSSAR 250 Committee meeting: ZOOM
- December 5, Thomas Heyward, Jr. Chapter meeting, Callawassie Island Golf Course, Okatie, SC
- December 6, Commemoration and monument dedication at the Battle of the Great Cane Brake, Historic Hopkins Farm, Simpsonville, SC
- December 9, SCSSAR Executive Committee meeting — Zoom
- December 13, Wreaths Across-America at the National Cemetery, Beaufort, SC
- December 13, Gov. Paul Hamilton Chapter meeting, Dataw Island Clubhouse, Saint Helena Island, SC
- December 16, I met with Maj. Gen. James Livingston (RET), a Medal of Honor awardee in Charleston, SC to have him sign his SAR application. Thanks to the work of our State Registrar Tony Brice. SAR Fort Dorchester Registrar Bob Cornelius joined me in Charleston.
- December 19 and 20, SAR Colonial Ball (debutantes) Francis Marion Hotel, Charleston, SC. Many SCSSAR Compatriots attended. This year we presented 10 debutantes with several Citadel cadets being present.
- Battle of Cowpens Saturday, January 17, my introduction of Mike Elston, National President General to the attendees. My recognition and appreciation of the host Chapter President: Paul Cashion.

February 13, I attended and presented the SCSSAR State Wreath at the Heroes of

the Hornet's Nest celebration held at Elijah Clark State Park, Lincolnton, GA

- February 20, I attended the General George Washington Banquet held by the Moultrie Chapter at the Carolina Yacht Club, Charleston, SC.



We are especially thankful for all of the hard work provided to us by Dave Desmarais on our redesigned

website scssar.org. Assisting him is John Ethan Boyes, Bob Cornelius and Jim Herriage by their enhancing content and making improvements to the website Event Calendar. State Secretary Larry Gamble has provided a store where we can register and pay online for the Awards Banquet and Annual Meeting — April 17 and 18. In the future, it is hoped the online store will be expanded to collect new applicant fees and annual dues collection. There is a lot of talent in our state society and many are capable of stepping up and leading us in the coming years.

Recently, Compatriot Rev. Dr. Ted Morton passed away February 6. Plus, my wife Ann Monahan (DAR) suffered a massive stroke February 17 and passed away at MUSC hospital in Charleston, the following day. This is the last photo of us together, taken at the Battle of Cowpens.

Mike Monahan
President, SCSSAR



The Palmetto Patriot Quarterly Publication SCSSAR

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Recording Secretary: Pete Widell

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Greg Ohanesian

Color Guard Commander: Scott Bruton

Palmetto Patriot Editor

Thomas C. Hanson Sr.

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John Boyes

Send articles and photos for The Palmetto Patriot to tom.hanson@HansonCommunications.org, phone 864-704-3453.

Jan. 10 Board of Governors



Mike Monahan, SCSSAR President
and John Verenes,
President, SC Children
of the American Revolution



Brooks Lyles
NSSAR Treasurer General



Gary Blanpied
Senior Vice President



Larry Gamble
State Secretary



Joe Babb (left), Chairman,
America 250 Committee,
and Gary Blanpied,
SCSSAR Senior Vice President



Tony Brice
State Registrar



Scott Bruton
Colorguard Commander

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/>



Jan. 10 Board of Governors



Gary Blanpied, Ted Walker, Scott Bruton, David Smith and SCSSAR President Mike Monahan. [Photo by Jim Herritage]

Next Board of Governors

Saturday, July 25
New location not confirmed

Visit the SCSSAR website at SCSSAR.org

**The deadline for the Summer Edition
of *The Palmetto Patriot* is May 18.**



[Photo by Jim Herritage]



From left: Brooks Lyles, Doug Doster and Rev. Lawrence Peebles. [Photo by Jim Herritage]



Joe Babb (left) and Gary Blanpied. [Photo by Jim Herritage]



Mason Daly, 2026 nominee for State Historian. [Photo by Gary Blanpied]



Clyde Howell (left) and Mike Monahan. [Photo by Jim Herritage]

2026 George Washington Birthday Celebration

SC State SAR President Mike Monahan joined the Major General William Moultrie Compatriots as we celebrated George Washington's birthday Feb. 21, 2026. It was a fabulous evening. Some highlights include:



Compatriot Earl Hewett, the Chapter Registrar (left), received the prestigious Liberty Medal for leading the state in bringing in new members. Congratulations Earl!



Past Presidents Rick Lentz and Joe Hill were presented their past president pins by President Monahan. President Bill Prewitt at the lectern.

Please complete the registration for the awards banquet and annual meeting on the next page. The following is a notice from Larry Gamble, Secretary of the SCSSAR.

The registration for the 2026 South Carolina Society of the Sons of the American Revolution Annual Membership Meeting is OPEN.

Please join your compatriots in Columbia, SC on April 17th and 18th for the Awards Banquet and Annual Meeting.

www.SCSSAR.org

2026 South Carolina Society SAR Annual Membership Meeting — South Carolina Society SAR
scssar.org

On this link are hyperlinks for the hotel reservations, Member registration, guest registration, and an option for just attending the membership meeting on Saturday. Plus, if you are unable to attend or wish to help support the SCSSAR, please consider making a donation to the SCSSAR to help support the state-wide efforts and mission of the SC Society.

This year compatriots can complete all aspects of registration online!



2026 SOUTH CAROLINA SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

FRIDAY April 17, 2026

- 5:00pm** ON SITE SCSSAR MEETING REGISTRATION
Hilton Garden Inn Northeast
8910 Farrow Road, Columbia, SC 29203
- 6:30pm** RECEPTION
Hilton Garden Inn Northeast - Columbia, SC 29203
- 7:00pm** DINNER BUFFET
Guest Speaker: MG Julian Burns, USA (Ret)
followed by SAR and Youth Award Presentations
Friday awards banquet attire is Business-Sophisticated
for both ladies and gentlemen. That is a suit, military
and colonial equivalent attire, or kilt.

SATURDAY April 18, 2026

- 8:00am** ON SITE SCSSAR MEETING REGISTRATION
Hilton Garden Inn Northeast - Columbia, SC.
- 8:30am** CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST BUFFET
Hilton Garden Inn Northeast - Columbia, SC.
- 9:00am** SCSSAR ANNUAL MEETING
Hilton Garden Inn Northeast - Columbia, SC.
Attire: Business, Suit or Jacket and Tie.

REGISTRATION FEES

- Friday** Banquet plus Breakfast
Members \$75 • Guests \$55
- Saturday** Breakfast plus Meeting
Members \$35

Registration and payment required for attendance.

DINNER BUFFET

(Registration for dinner must be completed by Friday, April 3, 2026)

- Entrées** Sliced Roast Beef with Mushroom Gravy
Tuscan Chicken with Vodka Sauce and Spinach
- Sides** Macaroni and Cheese • Rica Pilaf
Honey Glazed Carrots • Green Beans
- Dessert** Assorted Cheesecake
- Beverages** Tea • Unsweetened Tea • Lemonade • Water

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

(Room reservations need to be made by 5:00 PM on March 27, 2026.)

ROOM LINK

<https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?cityocn=CAENOGI&groupCode=SCSAR&arrivaldate=2026-04-17&departuredate=2026-04-19&id=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT>, Click-on "Special Rates". Select "SCSAR".



Columbia/Northeast

Hilton Garden Inn • 8910 Farrow Road • Columbia, SC 29203



Senior Vice President Report

January 10, 2026

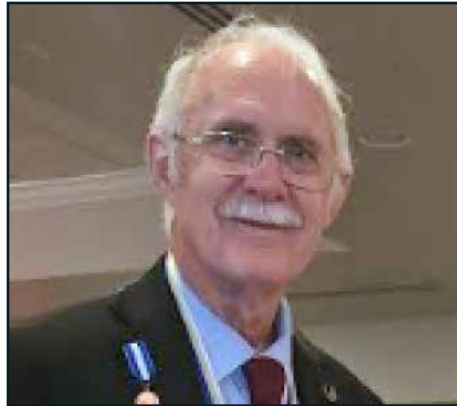
By Gary Blanpied

President Mike Monahan populated the committees in the spring and I compiled a list with contact information.

Secretary Jim Closson notified us in the summer that he was selling his house and moving to Kansas. Larry Gamble stepped into this role and has been an extremely productive member of the Excom. Thomas Blackmon resigned as Regional VP of the Pee Dee and Scott Bruton was appointed to this role. After a new slate and then some tweaking, the nominating committee (Gary Blanpied, Paul Cashion, Joe Glavitch, Thomas Blackmon, Miles Montgomery, Ted Walker, Tom Sharkey and Larry Gamble, ex officio) voted to recommend a full slate of officers for 2026 which is being presented by the nominating committee chairman Paul Cashion.

Communications. Jim Closson made many changes to help us utilize the old website and John Ethan Boyes faithfully updated the calendar of events. After several months of seeking the best solution to our communications issues we have transitioned to a new website with the same name SCSSAR.org now on rosehosting.com, with dual member Dave Desmarais as the webmaster and the opportunity to have several members assist him. Dave was very important to our communications before he moved to Missouri. John Ethan Boyes and Jim Herritage are helping and Larry Gamble is exploring ways members can play their bills other than by check, for the annual banquet and dues collection.

In June 2025, Clyde Howell and I began to update the spreadsheet system that we used under Bill Wilson for the past 2 years. On June 23, I downloaded members' info from the blue database, including dual members and the reconciliation file. Clyde went through all the 900 members, updated the sheets for each of the 24 chapter plus at large members. We repeated this action in August, as well, so we would have the most recent and up-to-date information reflected. I tried to identify whether the treasurer or another person would be the contact for each chapter and gave the list to Clyde. In the second week in September Clyde sent email to the 850 or so members who had an email address in the database and about 50 got a mailed letter with their dues bill. About 50 of the email addresses turned out to be bad so these increased the number of paper mailings to about 100. No



Gary Blanpied

specific due date was given. When asked about this the response as always is that Reconciliation will begin on December 1, 2025, and dues need to be paid in advance of that date such that they can be accurately recorded on the spreadsheet. The rate of members paying across the Association remains slow with only 7 chapters showing dues collection complete as of 12/29/25; 18 chapters show remaining members unpaid. Two rounds of emails, 2 paper mailings plus follow-up phone calls and texts. On December 29 there were 795 paid (87.8%) and 108 unpaid. It is projected that the State Association overall will lose approximately 25 members due to not renewing their memberships; exact numbers remain to be determined. There are some adjustments that will need to be paid after January 1, 2026, to ensure accurate counts in each chapter (moving Life Members to the At Large Chapter, etc.).

Issues:

1. We found that there is no place where State Life Members are listed so we think that we should add an "L" to the State ID number.
2. There appears to be no place where State Emeritus Memberships are recorded. National Emeritus can be tracked in the Blue Database, but there is nothing at the State level.
3. Transfers out of state have not been routinely tracked and communicated to State. This becomes important since members who are still listed as members of SCSSAR stand to be deactivated in error or may not have the information on how to renew their memberships in the gaining states. There is a similar but lesser issue with transfers between chapters within the State.

4. We need to revisit the methods by which we contact Compatriots regarding Dues Collection. We initially used paper mail (USPS) and mass email. These were not as effective as hoped or intended. Later phone calls, individual emails, and text messages were more effective. Text was not seen as a primary channel to reach members. In each of these methods we encountered a sensitivity to spam which resulted in notices being ignored or being sent directly to SPAM/Junk folders which members do not check regularly; hence the notices were missed.

5. Numerous Compatriots asked if they could pay electronically. This capability did not exist for us but needs to be explored for future operations.

We explored venues and availability for the annual meeting and banquet

and signed a contract with the Hilton Garden Inn on Farrow Road in Columbia SC for April 17 and 18, 2026. The July BOG voted to stay there for the next 3 years and the dates are reserved. In 2028 Easter occurs on that weekend so that the dates shift to the earlier week. A committee for the banquet and annual meeting has been appointed with Clyde Howell as Chairman. Larry Gamble is leading the registration and working with John Holmberg on the printing. A flyer will be ready by January 10, 2026. We would like to start registration January 12, 2026.

A hotel link for reservations has been obtained and is being utilized.

I used the blue database to create my own email lists and sent out "save the date" on December 26, 2025.

A list of awardees for the annual banquet has been compiled and a list of needed supplies was sent to Larry Gamble who utilized the state credit card to order the list and has received the order.

Updating Blue Database: The state secretary assigns each new member who has been approved and given a national number, a state number. Jim Closson caught up a long backlog. Only the state secretary can make additions to the medals awarded record in the Blue Database. I compiled a list and populated a spread sheet of medals that had been awarded and not listed as well as mistakes that had been made in past updatesqaaa2. Most of the new ones were from the 2025 awards banquet and sent in by Joe Galvitch for his chapter. Jim Closson brought the database up to date.

Nominations for Annual Meeting April 18, 2026

**Approved by the nominating committee
on October 22, 2025**

President - Gary Blanpied

Senior Vice President - Calvin Griffin

VP Upstate - Joe Glavitsch

VP Piedmont - Neel Flannagan

VP Midlands - Stephen Corley (Godfrey
Dreher)

VP Pee Dee - Scott Bruton

VP Low Country - John Ethan Boyes

VP Chapter Renewal - Ted Walker

VP New Chapter Formation - Paul Cashion

Secretary - Larry Gamble

Recording Secretary - Clyde Howell

Treasurer - Gordon McCay

Registrar - Tony Brice

Chaplain - Doug Doster

Historian - Mason Daly (Cambridge)

Chancellor - Tom Mikell

Genealogist - Tom Sharkey

Trustee - Michael Monahan

Alt Trustee - Greg Ohanesian -

Senior Vice President Report

Both Clyde Howell and I have found many wrong emails and phone numbers in the database. It is the responsibility of each chapter president to maintain emails and phone numbers of their chapter members.

Someone should send out emails about upcoming events and chapter officers should call members who are not attending functions. Each member can update their info in the blue database, and the chapter president

can also update this information.

Also when a chapter makes a schedule for one or more events or chapter meeting, please send the information to John Ethan Boyes so that it can be posted on our state calendar on SCSSAR.org.

245th Anniversary Battle of Cowpens



President General Michael Elston



SCSSAR President Michael Monahan



**Maj. Gen. Julian Burns
President
South Carolina 250th Commission**



Judson LaViner

Photos by Adam Pathel



**Scott Collins
Past National Color Guard
Commander
and Scott Bruton
State Color Guard Commander**



**Paul Cashion (left)
President Daniel Morgan Chapter
and Gen. George Washington
Portrayed by Daniel Shippey**



**Paul Cashion (left)
President Daniel Morgan Chapter
and President General Michael Elston**

Photos by Gary Blanpied



**From left: Paul Cashion, President
Daniel Morgan Chapter,
President General Michael Elston
and Maj. Gen. Julian Burns**



Wreath Ceremony at Cowpens

Photos by Adam Pathel



Paul Cashion
President Daniel Morgan Chapter
Master of Ceremonies



Chip Griffin, Midlands Vice President



Ken Goodson (left), National Color Guard Vice Commander, with President General **Michael J. Elston**



**Gen. George Washington
Portrayed by Daniel Shippey
and Déborah Blanpied**



**Gary and Déborah Blanpied (left)
and Carl Epps, Godfrey Dreher
Chapter**



**Paul Cashion (center)
with Gary and Déborah Blanpied**

Photos by Gary Blanpied



Déborah Blanpied (center)



Photos by Carl Epps



Stephen McKee, President NCSSAR



Mike Monahan (right), President SCSSAR, and Paul Cashion, President of the Daniel Morgan Chapter.

Photos by Gary Blanpied



**Ted Walker, Vice President
Chapter Renewal and Revitalization**



**Gina Bobo
South Carolina DAR
and Paul Cashion**



**Major Gen. Julian Burns (right)
and Paul Cashion**



Scott Collins Leads Color Guard



**Scott Bruton and
Déborah Blanpied**



Scott Bruton (left) and Ted Walker



Bucky Haas, Thomas Taylor Chapter





**Daniel Morgan Chapter, SCSSAR
In Partnership with
The National Park Service**

Presents

The 245th Anniversary of Battle of Cowpens
Saturday, January 17, 2025, 10:00 am
Cowpens National Battlefield
4001 Chesnee Hwy
Gaffney, SC 29341
35.0812, N/81.4905, W

The Daniel Morgan Statue Wreath Laying
Saturday, January 17, 2025, 2:00PM
Daniel Morgan Square
111 West Main St
Spartanburg, SC 29306
34.949716 N/-81.932169, W



Color Guard



SCSSAR 2025 Debutante Ball

The South Carolina Society Sons of the American Revolution held its 26th Debutante Ball on Saturday, December 20th, in the Carolina Ballroom of the historic Francis Marion Hotel in the charming downtown area of Charleston, South Carolina.

Following a reception dinner, Friday 19 December for the Debutantes and their immediate family, the Debutante Ball began with an invocation by Dr. Barbara Ohanesian following which the Citadel Cadets presented the Colours. Greg Ohanesian led all family and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of the National Anthem.

Ohanesian welcomed all 200 guests and introduced special guests including NSSAR Treasurer General Brooks Lyles and his wife, Diane. The Debutantes hailed from California, Connecticut, Texas, Virginia, as well as from all over South Carolina making the Ball a national Debutante Ball.

Sir Julian V. Brandt, III, presented the SCSSAR's Debutante Class of 2025. Guests then enjoyed dinner accompanied by the elegant sounds of the harp.

Each debutante presented was a direct descendant of a Patriot, or Patriots, who fought in or supported the American Revolution. This event is a beautiful tribute to the lineage and heritage of those young women. The SCSSAR Colonial Ball is a storied tradition, specifically designed to honor the Patriots who helped secure American Independence.

The following debutantes presented at the South Carolina Society Sons of the American Revolution Debutante Ball were as follows:

Miss Lily Doebler Antemann of Fort Mill, SC, is the daughter of Mr. Gregory Clark Antemann and Mrs. Kristin Lynn Doebler Antemann. She was presented by Mr. Gregory Clark Antemann and escorted by William Gregory Antemann.

Miss Leila Manning Boyd of Murrells Inlet, SC is the daughter of Mr. Reese Rodman Boyd, III and Mrs. Leila Hopkins Boyd. She was presented by Mr. Reese Rodman Boyd, III and escorted by Reese Rodman Boyd, IV.

Miss Caroline Legaré Charney of Fairfield, CT is the daughter of Mr. Felix Thomas Charney and Mrs. Olivia Lee Thornton Charney. She was presented by Mr. Felix Thomas Charney and escorted by Bonner Michael Otis.

Miss Isabelle Louise Cribbs of Columbia, SC is the daughter of

Dr. Floyd Ashton Cribbs, IV and Mrs. Carol Lindsay Cribbs. She was presented by Mr. Floyd Ashton Cribbs, III and escorted by Floyd Ashton Cribbs, IV.

Miss Lauren Elizabeth Cutshall of Duncan, SC is the daughter of Mr. Matthew Alan Cutshall and Mrs. Elizabeth Caughman Rauch Cutshall. She was presented by Mr. Matthew Alan Cutshall and escorted by Conner Michael Page.

Miss Elizabeth Manal Dabit of Charleston, SC is the daughter of Mrs. Chandler Elizabeth Bryant. She was presented by Mr. John Labree Ripley, Jr. and escorted by Mr. Reese Oliver Tillman.

Miss Abbey Margaret Foster of Greenville, SC is the daughter of Rev. Edward Jay Foster, Jr. and Mrs. Eliza Legaré Pender Foster. She was presented by Mr. Ethan James Foster and escorted by Blake Edward Foster.

Miss Chandler Grace Ghegan of Mt. Pleasant, SC is the daughter of Dr. Mark Drury Ghegan and Dr. Joanna Chandler Ghegan. She was presented by Dr. Mark Drury Ghegan and escorted by Benjamin McCarn Polhill.

Miss Grace Kathryn Gould of McLean, VA is the daughter of Captain Austin James Gould, Jr. USCG (ret.) and Commander Kathryn Crawford Dunbar, USCG (ret.). She was presented by Captain Austin James Gould, Jr. and escorted by Yanni Aknine.

Miss Presley Fay Skipper of San Diego, CA is the daughter of Mr. Ryan Kenneth Skipper and Mrs. Brittany Michelle Skipper. She was presented by Mr. Ryan Kenneth Skipper and escorted by James Barry Nunn, IV.

Following the presentation, debutantes, their families, and distinguished guests enjoyed a sophisticated three-course dinner. The menu featured the Francis Marion house salad, followed by a dual entree of petite filet mignon and broiled salmon paired with fresh herb mashed potatoes and asparagus. The meal concluded with a New York Style cheesecake topped with fruit and whipped cream.

The celebration continued as The Swing Set Orchestra took the stage. The debutantes shared the first waltz with their presenters, followed by a dance with their escorts, before the floor opened to all guests for an evening of music and dance.

The Colonial Ball was established in 1976 to celebrate the United States Bicentennial and our shared American heritage. Dr. Greg Ohanesian has dedicated his leadership to the event as Ball Chairman since 1999.



Complete Weddings and Events of Charleston

2025 COLONIAL BALL



Bagpiper **Bill Nuttall**



Miss Caroline Legaré Charney and Bonner Michael Otis, Escort.



Miss Presley Fay Skipper; and Ryan Kenneth Skipper, Presenter



Miss Lily Doeblér Antemann; and Gregory Clark Antemann, Presenter



From left: Vic Brandt, III, Past President SCSSAR; Brooks Lyles, NSSAR Treasurer General and SCSSAR President Mike Monahan.



Greg Ohanesian, Colonial Ball Chair

Diane and I had a wonderful evening and were honored to present National Society greetings at the 26th SCSSAR Colonial Debutante Ball at the historic Francis Marion Hotel in Charleston. Thanks to Greg and Barbara Ohanesian and their SAR/DAR team for all their hard work and dedication to honoring the Debutantes. *Brooks Lyles.*



2025 COLONIAL BALL



**Miss Isabelle Louise Cribbs; and
Floyd Ashton Cribbs, III, Presenter**



**Miss Grace Kathryn Gould; Yanni
Aknine, Escort; and Miss Chandler
Grace Ghegan; Benjamin McCarn
Polhill, Escort**



**Miss Grace Kathryn Gould; Yanni
Aknine, Escort**



**Miss Abbey Margaret Foster; Ethan
James Foster, Presenter**



**Miss Isabelle Louise Cribbs; Floyd
Ashton Cribbs, III, Presenter**



Miss Elizabeth Manal Dabit



From left: Photo 12: Vic Brandt, III, Master of Ceremonies; Brooks Lyles, NSSAR Treasurer General; Mrs. Greg Ohanesian; Greg Ohanesian, Colonial Ball Chair SCSSAR; SCSSAR President Mike Monahan and Greg Ohanesian.

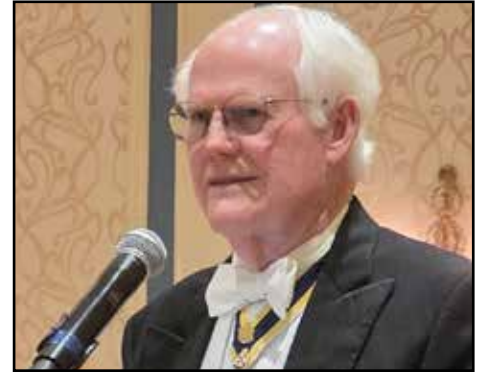
2025 COLONIAL BALL



SCSSAR President Mike Monahan



Brooks Lyles, NSSAR Treasurer General



Sir Julian "Vic" Brandt, III, Master of Ceremonies



From left: Mike Monahan, David Smith, Doug Doster, Greg Ohanesian, William Allgood and Vic Brandt, III

William Allgood honored for 45 years of SAR membership

At the February meeting of the General Andrew Pickens Chapter, chapter President Bud Starnes presented former chapter and state president William Allgood (left) with a certificate for 45 years of membership in the SAR. [Photo by Ric Hill]



The Chapter Secretary Is the Pulse of the Chapter

By Larry Gamble

President

Col. Matthew Singleton Chapter
State Secretary, SC Society

The Chapter secretary is the focal point of communications for the SAR. This will cover a few key tasks that keep current information available to State or National levels. These items are more than house-keeping records; they help improve the chapter's historical archive and member satisfaction with the SAR.

1. Chapter Activity Reports — these are required quarterly and this is a recap of activities like the name implies and helps maintain a consolidated chapter history.

a. When did your chapter meet, how many members attended, what was the program or guest speaker?

b. Any new members inducted?

c. Did you host any events, if so when and what were they, where were they held, event purpose, any invited dignitaries, SAR/DAR/CAR members attending.

d. Did any members attend other events SAR or DAR

e. Did the chapter present any awards, certificates or medals

2. Member Updates — at the state level we need to know about certain changes.



Larry Gamble
State Secretary, SC Society

a. Member Transfers need to be coordinated with the State Secretary.

i. Chapter to Chapter — an email from the two chapters detailing who is moving, their National ID number, and the effective date. Include the State Secretary so it is clear both chapters agree to the transfer.

ii. Out of State — this one needs a form which the member initiates and sends to the gaining chapter who then coordinates with the demitting State Secretary to verify dues are up to date, then it's forwarded to the gaining State Secretary for sign off and

forwarding to National SAR.

iii. Death Notifications — Chapter Secretaries are in the best position to know about the passing of their members. National has put a form on the website to make the notification and they send it back to the State Secretary. This is available on the SAR.org website and it's the third item on the blue banner under drop down labeled "Quick Links."

3. Officer Change Reports — these are needed at the change of officers either with the annual chapter election or if a chapter needs to appoint someone to fill an elected position.

a. These go to the State Secretary on the "Change of Officers Reporting Form."

b. It's used to coordinate member profile data like positions held and to coordinate chapter access to member profiles.

One other area chapter secretaries can help their members is with their initial login to the SAR website. Once there, members can update their Profile's basic information like address, phone, email. This is important for keeping in touch. If needed, the Chapter Secretary has access to the database and can update information for members.

These are key roles that make sure we keep communications flowing to our members.

This is something the Chapters can accomplish on the National website at SAR.org. The last couple emails I got, the chapter didn't provide me the compatriots full name or National number.

It's much easier and timely if the Chapters accomplish this. They just go to the National site, sign in, then under the blue bar the QUICK LINKS is actually a drop down menu when you hover over it. Click on Compatriot Death Reporting and fill in the blanks of the online form. When they are done, National emails the reporting official confirmation and that email needs to be forwarded to me.

sar.org/compatriot-death-reporting-system/

Compatriot Death Reporting System – National Society Sons of the American Revolution
sar.org

Larry Gamble

President, Col. Matthew Singleton Chapter

State Secretary, SC Society

Sons of the American Revolution

Senior Reorganizing President, Gamecock Society

Children of the American Revolution

wlgamble@icloud.com

**The deadline for the Summer Edition
of *The Palmetto Patriot* is May 18.**

Recording of 'Compatriot' Graves Added to PRS

The recording of "Compatriot" graves has been added to the PRS. Marking details can now be viewed by members who have logged into sar.org and then PRS. Grave Marking information for the compatriot will appear in the Member Tab of PRS. The forms for reporting a compatriot grave marking and requesting a compatriot grave marking medal have been changed as follows.

All Compatriot Grave Markings must now be reported on the attached Compatriot Grave Marking Report form. This Compatriot Grave Marking Report form can also be found in sar.org Forms and Manuals tab. The Google Compatriot Report form in the Patriot Records Committee Website is being removed and should no longer be used.

Compatriot grave marking medal form has been simplified. All Compatriot Grave Marking Medal Requests must be requested on the attached Compatriot Grave Marking Medal Request form. This form is also available in sar.org Forms and Manuals tab. The more complicated original form is still accepted.

We recommend that chapters holding a compatriot grave marking provide the member number and cemetery number in their ceremony handout. This will assist compatriots seeking a medal by having this information available when completing their medal request form.

You may address any questions to me.
Steve Hinson (OH)

National Society Sons of the American Revolution

Chairman Patriot Records Committee
Vice Chairman Genealogy Research Committee

Vice Chairman Membership Committee

Vice Chairman Information Technology Committee

Member Strategic Planning Committee
Member Education Committee — SAR

University

Member Audit Committee

Vice President General, Central District
2023-2024

440-645-7322

5863 Beech Street

Andover, OH 44003

440-645-7322

 Compatriot Grave Marking Report	
Compatriot Information Attach with submittal email the photo of site w/marker and name of photographer and member number.	
Name	
Date of Birth	Date of Death
Burial Information	
Find-A-Grave Memorial ID	Find-A-Grave Cemetery ID
PRS CemeteryID Number	C- NOTE: To find CemeteryID - search in PRS Cemetery Search tab.
If PRS CemeteryID Number cannot be found, complete the following Cemetery Address Detail	
Cemetery Name	Cemetery Address
Cemetery City	County State Zip
Marker & Site Information	
NOTE: The coordinates requested are for the Compatriot's grave site and not for the Cemetery. Use decimal coordinates.	
GPS Latitude	GPS Longitude
Identify the SAR Member Marker Placed	
SAR Member Marker - Lug ☐	SAR Member Marker - Stake ☐
SAR Member Marker Granite ☐	SAR Crematoria Marker ☐
None or Other ☐	
Comments - Marker and Gravesite (If Member Marker was None or Other per above, please describe the Other or None)	
Ceremony Information	
Chapter Name	State Society Ceremony Date
Submitter Information	
NOTE: Submitter confirms marking was held and met the requirements of the Member's Handbook and Grave Marking Manual.	
Submitter Name	Member Number
Email address	Submit to patriotgraves@sar.org
Form CGM-2025 ver 1	



The National Society
of the
Sons of the American Revolution
Compatriot Grave Marking Medal Reporting Form

Nominee Information:

Name: _____		National Number: _____	State Number: _____
Society: _____	District: _____	Chapter: _____	
Has the Nominee received the Grave Marking Medal previously?		NO	YES
If Yes, date? _____	Number of Previous Compatriot Grave Marking Medals: _____		

The Nominee has participated in Grave Marking Ceremonies for the following Compatriots

Note: Only one Role is required for each event. Color Guard service does not count toward this medal.

To find SAR Cemetery number, search in PRS Cemetery tab

Number	Compatriot Name:	Compatriot ID:	SAR Cemetery #:	Ceremony Date:	Nominee Role
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					

Society President or Designated Society Approver: Please email the signed form to: GraveMarkApp@sar.org

I, _____, do hereby affirm the above record is accurate and recommend the Nominee for the awarding of the Compatriot Grave Marking Medal. Signed _____ Date: _____

National Patriot Graves Committee Approver:

I, _____ do hereby approve the Nominee for presentation of the Compatriot Grave Marking Medal. Signed _____ Date: _____

Role Abbreviations: MC = Master of Ceremonies; M = Music; P = on Program; W = Wreath; R = Research; L = Labor; D = Donation; MS = Musket Salute; A = Administration

If Nominee Role is D you must include a letter from the sponsoring chapter President stating the donation amount received.

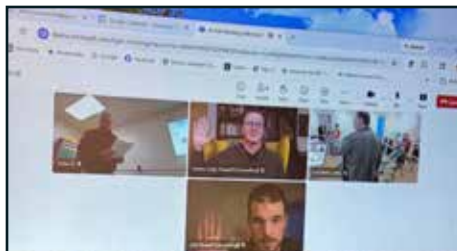
Form GMMR/1 2025

Chapter Capsules

News items from SCSSAR chapters

Col. Joseph Kershaw Chapter

On Feb. 12 the Col. Joseph Kershaw Chapter inducted three new members. The first was Nelson Bowling. They did something new and inducted two new members remotely using MS Teams. These were James Howell (in Seattle, Washington) and Jeff Howell (in St. Cloud, Minnesota). Accepting their certificates on their behalf was Clyde Howell, who also sponsored their applications.



Remote induction



John Goodwin with Chapter Registrar Clyde Howell and his wife, accepting two certificates for their sons who were remotely inducted.



John Goodwin with Nelson Bowling

Archives of past copies of *The Palmetto Patriot* are on the Godfrey Dreher chapter website at www.herritage.com/gdc

Washington's Birthday Celebration

On Sunday afternoon, Feb. 22, the Battle of Eutaw Springs Chapter held its annual observance of General George Washington's birthday. The event is held on his birthdate, Feb. 22, at the Pioneer Cemetery on the grounds of the Orangeburg County Historical Society. Compatriots David Rast, President, and Douglas Doster, Secretary of the chapter, read narratives of Washington's greatness and his contributions to the founding of our nation. In the words of his contemporaries, Washington was, "first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen."



David Rast, Chapter President



Doug Doster, Chapter Secretary



BATTLE OF EUTAW SPRINGS SCSSAR

245TH ANNIVERSARY

BATTLE of EUTAW SPRINGS

COMMEMORATION

SEPTEMBER 4-5, 2026
A National SAR Recognized Event

Thursday, September 3rd
RECEPTION

Friday, September 4th
NARRATED BUS TOUR
FORT MOTTE, FORT WATSON AND BATTLE OF EUTAW SPRINGS

DINNER WITH GUEST SPEAKER

Saturday, September 5th
PATRIOTIC PROGRAMS
HISTORIC CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY IN EUTAWVILLE, S.C.

WREATH LAYING CEREMONY AT MONUMENT SITE

FRANCIS MARION TOMB HONOR WREATH PRESENTATION

CONTACT DOUGLAS DOSTER AT: [DOSTERDOUGLAS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:dosterdouglas@gmail.com) OR 803-747-2111

Gov. Paul Hamilton Chapter Christmas Formal

BEAUFORT — The Gov. Paul Hamilton Chapter held its Annual Christmas Formal meeting at the Dataw Island Club Dec. 13. Fifty-seven formally dressed members, including Kilts, and guests enjoyed a festive gathering among a colorful background of Christmas decorations, sharing memories of the year, hors d'oeuvres, and toasting to one another.

Chapter President Randy Atkins called for seating in the ball room, and SC Society President Mike Monahan gave the Blessing. A delicious plated meal with dessert was served during which time special guests were introduced, including 13 members of the DAR. Those included were Past State President Ted Walker and wife Linda; John Boyes, SC Society Low Country Vice President and wife Ginevra; and Dian Brownfield, Beaufort DAR Regent and her husband, Compatriot Ken Brownfield.

Following dinner President Atkins introduced the evening's keynote speaker, Compatriot Dr. John M. McCardell, former Vice Chancellor and President of Sewanee The University of the South. "Precedents



Guest Speaker, Compatriot John McCardell on "Precedents for Presidents: George Washington and Launching of a New Nation." [Photos by Secretary Wilson McElveen except the two photos he appears in.]



President Randy Atkins presents Lise Sundria, President of the Historic Beaufort Foundation, the Martha Washington Medal and Certificate.

for his five Years of SAR Service. The following members were elected by acclamation to their respective positions: President Tom Mikell; Vice President Miles Montgomery; Secretary Jody Henson; Treasurer Ryan Henrickson; Registrar Tony Brice;

Wilson McElveen, outgoing Chapter Secretary, was presented with the Chapter Distinguished Service Medal in recognition of outstanding personal service over and above his normal duties. Compatriot John Augustine Washington, Jr. was honored

for his five Years of SAR Service. The following members were elected by acclamation to their respective positions: President Tom Mikell; Vice President Miles Montgomery; Secretary Jody Henson; Treasurer Ryan Henrickson; Registrar Tony Brice;



Beaufort's Thomas Heyward, Jr., DAR Regent Dian Brownfield is presented The Daughters of Liberty Medal by President Randy Atkins.



Outgoing Chapter President Randy Atkins (right) after draping new President Tom Mikell with his Presidential Neck Ribbon and in turn receiving his Past President Pin and neck ribbon from Tom Mikell.

for Presidents: George Washington and the Launching of a New Nation" was the subject of his presentation.

Following his presentation were award presentations to several members and guests including the Martha Washington Medal to Lise Sundria, Executive Director of The Historic Beaufort Foundation, for her involvement in the 200th anniversary of the historical return of the Marquis de Lafayette to Beaufort. DAR Regent Dian Brownfield was honored with The Daughters of Liberty Medal for her tireless ef-



Compatriot John Augustine Washington, Jr. (left), recognized for five Years of Service to the SAR by Chapter President Randy Atkins.

Genealogist Craig Bowman; Chaplain Mike Monahan; Color Sergeant Wilson McElveen and Historian Phil Cromer. SC Society President Mike Monahan swore in new President Tom Mikell, who is the SC Society Chancellor; Jody Henson, Wilson McElveen and Phil Cromer. Tom led the attendees through the SAR Recessional prior to calling the meeting adjourned.

Gov. Paul Hamilton Chapter Christmas Formal



DAR Members in attendance of the Chapter's Annual Meeting are (from left) Carole Drexel, Regent Dian Brownfield, Gladys Cousar, Amelie Cromer, Ann Monahan, Connie Atkins, Nancy Greene, Debbi Covington, Anita Henson, Mary Koth and Ginevra Boyes.



New Chapter Officers sworn in by SC SAR Society President Mike Monahan (from left) Historian Phil Cromer, Color Sergeant Wilson McElveen, Secretary Jody Henson and President Tom Mikell.



Beaufort DAR Member Connie Atkins, President of the Heritage Society of Beaufort, is honored with the SAR/DAR Medal of Appreciation by President Randy Atkins.



Chapter Secretary Wilson McElveen (left) is presented the Chapter Distinguished Service Medal by President Randy Atkins

Major General William Moultrie Chapter



Congratulations to the new member of the Major General William Moultrie Chapter, Charleston, SC. Major General James Livingston, USMC (RET) and a Medal of Honor Recipient (center), SCSSAR State President Mike Monahan (left) and Major Bob Cornelius, USMC (RET) Ft. Dorchester Chapter (right).

The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution



Proclamation for Wreaths Across America

WHEREAS the organization **Wreaths Across America** coordinates wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as at more than 4,900 additional locations in all 50 states, at sea and abroad; and,

WHEREAS the mission of Wreaths Across America is to remember those who served, honor veterans throughout the year, and teach America's children the value of freedom; and

WHEREAS Wreaths Across America has chosen "KEEP MOVING FORWARD" as its 2025 theme to encourage Americans to live with purpose every day and choose – as individuals, communities, and a nation – to keep moving forward; and,

WHEREAS one of the patriotic, historical, and education purposes of the Sons of the American Revolution is "to perpetuate the memory of those individuals who, by their services or sacrifices during the war of the American Revolution, achieved the independence of the American people"; and,

WHEREAS the Sons of the American Revolution seeks to foster cooperative arrangements with patriotic organizations such as Wreaths Across America in pursuit of our common goals to honor, remember, and support those who have served, and to inspire our communities to "a more profound reverence for the principles of the government founded by our forefathers"; and,

WHEREAS Saturday, December 13, 2025, has been designated by the Wreaths Across America organization as the date for these wreath laying ceremonies to occur;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael J. Elston, President General of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, encourage all Compatriots to join with Wreaths Across America and other patriotic, community, and veterans' organizations, on Saturday, December 13, 2025, to participate in wreath-laying ceremonies and activities in their communities and to KEEP MOVING FORWARD.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the seal of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution this ninth day of December, in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fiftieth.



Michael J. Elston
President General

Wreaths Across America Dec. 13



National Cemetery in Beaufort — From left: Ted Walker (Past President SCSSAR and Vice President for Chapter Development), Mike Monahan (SCSSAR State President), and Ryan Michael Henrickson (Treasurer, Gov. Paul Hamilton Chapter, SAR Beaufort) standing by the marker for deceased Major John Simpson, USMC (RET), Gov. Paul Hamilton Chapter, SAR.



This wreath was made possible by Compatriots David Rast and Doug Doster. Compatriots Harold Blich, Doug Doster and friend Tom Connor of the Eutaw Springs Battle-ground Association, Inc. placed the wreath Dec. 14.



General Andrew Pickens Vice President Harry Mays (left) and Historian Dr. Timothy Drake present wreaths on the graves of General Andrew Pickens and his wife Rebeca at the Wreaths Across America event at the Old Stone Church Cemetery in Clemson. [Photo by Ric Hill]

Gov. Paul Hamilton Chapter



Dec. 15 AFJROTC Awards Ceremony at Beaufort High School, Cadet Michael Radcliffe, is presented the SAR Bronze JROTC Medal, certificate and a stipend check for \$100. The award was presented by Col. Harold Mills, USAF (Ret), Military Awards Chairman of the Gov. Paul Hamilton Chapter of Beaufort. [Photo by Col. Fred Channels, USA (Ret).]

Thomas Lynch and Lemuel Benton Chapters



Chief Michael Fanning of the Pawleys Island Police Department receives the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal from Thomas Lynch Chapter President Bill Sturgeon at the annual General George Washington Presidents Day Luncheon Feb. 16 at Litchfield Country Club in Pawleys Island. The presentation took place at the joint meeting of the Thomas Lynch Chapter of Georgetown and The Lemuel Benton Chapter of Myrtle Beach. *Bill Sturgeon.*

Col. Robert Anderson Chapter: Knight Essay Contest

The George S. & Stella M. Knight Essay Contest is a national competition that invites high school students in grades 9–12 to write about the American Revolution, the Declaration of Independence, or the framing of the United States Constitution. The contest is open to all U.S. citizens and legal residents attending public, private, parochial, or home schools in grades 9–12. Students must submit an original 800 to 1,200-word essay on an event, person, philosophy, or ideal. The essay must include four parts: a title page, essay pages, a bibliography (works cited), and a contestant's biography. Judging criteria include historical accuracy, clarity of thought, organization, grammar and spelling, and documentation.

The winner of this year's essay contest sponsored by the Col. Robert Anderson Chapter is Elisabeth Hand, a student at Bob Jones Academy, Greenville, SC. Her essay, entitled "Principia Classica: Greco-Roman Influence on the Founding of America," won at both the chapter and state level competitions, and has been submitted for competition at the national level.

As of last semester, Elisabeth was ranked 10th out of 99 students with a cumulative GPA of 4.8 on a weighted 5.0 scale. Complementing her writing skills and an interest in US history, her extracurricular activities include participating in a school service organization, serving as a designer on her school's yearbook staff, and serving in leadership positions at her school. Further, she competed on her high school speech and debate team and performed in her high school symphony orchestra during her freshman year. She has taken violin lessons for eight years, of which six years she participated in school orchestras. After high school, Elisabeth plans to attend college and double-major in business and graphic design/digital illustration.



From left: Philip Andrew, chapter Secretary, Elisabeth's mother Mrs. Hand, contest winner Elisabeth Hand, history teacher Mrs. Pamela Snyder, several of the other contestants, and Tom Perry, chapter President.

Cambridge Chapter

In the fall of 2025 the Cambridge Chapter invited the local DAR chapters to attend an event. With special permission from President Chip Tinsley, and the participation of former DAR Vice President General Diane Culbertson, a DAR member was inducted into the Star Fort Chapter. While many of the DARs, myself included, had witnessed SAR inductions, no SAR members had seen a DAR induction, so the event was special in many ways. The inductee does not live in Greenwood, but her father is a resident at Wesley Commons and she visits him periodically, so she chose to join the Star Fort Chapter. Her father's SAR application is pending at Headquarters. *Sunni Bond.*

The 82nd State Conference of the South Carolina Society Children of the American Revolution

The 82nd State Conference of the South Carolina Society Children of the American Revolution was held Feb 6-8 at the Greenville Marriott.

Many SCSSAR members participated.

C.A.R. members who are also SAR are President John Verenes, Secretary Will Verenes (President elect for April 25, 2026 and Chaplain Carl Widell, elected second Vice President for the next year. Senior Vice President Gary Blanpied awarded John Verenes the SAR CAR silver medal of appreciation in front of his peers in the CAR. The rest of the SCSSAR awards will be given out at our banquet April 17, 2026 at The Hilton Garden Inn on Farrow Road in Columbia.

The highlight of the night was the news

that the goal of raising \$15,000 while John Verenes was President and giving that for an entrance gate and signage for the Thomas Heyward Jr property had been exceeded. They had raised over \$19,000!



John Verenes and John Ethan Boyes



Smittie Cooler
Thomas Heyward Jr. Chapter



Senior Vice President Gary Blanpied (left) with State Secretary Larry Gamble.



Gary Blanpied awards John Verenes the Silver Medal of Appreciation SAR CAR. National C.A.R. President Reese Holmes is at right.



John Ethan Boyes



Members of Aiken's William Stroud Society include John and Will Verenes, Past State President Ted Walker with his granddaughter, State Recording Secretary Pete Widell and son Carl Widell.



From left: John Verenes (left), and Carl Widell.

Ohanesian History Presentations Cash Award

NOW IS THE TIME...

...to start Chapter planning to make presentations to classes of school aged children on the American Revolution next school year.

WHY?

Recent surveys of high school graduates show that 82% don't know who George Washington was.

WHY?

- (1) Many universities and colleges provide that one may get a bachelor's degree with a major in history without taking a single course in American History.
- (2) Teachers can't teach what they don't know.
- (3) Public school teachers are bound to teach for student success for end of year standardized tests so the students can move to the next level. The standardized tests don't include any questions regarding American History.

In view of these facts and others, The Ohanesian History Presentations Cash Award for Chapters was instituted to provide some financial incentive for Chapter members to get into our schools and teach students about the American Revolution.

WHY?

- (1) It became apparent to Greg Ohanesian that generally NSSAR members know more about the American Revolution than any other group in our Nation.
- (2) If we don't make presentations on the American Revolution no one will.

HOW DO CHAPTERS QUALIFY?

The Ohanesian History Presentations Cash Award for Chapters provides for 4 membership categories to win \$500.00 in each membership category.

The chapter membership categories are broken into 4 levels:

- (1) Chapters with 10-49 members,
- (2) Chapters with 50-99 members,
- (3) Chapters with 100-199 members, and
- (4) Chapters with 200 members or more.

Your chapter presentations are noted on your chapter's Americanism Score Card, already in place.

PLEASE HELP SAVE THE VALUES OF OUR PATRIOT ANCESTORS.

Stronger Together: How Local SAR and DAR Chapters Can Serve Community and Country Side by Side

By Jim Herritage
Technical Vice President
Godfrey Dreher Chapter, SCSSAR
in collaboration with:
Deborah Blanpied
Regent of the Granby Chapter SCDAR
and SCDAR Committee Chair
of DAR/SAR/SR Relations
Nelson McLeod, President
Godfrey Dreher Chapter, SCSSAR

In towns across America, two distinguished lineage societies often meet only a few miles apart—sometimes in the same historic sanctuary or civic hall—yet operate on parallel tracks. The Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) and the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) share common ancestry, mission, and patriotic purpose. When local chapters intentionally collaborate, they multiply their impact—not only for their members, but for the communities they serve.

At their core, both organizations exist to perpetuate the memory of the Patriots of the American Revolution, promote historic preservation, and foster education and patriotism. A natural first step toward partnership is shared programming. Rather than hosting entirely separate monthly meetings, chapters can coordinate one or two joint meetings annually featuring a compelling speaker on Revolutionary War history, genealogy, or local heritage. A well-publicized joint event draws larger audiences, introduces prospective members to both societies, and strengthens civic visibility.

Genealogical collaboration offers another rich opportunity. SAR and DAR registrars often work with overlapping families. Hosting a “Patriot Ancestor Workshop” together—perhaps at a public library—allows members of both organizations to guide guests through lineage documentation, research tools, and applica-

tion procedures. Combining expertise accelerates applicant success while demonstrating unity of purpose. For communities with strong ancestral ties, such workshops can spark renewed interest in local history.

Youth outreach is another area where cooperation shines. The DAR’s longstanding emphasis on education and youth programs complements the SAR’s essay contests, orations, and JROTC recognition initiatives. A joint awards ceremony honoring local students—complete with certificates, medals, and press coverage—amplifies the message that patriotism and scholarship matter. Shared sponsorship reduces costs and increases participation, while giving students and parents a clearer understanding of both organizations’ missions.

Historic preservation projects also benefit from combined effort. Whether restoring a neglected cemetery, cleaning Revolutionary War markers, or sponsoring a new roadside historical plaque, the manpower and fundraising capacity of two chapters can accomplish what one alone might postpone. Joint dedication ceremonies, complete with color guard participation and period attire, become meaningful community events that attract local officials and media attention.

Community service presents further opportunity. From supporting veterans’ initiatives to participating in Constitution Week observances each September, SAR and DAR chapters can coordinate calendars to avoid duplication and reinforce attendance. Appearing together in parades or civic ceremonies sends a visible signal of cooperation and shared heritage.

Communication is key. Establishing an annual leadership luncheon between chapter officers fosters goodwill and ensures calendars align. Cross-publishing highlights in each other’s newsletters broadens awareness and encourages dual membership among qualified individuals. Many families include both eligible men and women; working together makes it easier for them to see how participation in both organizations strengthens family engagement.

Ultimately, collaboration between local SAR and DAR chapters is less about efficiency and more about example. The Patriots whose sacrifices they honor did not labor alone; they relied on neighbors, families, and communities united in common cause. When today’s lineage societies follow that model—planning together, serving together, and celebrating together—they embody the very spirit they seek to preserve.

Stronger together, they honor the past while shaping a more informed and patriotic future for their communities.

Deborah Blanpied — The DAR/SAR/S.R. Relations Committee was established on July 8, 2022, as a Service Committee dedicated to fostering partnership and strengthening relationships among DAR chapters and SAR and S.R. chapters at the local, regional, and national levels.

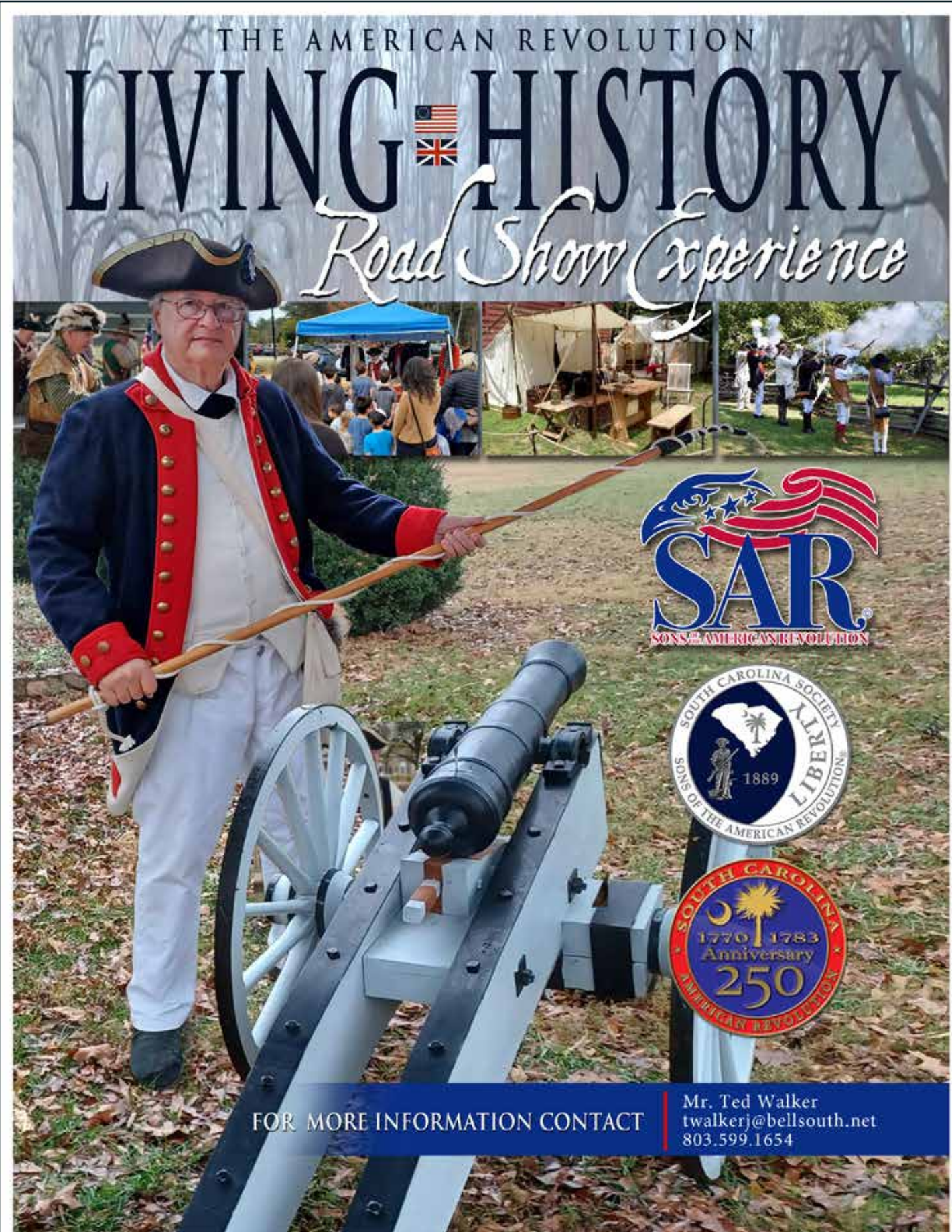
Its purpose is to cultivate strong, collaborative working relationships that advance our shared missions of historic preservation, education, and patriotism. The committee’s overarching objective is to provide support and assistance in community-centered initiatives while promoting mutual membership growth and bringing the common principles of our organizations to the forefront.

The committee also encourages and documents cooperative projects and activities undertaken by DAR members at the local, state, national, and community levels in partnership with the SAR and S.R.

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During the monthly Godfrey Dreher Chapter SCSSAR meeting Feb. 9, President Nelson McLeod presented a check to Deborah Blanpied, Regent of Granby Chapter NSDAR, in support of the installation of a historical marker at Historic Fort Granby and Friday’s Ferry, with proceeds from SAR mug sales.



THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

LIVING HISTORY

Road Show Experience



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Mr. Ted Walker
twalkerj@bellsouth.net
803.599.1654



Why Every Chapter Needs a Website

by Jim Herritage

Godfrey Dreher Chapter • Technical VP & Webmaster

Leadership within the South Carolina Society, SAR has made a forward-thinking investment in the future by developing a new state website that provides member chapters with a tremendous benefit: free chapter websites with powerful capabilities. That should prompt an important question — why does a chapter need a website in the first place? At least five strong reasons come to mind.

First, outreach. A chapter website serves as the front door for men who are curious about their Patriot ancestors and the work of the Sons of the American Revolution. Many prospective members begin their journey online. A well-designed site offers them a local connection, an overview of the lineage research process, and a clear path forward. It can explain what documentation is required and, just as importantly, connect them with knowledgeable leaders such as our Registrar Mike Gillis who can guide them through mapping and proving their descent.

Second, member reference. For existing compatriots, a website becomes a living handbook. Instead of searching through old emails or paper files, members can quickly find chapter leadership contacts, committee descriptions, chapter history, genealogical resources, and essential SAR knowledge. It is a central, always-available knowledge base that strengthens participation and understanding.

Third, a reliable calendar. This is where the state society plays a pivotal role. It makes little sense for each chapter to independently track dozens of events across South Carolina. Positioned at the center of statewide activity, the state society is best equipped to publish and maintain an official calendar. Chapter websites, in turn, can share that trusted information with their members, ensuring better attendance and coordination.

Fourth, preservation of archives. Too often, valuable records vanish when officers change, files are misplaced, or longtime record keepers pass away. A chapter website can serve as a stable digital repository for bylaws, meeting minutes, annual reports, and other key documents. It quietly tells future members, “We were here, and we took our responsibilities seriously.”

Fifth, an ongoing meeting place. Today’s communication tools allow boards and committees to meet virtually and exchange ideas easily. A website provides the hub — linking members to virtual meeting spaces, shared documents, and discussion points. It extends the chapter beyond a once-a-month gathering into a continuous, collaborative community.

In short, a chapter website is not a luxury. It is an essential tool for outreach, education, coordination, preservation, and connection — all vital to our mission.

Let Me Tell You About My Patriot Ancestor

By Norman Smith
Treasurer
Godfrey Dreher Chapter

Michael Watson was born in Virginia on 10 April 1726 to William and Penelope Watson. Around 1745, his parents moved to South Carolina. William, along with his brother John, settled in the Ridge Spring area on land granted by Kings George II and George III.

The Watson family was ever ready to “buckle on their swords” at the first call to arms. The following is a brief sketch of one who ultimately gave his life in the cause of American liberty. Michael, the fifth great-grandfather of Norman Smith, married Martha Watson, daughter of his uncle John Watson. He was a prosperous and industrious planter. Michael and Martha had five children, including Keziah Watson. Keziah married Robert Willis, and they moved to present-day Barnwell County, where they established a plantation called Wildwood. The nearby town of Williston is said to have been named for Robert Willis.

Michael first saw military service during the Cherokee Expedition under Colonel Grant in 1762. He again fought against the Cherokee in 1766, serving as a captain. He rendered especially effective service at Little River, where the Indians were repulsed and the division saved—an outcome largely credited to Watson’s leadership. After the action, numerous bullet holes were found in his clothing, through which musket balls had passed without wounding him.

In 1767 and 1768, he played an active role in suppressing lawlessness in the region as a Regulator. In 1767, he, along with his father, his brother William, and two others, captured and killed a band of outlaws. Tragically, his father and brother were themselves killed in the conflict.

As tensions with Great Britain grew, Watson united with the Whigs for mutual defense and was chosen as a leader. In doing so, he drew the vengeance of British authorities but rose high in the confidence of leading Patriot officers. His home, located on the road from Charleston to Cambridge, was exposed to frequent hos-

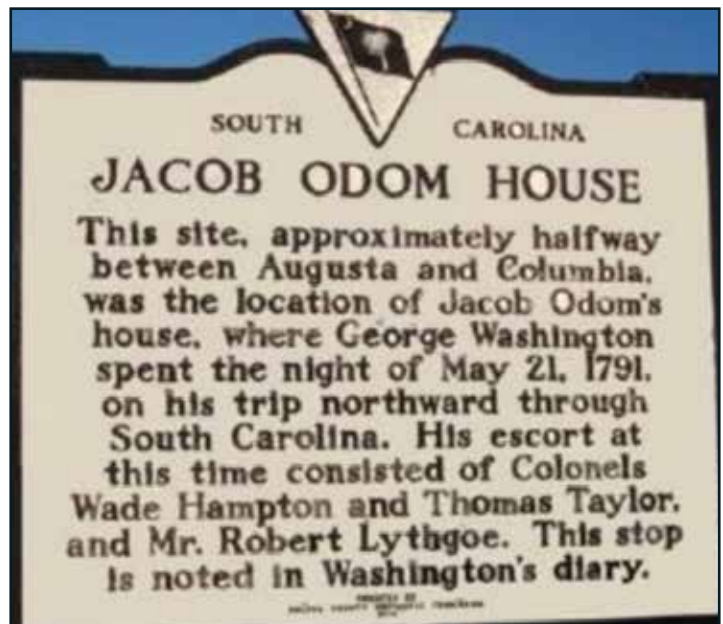
tile visits by the British and their Tory allies. His energy, courage, and the large number of active Whigs under his command made him an object of hatred. Tories surrounded his home several times in attempts to kill him, and his property was burned four times—his dwellings, mills, barns, cribs, and nearly everything he owned.

In May 1782, Captain Watson learned of a band of Tories in Dean’s Swamp, near the present town of Springfield in Orangeburg County, and resolved to attack them. As Watson’s men approached, two Tories were seen attempting to hide. Captain Watson, Lieutenant William Butler, Sergeant Thomas Vardell, and others rode forward to capture them. Watson quickly realized they were decoys and warned his men that the main body of Tories lay concealed in the brush. The Tories rose and delivered a well-aimed volley that brought down Captain Watson and several of the leading Whigs. Watson survived long enough to be carried to Orangeburg, where he died on 24 May 1782 and was buried with military honors.

Martha Watson’s Service

During the war, Martha Watson rode throughout the backcountry carrying messages and securing supplies for her husband, Captain Watson. After the war, she married Jacob Odom.

In 1791, during President George Washington’s tour of the Southern states, he traveled from Augusta, Georgia, to Columbia, South Carolina, and dined at the home of Jacob and Martha Odom near present day Monetta. Washington presented Captain Michael Watson’s daughter Mary with a beautiful jewel box, which remains a treasured heirloom among her descendants.



Archives of past copies of *The Palmetto Patriot* are on the Godfrey Dreher chapter website at www.herritage.com/gdc

James Herritage

New Educational Play for Grades 3–5

Now Available to Support America 250

By John C. Goodwin III

President, Col. Joseph Kershaw Chapter, SCSSAR
Past President, Button Gwinnett Chapter, GASSAR

As America 250 approaches, our society continues its mission to help young Americans discover the courage, challenges, and everyday realities of those who lived during our nation's founding. In support of this effort, I am pleased to announce the release of a new original play created specifically for students in grades 3–5.

Introducing The McElroys of Camden

Set just outside Camden, South Carolina, in late 1780, the play follows the fictional McElroy family as the turbulence of the Southern Campaign presses in around them. Although the family is fictional, the situations they face reflect the real experiences of countless backcountry families whose lives were upended by the events surrounding the Battle of Camden.

The play uses an “Our Town” storytelling approach, with a narrator who introduces each of the six scenes and offers a closing reflection—helping younger audiences stay grounded while drawing them into the life of a Revolutionary War-era family.

Engaging, Accessible, and Classroom Friendly

The cast includes:

- Narrator
- Five main characters from the McElroy family
- One cameo appearance by a wounded Patriot soldier

To accommodate difference performance needs, this play may be produced as a Reader's Theater or as a full play with staging, costumes, and movement.

To support simple, visually rich classroom productions, scene-specific background images are included. These can be projected or displayed behind the actors to help students better visualize the setting and historical context of each scene.

Support for Teachers and Historical Context

Recognizing that not all teachers are familiar with the Kershaw District as it existed in 1780, the play package includes basic historical information to help educators understand:

- A map of the Kershaw District during the Revolutionary War

- Background information on the British Occupation of Camden

- Key military activity and events leading up to the Battle of Camden

This background material equips teachers with the context they need to guide students confidently through the story and post play discussions.

Built In Discussion Prompts

Each scene includes:

- Reflection questions
- Prompts for critical thinking
- Suggestions for connecting historical events to students' own lives

Teachers can use these prompts immediately after each scene or as part of a culminating activity, enabling students to explore not just what happened—but how it might have felt for a family living through the Southern Campaign.

A Free Resource for America 250 Programming

This play is available free of charge to any school, educator, or organization seeking to encourage America 250 learning among youth. Its small cast, minimal staging requirements, and age-appropriate storytelling make it ideal for classrooms, assemblies, or community programs.

How to Access the Play

Educators, SAR chapters, or organizations interested in using The McElroys of Camden may contact John Goodwin directly for scripts, background materials, questions/prompts, and scene images. All SAR chapters to share this resource within their communities as we work together to bring Revolutionary history to life for the next generation.

Let us continue to honor our patriot ancestors by ensuring their stories—and the lessons they offer—are carried forward into America's 250th anniversary and beyond. Compatriots,

I have created a play set in Camden in late 1780 to help young people better understand what a family might have experienced amid the rumors, battles, and skirmishes taking place around them during the Revolutionary War.

In the Google Shared Drive linked below, you will find the formal announcement of the play as well as all the materials needed for a teacher or leader to use it effectively. The folder is set so that anyone with the link can view the contents, and materials will continue to be updated as feedback is received.

The play has already been reviewed and edited by several teachers and has been successfully performed in a classroom setting.

Thank you in advance for any feedback or suggestions.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1cop1c7RAfwWwgQrCmbRGVklYzlpJTZFj?usp=sharing>

Night Before Camden – August 15, 1780

Narrative Scene:

- Samuel prepares to ride if called.
- Eliza sets aside food for refugees.
- Mary watches wounded soldiers limp past.
- Anne and Thomas cannot sleep.



Script: The Life and Times of the Fictional McElroy Family

By John C. Goodwin, III
 President Col Joseph Kershaw Chapter SCSSAR
 Past President Button Gwinnet Chapter GASSAR
 2026

Cast

Narrator – Introduces scenes and explains plot
 Samuel – father, farmer, militia courier
 Eliza – mother, managing home & livestock
 Mary (17) – gathers news and support neighbors
 Anne (13) – helps with sewing & care tasks around home-
 stead
 Thomas (7) – watching his world change
 Wounded Soldier – scene 6 only

Narrator's Opening Monologue (Center stage, spotlight on narrator)

It's the summer of 1780. Camden, South Carolina—a town caught in the tightening storm of the Revolutionary War. The British have taken the town, beginning their occupation in June. Redcoats patrol the streets, and Lord Cornwallis himself has claimed the home of Joseph Kershaw, turning the grand house into his headquarters and a symbol of British control.

(Introduction of the family – important for cast members to acknowledge their part as introduced by the Narrator if being performed as a Reader's Theater production)

Just beyond Camden's northern edge lives a family feeling the weight of this new reality. Samuel—the father, a farmer and militia courier, moving quietly between danger and duty. Eliza—his wife, tending the home and livestock, keeping life steady while the world shifts around them. Their children: Mary, seventeen—spirited and sharp, always listening for the whispers of news. Anne, thirteen—quiet, thoughtful, learning to sew, care, and watch. And Thomas, only seven—wide-eyed, witnessing his world change in ways he cannot yet understand.

Through their voices, we will walk the dusty roads of rumor, fear, and resilience.

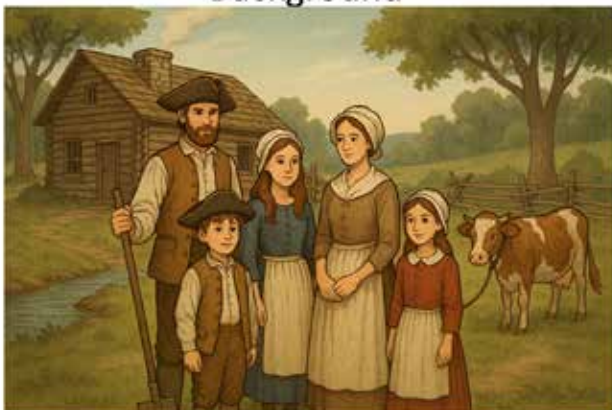
(Narrator steps aside. Lights rise on Scene 1.)

Scene 1 – Rumors of Trouble

Setting: Kitchen of the log home.

Props: Wooden table with bread loaf, clay jug, tin cups;

Narrator's Opening Monologue Background



Scene 1 Background



spinning wheel; mending basket; lantern; wooden toy horse.

Mood: Uneasy calm—normal life shadowed by whispers of war.

Stage Directions:

- Samuel enters from stage-left, hat in hand, boots dusty.
- Eliza sits at table, mending shirt.
- Mary leans against table, alert.
- Anne sits near hearth, fiddling with thread.
- Thomas plays on floor with toy horse.

Narrator:

Early July. Rumors ride faster than wagons. Fear begins to settle like dust.

Dialogue & Interaction

Samuel (pacing):

The mill was buzzing with talk today—British patrols near the Wateree. If they're scouting, Camden won't stay quiet for long.

Eliza (pausing, voice tight):

Patrols? Lord help us... if they take the cattle, what will we feed the children come winter?

Mary (leaning forward):

Neighbors say they saw redcoats on the river road. They're closer than anyone thought.

Anne (softly):

Why are folks whispering about leaving? Where would we even go?

Thomas (looking up):

Mama, why do soldiers take food? Don't they have their own?

Samuel (kneels by Thomas):

Armies eat more than they carry, son. They take what they need—and what we need too.

Eliza (sets down mending, folds hands):

If they come here, we'll have nothing left. Nothing.

Mary (moves closer to Anne):

Don't listen to the talk of fleeing. We'll manage. We always do.

Anne (looks up towards Mary):

But what if they burn the farms like they did near the river? What then?

Samuel (turns sharply towards the girls):

Who told you that?

Scene 2 Background



Anne:

Mrs. Carter said her cousin's place was ash. She said the British did it to scare folks.

Eliza (rises, voice firm):

Enough of that talk. We'll stay put. This is our home.

Mary (challenges gently):

But Mama, what if staying means losing everything? Shouldn't we have a plan?

Samuel (gruff tone):

Our plan is to keep our heads down and our faith strong. Camden's not lost yet.

Thomas (holds toy horse tight to his chest):

I don't want them to take our cow.

Eliza (kneels to Thomas):

No one's taking her, sweetheart. Papa will see to that.

(Lights dim as narrator steps forward.)

Narrator:

These whispers are the first ripples of a storm. For Samuel and Eliza, every choice will weigh heavy. For Mary and Anne, every rumor will shape their courage. And for Thomas... every question will echo louder than the cannons to come.

● Scene 2 – Livestock Raids

Setting: Front porch of the log home.

Props: Wooden bucket, rope, sack of grain, lantern, small stool.

Mood: Tense, defensive—survival feels fragile.

Narrator:

Mid-July. Raids begin. British detachments seize cattle for the Camden garrison. For families like Samuel's, every hoof-print matters.

Stage Directions

● Samuel enters from stage-left, sweaty, rope in hand, boots muddy.

● Eliza sits on the porch step, counting coins nervously.

● Mary leans against the porch rail, arms crossed, watching the road.

● Anne sits on a stool, sewing slowly, head down.

● Thomas holds a wooden toy cow, sitting near Eliza.

Dialogue & Interaction

Samuel (urgent, breathless):

I've hidden the cow deep in the swamp. If they find her, we'll have nothing.

Eliza (voice tight, counting coins):

I traded for flour and salt, but it cost near everything. How long can we keep this up?

Mary (angry, pacing):

Sarah, our neighbor down the road, her horses are gone. She cried so hard... I told her we'd manage somehow, but what if we're next?

Anne (softly, stitching):

Mama, the thread's almost gone. What happens when we can't mend clothes anymore?

Thomas (hugging toy cow):

Will our cow come back, Papa? I miss her.

Samuel (drops rope, wipes brow):

I'll check her at dawn. If they track me, we'll lose her—and maybe more.

Eliza (rises, voice trembling):

Samuel, what if they come tonight? What if they search every farm?

Mary (steps forward):

We can't just wait for them to take everything. Why don't we fight back?

Samuel (turns sharply towards Mary):

Fight back? With what? A pitchfork against muskets?

Anne (whispers):

Mrs. Carter said the British took her cousin's chickens too. They're taking everything.

Eliza (kneels to Thomas):

Sweetheart, Papa will keep her safe. You trust him, don't you?

Thomas (nods slowly, holding the toy cow tighter).

(Lights dim as narrator steps forward.)

Narrator:

For Samuel, every hiding place is a gamble. For Eliza, every coin feels heavier than gold. And for the children—every loss chips away at the world they knew.

● Scene 3 – The Smell of Smoke

Setting: Outside near a tree, lantern light.

Props: Lantern, blanket for Thomas, wooden bench.

Mood: Fearful, somber—war feels close.

Narrator:

July 30. The horizon burns. The smell of Hanging Rock is in the air. War is no longer distant.

Stage Directions

● Samuel stands near tree, looking north.

● Eliza sits on bench, hands clasped in prayer.

● Mary paces, whispering rumors.

● Anne sits beside Eliza, holding her arm.

● Thomas wrapped in blanket, staring at glow.

Dialogue & Interaction

Samuel (grim):

That smoke... it's Hanging Rock. Our men fought hard, but the British hold strong.

Eliza (whispering):

Lord, keep them safe. Keep us safe.

Mary (urgent):

I heard Jacob was wounded. They say the fighting was fierce.

Anne (fearful):

Is the war coming here? Will the Redcoats burn our home?

Thomas (holding blanket):
 Why so much smoke, Papa? Is the forest burning?
 Samuel (kneels to Thomas):
 Not the forest, son. It's battle smoke. Men fighting for freedom.

Eliza (turns to Mary):
 Who told you about Jacob?
 Mary (worried – excited – while sharing the news):
 A rider passed through. He said some never made it back.

Anne (whispers):
 What if Papa has to fight too?
 Samuel (looks away, silent for a moment).
 (Lights dim as narrator steps forward.)
 Narrator:
 Tonight, the smoke of war is heavy in the sky—and fear paints every heart.

● Scene 4 – Gates Marches South

Setting: Main room, candlelight.

Props: Map on table, candle, tin cups.

Mood: Hope mixed with dread.

Narrator:

Early August. An army marches south, carrying hope—and risk.

Stage Directions

- Samuel studies map at table.
- Eliza stands behind him, arms folded.
- Mary leans over map, curious.
- Anne sits near hearth, silent.
- Thomas marches with stick, humming.

Dialogue & Interaction

Samuel (update with warning tone):

Gates is bringing an army down from the North. They are saying that they look worn already.

Eliza (facing Samuel, speaking with concern):

If they fight here, what will become of us?

Mary (adult comment but childlike question):

They say the militia has no powder. How can they win like that?

Anne (concerned about her home and others around her):

Why do they choose places where people live?

Thomas (marching like a toy soldier):

Look, Papa! I'm a soldier!

Scene 5 Background



Gates Marches South – Early August 1780

Narrative Scene:

- Samuel describes Gates' troops marching toward Camden.
- Mary shares concerns about exhausted militia.
- Eliza fears a battle near their home.
- Anne asks why leaders choose battlefields near where people live.
- Thomas pretends to march like a soldier.



Samuel (smiles faintly at Thomas, then turns serious):
 War isn't a game, son.

Eliza (whispers):

Samuel, if the battle comes here...

Mary (interrupts):

Maybe Gates will win. Maybe this will end it.

Samuel (shakes head):

Hope is good, Mary. But hope doesn't stop bullets.

(Lights dim as narrator steps forward.)

Narrator:

Hope marches south—but so does fear.

● Scene 5 – Night Before Battle

Setting: Kitchen, dim lantern light.

Props: Bread, water jug, bandages.

Mood: Heavy, anxious.

Narrator:

August 15. The night hums with dread. Tomorrow will change everything.

Stage Directions

- Samuel sharpens knife at table.
- Eliza packs bread and broth.
- Mary binds bandages.
- Anne sits silently, staring at lantern.
- Thomas curls under quilt.

Dialogue & Interaction

Samuel (rocking):

If they need me, I'll ride tonight.

Eliza (holding the family together):

I've set aside bread and broth.

Mary (wanting to be an adult but concerned like a child):

The men... are they ready?

Anne (childlike question):

Mama, will the shooting come closer?

Thomas (upset):

I can't sleep. The guns sound like thunder.

Samuel (kneels by Thomas):

Close your eyes, son. Think of quiet fields.

Eliza (whispers to Mary):

Pray for morning.

(Lights dim as narrator steps forward.)

Narrator:

Narrator Wrap-up Background



Tonight, silence is heavy—but tomorrow, the earth will shake.

- Scene 6 – Battle of Camden

Setting: Main room, chaos.

Props: Bandages, basin of water, chair for wounded soldier.

Mood: Chaos, grief, resilience.

Narrator:

August 16. The ground shakes. Gates' army collapses. Survival becomes the only victory.

Stage Directions

- Samuel bursts in, mud-streaked.
- Eliza kneels by wounded soldier.
- Mary binds wounds.

- Anne clings to Eliza.
- Thomas hides behind hearth.

Dialogue & Interaction

Samuel (hysterical but measured update):

It's over. Gates' men are running.

Eliza (motherly):

So many gone... so many hurt.

Mary (stern):

Hold still—I need to bind the wound.

Anne (concerned high-pitched voice):

Will they come here?

Thomas (childlike scream):

When will this be over? Please – just make it stop!

Samuel (grips Eliza's shoulder):

We'll endure. We must.

(Lights dim as narrator steps forward.)

Narrator:

The Battle of Camden is a disaster—but for this family, survival is victory.

- Final Narrator Wrap-Up

Narrator: (Center stage, spotlight)

Fear was constant—raids, shortages, and rumors shaped every choice. Homes became shelters and hospitals. Children grew up under the shadow of war. Yet, despite defeat, local fighters struck back. Francis Marion's swift raids crippled British supply lines. Thomas Sumter rebuilt shattered militia bands. Families risked everything to quietly share important news with Patriot soldiers and to hide Patriot scouts who needed help. The year ended in hardship, but hope endured. Sumter rallied his men. Marion harassed British columns. Nathanael Greene took command, turning the tide. The sacrifices of families, townspeople, and leaders paved the way for ultimate victory.

(Lights fade to black.)

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

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

Make sure your 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*.

Rev. Dr. Theodore ‘Ted’ Roosevelt Morton, Jr., 1931-2026

In any organization with local, state, and national components, it is not unusual for the cream to rise to the top.

Such was the case with Compatriot Ted Morton. For many years, he served as Chaplain of the South Carolina Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. At quarterly Board of Governors meetings, he delivered the invocation—always prefaced by a brief, one-minute sermon. In those 60 seconds, he could impart more spiritual meaning to the day’s patriotic deliberations than many could convey in an hour.

His passing leaves a void in our Society that will be difficult to fill. We are all better for having known him and for having called him our Compatriot. Gary Blanpied, Ph.D., Senior Vice President.

Rev. Dr. Theodore “Ted” Roosevelt Morton, Jr., 94, retired member of the South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church, died Friday, February 6, 2026, at his home, after a long, meaningful and productive life.

Dr. Morton was born June 18, 1931, in Wilson, North Carolina, to Theodore R. Morton, Sr., and Katherine M. Morton. He was educated in the public schools of North and South Carolina, and graduated from McClenaghan High School, Florence, South Carolina, in the Class of 1949. He was a graduate of Wofford College, Spartanburg, South Carolina, Class of 1953, and The Divinity School of Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, Class of 1956.

In the Winter of 1969, he completed specialized training at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, to prepare for service in Retirement Housing Management. Wofford College conferred the Honorary Doctor of Divinity degree in 1981 recognizing his service to South Carolina Methodism.

Dr. Morton married Henrietta Mayo Rosson on August 20, 1954, in Liberty Universalist Church, at Feasterville, in Fairfield County, South Carolina, near her home at Shelton. They returned to Liberty Church frequently as they served offices in the Coleman-Feaster-Mobley Family Association. Three children blessed their marriage: Kent, Teddi and Bill. He was a Ministerial Member of the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church, Elder, 1956, and held several offices in his more than 70 years of conference membership. He attended Main Street United Methodist Church, Greenwood, and the Bible Sunday School Class.

Having graduated from Wofford College with a Commission in the US Army

Ted Morton was and will always be an icon in the South Carolina State Society.



Rev. Dr. Ted Morton, Jr.

via College ROTC, in September 1956, Dr. Morton began active duty as an Army Chaplain to fulfill his ROTC obligation for service. His first duty assignment was Fort Benning, Georgia, with the 15th Infantry Regiment, Third Infantry Division. At the end of 1957, the third division began a unit-by-unit move to West Germany to replace the 10th Infantry (the Mountain Division). The Morton family — Ted, Henrietta and Kent, born in 1957 at Fort Benning, moved to Bamberg in Bavaria, serving there until April 1961. Teddi, born at the US Army Hospital, Nuremburg, joined the family in 1959.

Dr. Morton left active duty when the family returned to the States, and was appointed Associate Minister of Shandon United Methodist Church, Columbia, SC. Bill joined the family in 1963, during the Columbia years. Following three years at Shandon UMC, and four years in Aiken County (serving Bethel UMC Church, Jackson, and Wesley Chapel UMC, Beech Island), he was appointed to begin the development of Greenwood Methodist Home (now “Wesley Commons”); so, in the Summer of 1968, the Morton family moved to Greenwood. He served for 27 years at Greenwood Methodist Home, retiring as President in June 1995. From 1984 until 1986 he served as Secretary of the SC Conference of the United Methodist Church, working with Bishop Edward Tullis and Bishop Roy Clark. He was serving as a Foundation Director at the time of his death for the SC United Methodist Foundation, of which he was a Founding Member

and had at one time served as Chairman of the Board of Directors. Following his active duty service, he served in the

US Army Reserve in the First and Third Brigades (SC and NC) of the 108th Division (Training), retiring in 1991 as a Lieutenant Colonel.

During his years of service in Greenwood, Dr. Morton established the “Meals-on-Wheels” food services program, working from the basement of the Greenwood Methodist Home Nursing Center, utilizing their Food Service Department, to provide hot, healthy meals to seniors in the Greenwood Community. He later led the effort to create the Greenwood County Council on Aging (now Piedmont Agency on Aging) when the late John Nave, then Mayor of Greenwood, made the request. The Council then established the Greenwood Senior Center for seniors in the Greenwood Community and eventually assumed operations of the ongoing “Meals-on-Wheels” food services program.

Dr. Morton also held membership and served in official positions with the SC Association of Not-for-Profit Homes and Services for the Aging, which he helped establish and served for six months as Executive Director; the Greater Carolina Association of Non-Profit Homes; the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging; the SC Commission on Aging; the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA); The Self Foundation, as a Trustee; the Greenwood Rotary Club, being named a Paul Harris Fellow in 1982; the Greenwood Chamber of Commerce, as a Board Member and Committee Chair; The Greenwood County Chapter of the American Red Cross; the Greenwood United Way; and was a current Patriot of the Star Fort Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, having served as a past President, and was the current and longstanding Chapter Chaplain. He was active in various other local civic clubs during the many years of his ministries in South Carolina.

In 2019, South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster awarded Dr. Morton “The Order of The Palmetto,” the State’s highest award for service. In 1976, he was the recipient of the Community Service Award by Rotary International; and was a decorated Army Commendation Medal recipient, for meritorious service.

Dr. Morton is survived by his wife of 71 years, Henrietta Rosson Morton; his three children, Kenneth (Kent) Patterson Morton; Theodora (Teddi) Rosson Morton Miles; and William (Bill) Spencer Morton, II., three grandchildren Kristen M. Ander-

Rev. Dr. Ted Morton, Jr.,

son, Megan K. Miles and James Rosson (Ross) Miles, and six great-grandchildren, Ethan Brock Anderson, Edward Blake Anderson, Eli Bryce Anderson, Cora Stassaline (Stassi) Miles, Michelle Jade (MJ) Miles and William (Liam) James Miles. His sister and only sibling, Ann Morton Pitt (Mrs. W. W. Pitt, Jr.), of Merritt Island, Florida, also survives him.

Dr. Morton credits much of his accomplishments in life on the outstanding education he received and was proud to be born into a family that exemplified the

value of volunteerism. He was most proud to have developed a retirement community in Greenwood which achieved such great success.

Memorial contributions may be made to The SC United Methodist Foundation, Post Office Box 5087, Columbia, SC 29250-5087 — and designated for the Theodore R. Morton, Jr., Scholarship Fund (benefiting Wofford College students).

Dr. Morton was buried at Elmwood Cemetery, Columbia.

George Washington

“The character of Washington,” says Washington Irving, “may want some of those poetical elements which dazzle and delight the multitude, but it possessed fewer inequalities and a rarer union of virtue than perhaps ever fell to the lot of one man.... It seems as if Providence had endowed him in a pre-eminent degree with the qualities requisite to fit him for the high destiny he was called upon to fulfil—to conduct a momentous revolution which was to form an era in the history of the world, and to inaugurate a new and untried government, which, to use his own words, was to lay the foundation ‘for the enjoyment of much purer civil liberty and greater public happiness than have hitherto been the portion of mankind.’”

“This bright assemblage of virtues strikes us with less astonishment when we add that their possessor was, both in faith and practice, a Christian....

Washington received the rudiments and foundation of his great life and character in a Christian household and trainings. He was blessed with pious parents, who were members of the Episcopal Church, under the ecclesiastical establishment of the Church of England, which was then almost the only denomination of Christians known in the colony of Virginia. He was consecrated to God in faith and prayer, and in the rite of baptism according to the creed of that Church. The record of this religious act is found in the family Bible of his parents.

His father not only instructed his son in the obligations of morality, but that “the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.” Piety, as the source of all goodness and the elementary basis of all true greatness, was the cherished aim and the chief effort of Washington’s father; and from him and his mother he received the inestimable blessing of a sound religious education; but; in common with most illustrious men who have adorned our race, Washington points, as the chief earthly source of his successes and greatness, to home influence directed by a Christian mother.

The Christian Life and Character of the Civil Institutions of the United States (page 482), 1864 book by Benjamin F. Morris.

Roll Call of the Departed

Emmett “Buster” Brooks, Cambridge Chapter, 96, passed away peacefully January 30. He was born December 30, 1929, in Greenwood.

Emmett devoted his life to faith, family, service and community leadership. He was a foundational member of the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection, where he served for decades on the Vestry and in numerous leadership roles.

A proud veteran of the United States Air Force, Emmett served four years during the Korean Conflict. Stationed primarily in Tokyo, Japan, he was honorably discharged with the rank of Staff Sergeant. During his service, he was also appointed to serve in General Mark Clark’s Honor Guard.

Among his many honors, Emmett was inducted into the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, the Greenwood County Hall of Fame, and received The Order of the Palmetto—South Carolina’s highest civilian honor—in July 2023.

Emmett was married to the former Edith A. “Edie” Byers of Greenville. He is survived by one son, Francis Chesley Brooks; three daughters, Nancy Brooks Newlon (Jon), Amy Brooks Van Gorp (Rick), and Mary Allison Brooks Pettigrew (John); seven grandchildren (Jon Brooks, Caroline, Katie, Anna, Richard, Carolina, and Amelia); two great-grandchildren (Cammilla and Madeline Brooks); and a large extended family who will forever cherish his memory.

Alvin T. “Buddy” Dallas, a member of the Col. Robert Anderson Chapter, passed away Feb. 9.

Gene Farrow Armstrong, a member of the Col. Bratton Chapter, passed away.

Battle of Great Cane Brake 250th Anniversary Ceremony Invocation December 6

By Will Wise
Chaplain and Vice President
Col Robert Anderson Chapter

Father God, we gather today and thank you for the privilege and freedom to give honor to our state and nation's brave forefathers on this battle site. Thank you for each person and each family represented here today — both the volunteers and the guests. We ask for your guiding hand of Providence as we gather to preserve the history of the struggle for our nation's liberty and tell the stories of the heroes who made it happen. May You be glorified by what is said and enacted here today. We pray this in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. AMEN.

Battle of Great Cane Brake 250th Anniversary Ceremony Benediction

Father God, thank you for allowing us the privilege and freedom to pay our respects and commemorate the Cane Brake Patriot victory on this day. We thank you for the impact it had on our nation's fight for independence.

We thank you for this great country, the land of the free. We thank you for those present today who served in our nation's armed services. We thank you for those who we honored today who served in our nation's war for independence. Help us to remember that all men and women are made equally in Your image, for Your glory, and for Your service. Help us to remember that our inalienable rights of life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness are made possible only by Your good will.

We ask your guidance to help us work to keep our nation in Your good graces so that our future generations have the freedom to worship You as we do today. Please grant us safe travels today. We pray all this in the name of the Father who created us, the Son who saved us, and the Holy Spirit who guides us. AMEN.

Battle of Great Cane Brake 250th Anniversary Monument Prayer of Dedication December 6, 2025

South Carolina Society Sons of the American Revolution
William Wise, Chaplain, Col. Robert Anderson Chapter

Today, we meet on a small but significant battlefield of the American war for its independence to dedicate a monument to those who were victorious in battle. Our posterity will have the opportunity to continue to pay respect to our patriot heroes with the placement of this monument.

"It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this" AL. We have two tasks before us this day: to preserve the history of the struggle for our nation's liberty, and to tell the stories of the heroes who made it happen.

This ground was made hallowed by those who committed their lives to the cause of independence from a tyrannical monarchy. Fifteen hundred men fought here for a cause that was right in their own eyes; up to six men fighting for the king lost their lives in the surprise attack, and one patriot was wounded. This monument today is for all Americans, whose differences of yesterday allow us to be united today.

King David said in a prayer: "blessed be the Lord, my rock, who trains my hands for war and my fingers for battle. My lovingkindness and my fortress, my stronghold and my delivered, my shield and He in whom I take refuge."

You see, God gifts certain men to be effective soldiers.

The bravery of the men earning this victory deserves every accolade we can give. This victory greatly limited loyalist and tory activity in the backcountry for the next 4 years. The Southern patriot militia now had one enemy - local native tribes. Having to focus on just one primary enemy could have been the difference in preserving the will and fortitude of all Carolinians to resist the horrors of the British and Tories later in the war. In a letter to his wife, General Nathaniel Greene wrote of the war in South Carolina: "you can have no idea of the distress and misery that prevails in this quarter. Hundreds of families...are reduced to beggary and want...Human misery has become a subject for sport and ridicule." A hurricane striking the coast had less fury than neighbors attacking neighbors. JHC

God uses geography and weather as often as He uses man in the execution of His will. This land was selected as a loyalist camp for the potential to offer security to alert for an approaching enemy. The snapping of hollow reeds of cane brake would sound alarm for invaders. Yet, it was maybe the sound of campfires of crackling cane brake which gave away the loyalist position here. Could God have used the cane brake to compromise Loyalist safety instead of providing security? Could it have been God's Providence that Col. Thomson's patriot militia was able to quietly surround Captain Cunningham's cane brake camp before the battle commenced? Could it have been God's will for Thomson to decide to attack on Dec. 22 which he could not have known to have avoided heavy snow a day later? Was it God's Providence that the loyalist commander was resting in such a manner that he was undressed and unprepared for the surprise attack? Only the Almighty God knows. We have faith that His hand guided all of the day's events on December, 22, 1775 no different than He guided the armies of Joshua, Gideon, and David.

We know that God uses war as a means to grow our faith. The writer of Hebrews says "for time will fail me if I tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets who by faith conquered kingdoms, performed acts of righteousness, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, from weakness were made strong, became mighty in war, and put foreign armies to flight." HEB History through the lens of faith shines bright God's blessings on this nation.

God's hand of Providence allowed George Washington's army to escape disaster in New York under the cover of fog; God's hand weakened Burgoyne's army by 1,000 men on its way to Saratoga by sending men to fight militia at Bennington. God's hand of Providence allowed the dreadful winter of Valley Forge to become a training ground for Washington's army. God's hand prevented the British Army from escaping Yorktown by water when the weather prevented boats from escorting the army across the York River. It was God's hand that, for four years after Cane Brake, General Washington did not have to divide his army to defend South Carolina. God's hand allowed a timely messenger from the losses at Fishing Creek and Camden to reach the militia at Musgrove Mill in time to prevent a patriot counter-charge and allow for their escape from approaching danger. I believe we can also see God's hand at work here at Cane Brake.

King David offered prayer of praise for deliverance in battle. "For who is God, but the LORD? And who is a rock, except our God, the God who girds me with strength and makes my way blameless? He makes my feet like hinds' feet, and sets me upon my high places. He trains my hands for battle so that my arms can bend a bow of bronze. You have also given me the shield of Your salvation, and Your right hand upholds me; and Your gentleness makes me great. You enlarge my steps under me and my feet have not slipped. I pursued my enemies and overtook them, and I did

**Battle of Great Cane Brake 250th Anniversary Monument
Prayer of Dedication
December 6, 2025**

not turn back until they were consumed. I shattered them, so that they were not able to rise; they fell under my feet. For You have girded me with strength for battle; You have subdued under me those who rose up against me. You have also made my enemies turn their backs to me. And I destroyed those who hated me....I beat them fine as the dust before the wind; I emptied them out as the mire of the streets. You have delivered me..." PS2

Father God, I ask today that you give us the strength to face today's challenges just as you gave our ancestors the strength to face the enemies of liberty. We thank you for providing us the resources

to dedicate this monument in honor of our forefathers. We pray that You will allow future generations to keep alive the memory of this struggle for liberty so that our nation's liberty is never surrendered. Amen.

Notes:

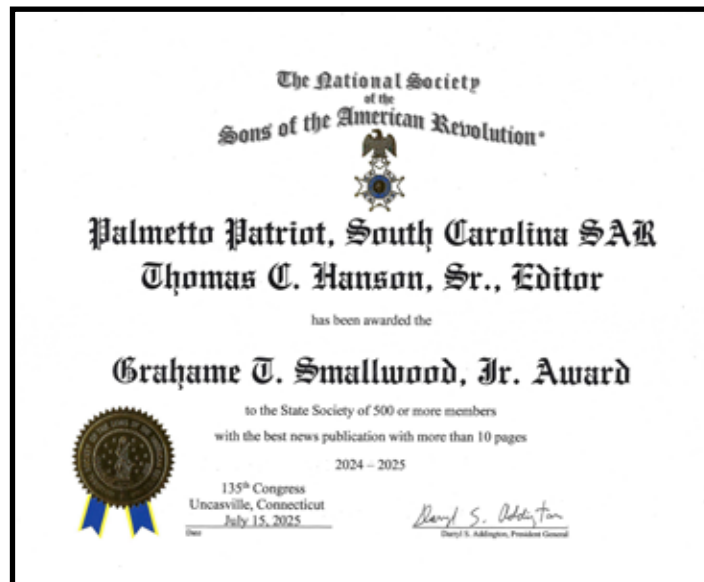
JHC: Jane Hampton Cook, "Battlefields & Blessings": Stories of Faith and Courage from the Revolutionary War, 2007, God and Country Press. Page 407-408.

AL: Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address
HEB: Hebrews 11:32-24; NASB.

PS1: Psalm 144:1-2 NASB.

18: 31-43 NASB

PS2: Psalm



SCSSAR Welcomes New Members

Full	Date	National #	Chapter
Dean Carlton Thrift	2025-10-31 00:00:00	235839	Gen Andrew Pickens
Robert James Cornelius	2025-11-07 00:00:00	235935	Ft Dorchester
Ruskin Clegg Green	2025-11-07 00:00:00	235936	Gov Paul Hamilton
Henry Martin Cox	2025-12-19 00:00:00	236415	Col Robert Anderson
James Jonathan Zeigler	2025-12-19 00:00:00	236419	Ft Dorchester
Michael Bradley Burkhold Jr.	2025-12-19 00:00:00	236416	Maj Gen William Moultrie
John Edward Marko Jr.	2025-12-19 00:00:00	236417	Thomas Heyward Jr
John Mark Robertson	2025-12-19 00:00:00	236418	Thomas Heyward Jr
William Ross Kindervater	2025-12-31 00:00:00	236498	Cambridge
Nelson Keith Bowling	2025-12-31 00:00:00	236503	Col Joseph Kershaw
James Clinton Howell	2025-12-31 00:00:00	236501	Col Joseph Kershaw
Jeffrey Charles Howell	2025-12-31 00:00:00	236502	Col Joseph Kershaw
John Keith Fuller	2025-12-31 00:00:00	236500	Col Lemuel Benton
Jonathan Brooks DeVore	2025-12-31 00:00:00	236505	Col Thomas Taylor
Bobby Gene Wilson Jr.	2025-12-31 00:00:00	236504	Col Thomas Taylor
James Everett Livingston	2025-12-31 00:00:00	236506	Gov Paul Hamilton
Charles Gregory Lyles	2025-12-31 00:00:00	236499	Gov Paul Hamilton
Steven Howard Powell	2025-12-31 00:00:00	236497	Matthew Singleton
Joshua Steve Smith	2026-01-16 00:00:00	236687	Col Lemuel Benton
Trevor Norris Hooper	2026-01-16 00:00:00	236688	Thomas Heyward Jr
Charles Leonard Henshaw Jr.	2026-02-06 00:00:00	236880	Col Lemuel Benton
Travis John Capps	2026-02-06 00:00:00	236881	Col Robert Anderson
Jay Lee Brandenberger	2026-02-13 00:00:00	236987	Col Joseph Kershaw
Alexander Sean Dalrymple	2026-02-13 00:00:00	237005	Col Philemon Waters
Michael Sean Dalrymple	2026-02-13 00:00:00	237004	Col Philemon Waters
Thurman Eugene Dalrymple Jr	2026-02-13 00:00:00	237003	Col Philemon Waters
Ralph Calhoun May Jr.	2026-02-13 00:00:00	237009	Col Robert Anderson
Kevin Richard Bishop	2026-02-13 00:00:00	237007	Daniel Morgan
Justin Michael Gardner	2026-02-13 00:00:00	237010	Daniel Morgan
Gunner Lee Stewart	2026-02-13 00:00:00	237008	Daniel Morgan
Larry Wayne Walker	2026-02-13 00:00:00	237011	Daniel Morgan



Gary Blanpied—

President Ted Walker and Vice President for New Chapter Formation Buddy Witherspoon led the effort to revive the Kershaw Chapter and successfully organized three new chapters, all of which were chartered in the same year.

Those new chapters—the Burch's Mill Chapter, the Thomas Heyward Jr. Chapter, and the Fort Dorchester Chapter—have each since elected their own presidents and are off to a strong start.

In recognition of these outstanding efforts, the **South Carolina Society** was awarded the **Syracuse Award**, presented to the state society that charts the highest number of new chapters in the preceding year.

Job well done, gentlemen.

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, unmatted 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.**



FOLLOWING THE
FOOTSTEPS OF
FRANCIS MARION
OLD GEORGETOWN
WALKING TOURS
843 546 3745
PAIGE SAWYER

Francis Marion

The tours last 90 minutes and the cost is \$20. Tours are scheduled by appointment.

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.

Table of Events by Chapter

CHAPTER	EVENT / BATTLE	MONTH	LOCATION
Andrew Pickens			
Cambridge	1 st . Siege of Ninety-Six	June	Ninety-Six Nat'l Battlefield
Daniel Morgan	Kings Mountain	October	Kings Mountain Nat'l Battlefield
	Cowpens	January	Cowpens Nat'l 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			
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

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.

MONTH	EVENT	EVENT
January	Cowpens	
February		
March		
April	Fort Watson	HobKirk Hill
May	Buford's Massacre	
June	1 st 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 2026

For an update on events go to the online calendar on the state website SCSSAR.org

March 2026

[March 19-21](#) SCDAR Spring Conference - Doubletree, Columbia SC

[March 28](#) Tartan Day South - Cayce Historic Racetrack

April 2026

[April 9](#) Thomas Taylor Chapter Meeting

[April 11](#) Liberty Tree Dedication and Grave Marking & Wreath Laying Ceremony - Historic Old Bethel Church Cemetery, Woodruff, SC, Daniel Morgan Chapter, President Paul Cashions

[April](#) CAR National Conference Washington DC

[April 17](#) SCSSAR Awards Banquet Hilton Garden Inn Farrow Road, Columbia Northeast

[April 18](#) SCSSAR Annual Meeting Hilton Garden Inn Farrow Road, Columbia Northeast

[April 25](#) Hobkirk Hill Commemoration, Camden (Kershaw Chapter, President John Goodwin)

May 2026

[May 23](#) Commemoration at Ninety- Six (Cambridge Chapter)

[May 23](#) National Event, Buford's Massacre, Francis Marion Chapter. President Greg Ohanesian

June 2026

[June 24-28](#) NSDAR National Congress Washington DC

[June 27](#) Carolina Days 250th Anniversary Battle of Sullivan's Island and Fort Moultrie

July 2026

[July 3](#) Dedication of Historic Monument in Downtown Newberry, Philemon Waters Chapter, President Thomas Forte

[July 4](#) 250th Anniversary of Declaration of Independence

[July 10-16](#) NSSAR Annual Meeting in Greensboro NC

[July 25](#) BOG Columbia

August 2026

[August 1](#) Thomas Sumter Commemoration, Matthew Singleton Chapter, Larry Gamble

[August 8](#) 250th Anniversary Tamassee Ring Fight, Andrew Pickens Chapter, Pres. Bud Starnes

[August 15](#) 246th Anniversary Battle of Camden, Kershaw Chapter, John Goodwin

[August 22](#) 246th Anniversary Battle of Musgrove Mill, General James Williams Chapter, David Smith

[September 2026](#)

[September 4-5](#) National Event 245th Commemoration of the Battle of Eutaw Springs, Battle of Eutaw Springs Ch., Doug Doster

[September 12](#) Siege of Augusta

[October 2026](#)

[October 7](#) Battle of Kings Mountain

[October 17](#) BOG Columbia

[November 2026](#)

[November 21](#) 246th Anniversary Battle of Blackstock Plantation, Gen. James Williams Chapter, David Smith

[December 2026](#)

[December 5](#) 251st Anniversary Battle of Canebreak, Joe Glavitsch

[December 12](#) Wreathes Across America

[January 2027](#)

[January 9](#) BOG Columbia

[January 17](#) Battle of Cowpens

[February 2027](#)

[February 27](#) Francis Marion Memorial

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 _____

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@clermson.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.**

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

For SCSSAR use only

**Enrollment
Approved:**

Signature of SCSSAR Secretary

Date Signed

APPLICATION FOR ENROLLMENT IN THE NSSAR NATIONAL LIFE MEMBERSHIP PLAN

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

For Headquarters use only:

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 133rd 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	Age = \$Cost	Age = \$Cost	Age = \$Cost	Age = \$Cost	Age = \$Cost	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	

For Headquarters use only:	Signature of NSSAR Registrar:	Date of Signature:
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Francis Marion Memorial

A Francis Marion Memorial Service was held Feb. 27 at 11 a.m., with approximately 200 attendees participating, despite the rain forcing the cancellation of the fighter wing flyover and other events.

Some of the crowd was seated under portable tents installed for their convenience. Gary Blanpied, SCSSAR Senior Vice President, and Deborah Blanpied, Regent of Granby Chapter NSDAR, attended alongside DAR Registrar Rhonda Robison and Godfrey Dreher's Secretary Carl Epps. The chapter wreath, presented by Norman Smith, Godfrey Dreher's Treasurer, was honored during the ceremony. The ceremony was led by Ray Herndon, President of the Hezekiah Maham Chapter, and Katlyn Branton, DAR Regent of General Marion's Brigade Chapter. Steven Steele, an Ameri-

can Revolution historian, highlighted Francis Marion's contributions, and Molly Fortune, CEO of South Carolina 250!, greeted the crowd and introduced Rick Wise, who announced the release of the third and final volume of the Francis Marion Papers for free download, following Rick's editing of the 900-page document and addition of hyperlinks. It was good to also see Past President Doug Doster of Eutaw Springs and his wife Lynn who is President of William Thomson Chapter. Col. Christopher Collins on behalf of the 169th Fighter Wing (Swamp Fox Wing) also spoke during the ceremony.

At the end of the ceremony attendees convened at the Belle Isle Presbyterian Church for a barbecue lunch of pulled pork cooked by the ladies of the church.

Photos by Gary and Deborah Blanpied



Front row from left: Gary Blanpied, Senior Vice President of SCSSAR; Deborah Blanpied, Regent Granby and Chair DAR/SAR Relations; Rhonda Robison, Granby Registrar; (back row) Carl Epps, Secretary Godfrey Dreher Chapter; and Norman Smith, Treasurer Godfrey Dreher Chapter.



Col Christopher Collins
169th Fighter Wing
Swamp Fox Wing



Ray Herndon
President Hezekiah Maham Chapter



Katlyn Branton, Regent General
Marion's Brigade Chapter



Rick Wise
Liberty Trail



Molly Fortune
CEO of South Carolina 250!

