

The Minuteman

***Coweta Falls Chapter
Georgia Society
Sons of the American Revolution***

The Minuteman

Columbus, GA

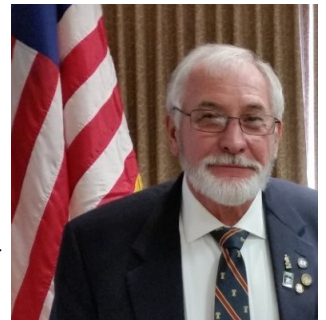
Spring, 2019

President's Dispatch

29 June 2019

Compatriots,

Summer is upon us and many of us will travel to far off destinations in search of the best beach or campground. I hope that all travel safely and thoroughly enjoys your trips.



Since my last letter, we have sponsored a wonderful Memorial Day service at the Parkhill Cemetery. A big "THANKS" goes to Mrs. Brandy Blakely and Mr. Teddy Price and staff for their support. Janet Durden, Jan Hyatt, and Connie Ussery provided patriotic music which inspired all. The Reverend Taylor Burtin-Edwards provided a spiritual message and prayer for the fallen that was heartfelt. Several organizations presented a wreath and there were new participants this year.

Dan McMichael has been coordinating with the Captain of the local fire department near the Samuel Cooper Revolutionary grave site to repair the damage caused to the flagpole. He has managed to place a solar light on the pole and fix the ropes to hoist the flag. Since the flag was stolen, Tom Lokey provided a new flag which I took to Ft. Benning to have it flown over the post. This flag will be hoisted soon over Samuel Cooper's grave, and all will be encouraged to attend the event.

Tom Lokey has done a great job coordinating with chapter members to have flags placed over numerous Revolutionary grave sites in our area. Another "THANKS" to Tom and team for your service.

The GSSAR BOM meeting is on July 27 in Barnesville, GA. Please contact me if you would like to attend. We will have our Chapter Board Meeting on July 30 in the Main Library at 5:00 PM and all are invited to attend. If there are any items that you would like for us to discuss, please forward them to me and we will discuss them at the meeting.

Sincerely,

Danny N. Ginter

President, Coweta Falls Chapter

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Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution

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All newsletter submissions should be sent to bill_pruitt@hotmail.com. Please attach a brief synopsis of the picture, along with names and dates. Thank you.

Our Chapter meets the 2nd Thursday of each month

@ THE HILTON GARDEN INN

1500 Bradley Lake Blvd, Columbus, Georgia in Brookstone Centre.

The \$16.00 buffet luncheon begins at 11:30 AM and includes salad, vegetables, two meats, bread, and dessert.

Our meeting begins at 12:15 PM and features a Guest Speaker.

Visitors are welcome! Please call (706) 223-0726 by the Sunday before the meeting day to reserve a spot. Calling guarantees you a meal. Non-callers are not guaranteed a meal.

(Note: If you do not plan on eating, do not call.)

DATES FOR THE NEXT THREE MEETINGS ARE:

July 11th, August 8th, and September 12th

Meeting: April 11th, 2019

The Coweta Falls Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met on Thursday, April 11th, 2019. with President Danny Ginter presiding. The opening invocation was presented by the chaplain, Compatriot Bill Pruitt. The Pledge to the SAR, along with the Recessional, were presented by Compatriot Bill Hay. Compatriot Tommy Powell was unanimously approved as First Vice President.

President Ginter announced Coweta Falls is having great success with the reservation system for the monthly lunches. It is reducing out of pocket expenses for the chapter.

Compatriot Dan McMichael invited chapter members to join the Lafayette Alliance of LaGrange at Hills and Dales Estate on Thursday, April 11th, for a lecture by Alan Hoffman on Marquis de Lafayette.

The speaker was Marilyn Wallace from the Daughters of the American Revolution, who spoke on George Walton and his home (Meadow Garden) in Augusta, Georgia.

Meadow Garden, privately owned by the Daughters of the American Revolution, is the oldest documented house in Augusta. It is one of the oldest house museums in Georgia. Parts were built about 1791. It was owned by George Walton who, at age 26, was one of the youngest signers of the Declaration of Independence. Walton, along with his wife Dorothy, raised two sons in the house, Thomas and George Jr.

Walton named the home Meadow Garden , it was in a large flat meadow. From 1792 to 1804 he would sign his correspondence 'George Walton of Meadow Garden.'

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution purchased the property for \$2,000. In 1961, the National Society deeded the property to the Georgia Society of the DAR, which continues to preserve it. Preservation efforts at Meadow Garden are among the nation's earliest, and the site was the first house museum in Georgia. It is currently undergoing restoration to be returned to its original appearance.

Thank you, Ms Wallace, for a great and informative program.



Lectures on Lafayette

The Coweta Falls SAR supported the Lafayette Alliance of LaGrange on Thursday, April 11th at a lecture at Hills and Dales. Presented by Alan Hoffman, it focused on Lafayette as a Human Rights Advocate.

Auguste Levasseur's Lafayette in America is a journal of Lafayette's 1824-1825 Farewell Tour. Levasseur, his private secretary, describes how Lafayette, an advocate of liberty, was welcomed by the American people.

He chronicled Lafayette's fascination with the new country, its cities and towns, technological innovations, the people building a nation, and his visits with Adams, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, and J. Q. Adams.

Lafayette forayed into human rights during the American Revolution. He wrote, "The welfare of America is intimately connected with the happiness of all mankind; she will become the respectable and safe asylum of virtue, integrity, tolerance, equality and peaceful liberty." He promoted them – "the Rights of Man and the Citizen" in his 1789 declaration in France – through support of revolutions in Europe and South America.

Lafayette advocated to expand and enhance human rights for the oppressed. He lobbied successfully in favor of French Protestants unable to freely practice their religion since the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685. He opposed solitary confinement, the death penalty and urged universal male suffrage in France.

Abolition of slavery engaged Lafayette, the first international abolitionist. He advocated education of the enslaved and gradual emancipation. To expedite, he purchased a plantation in French Cayenne, provided education to workers and paid wages so they might buy freedom. Said Lafayette, "I would never have drawn my sword in the cause of America, if I could have conceived that thereby I was founding a land of slavery." Abolitionists used "Lafayette's Lament" to advance their cause.

Hoffman obtained a BA in history from Yale and a JD from Harvard. An avid reader of early American history, he "discovered" Lafayette in 2002 and spent two years translating Levasseur's Lafayette in America. It was published in 2006 and is in a third printing. Hoffman lectures widely on Lafayette and the Farewell Tour.



SAR Events



John House presented the Silver medal to Cedric Parker at Columbus State University on April 11th, 2019.



JROTC Awards presented on May 7th, 2019 by Com-patriot Bill Hay.



SAR Poster Contest

The SAR Elementary School Poster Contest stimulates interest in the history surrounding the events of the American Revolution. This contest supports 3rd, 4th or 5th grade American History curriculum. The posters are the work of individual students, on standard poster board, and show evidence of research. The winning Coweta Falls Chapter entry is automatically entered in the State Society competition.

The theme this year was Benjamin Franklin, Paul Revere, or Sybil Luddington. All students pictured received third place and an award of \$25. except Reagan Evans at Brit David Magnet Academy. She earned second place and received \$50. Way to go!



Danny Ginter recognizes Aiden Caldwell, along with his teacher, John Bullard, at River Road Elementary.



At St Luke's School, Danny Ginter recognizes Penny Mayfield for her poster on Paul Revere.

Coweta Falls Poster Contest (Continued)



At Gentian Elementary School , Danny Ginter presents an award to Payton Littrell. Looking on is her teacher, Jenny Connors.



At Dimon Magnet Academy, Danny is flanked by school winner Jerimiah Washington (what an appropriate name!) and his teacher, Glorimar Figueroa—Lopez.



Britt David Magnet Academy's Reagan Evans receives, along with her teacher, Kendra Neal, recognition for her poster.

Coweta Falls Poster Contest (Continued)



Student Gracie Louise Radney, along with her teacher, Rebecca Levan, are the recognized from Double Churches Elementary School.



Teacher Hope Murray from Allen Elementary School is in picture with Danny Ginter and winning student Addison Daffine.



Roger Buterbaugh presents the 3d place poster contest winner award and check to Aysia Nelson, along with a certificate to her teacher, Ms. Cynthia Robinson.

Meeting on May 9th, 2019

Tommy Powell presented an interesting presentation on the Life and Times of George Washington. It began with Washington's birth on February 22, 1732 at Popes Creek in Westmoreland County, Virginia and included his early childhood with the loss of his father Augustine Washington which caused George to not receive the formal education his older brothers did. However, he did learn mathematics, trigonometry and surveying. The presentation went on to highlight Washington's initial military training and command in the French-Indian War with the Virginia regiment. It also included of course his command of American Forces during the Revolutionary War as General George Washington. The presentation concluded with a short 20 minute video that entitled "We Fight to be Free" which highlighted his life including his first meeting of the widow Martha Custis who would become Mrs. Washington



Memorial Day Ceremony, Park Hill Cemetery

The Coweta Falls Chapter hosted, in conjunction with Park Hill Cemetery, the 14th Annual Memorial Day Commemoration on May 27th, 2019. It was in the Mausoleum at Park Hill Cemetery. Danny Ginter, President of the Coweta Falls Chapter SAR presided over the event. Colors were posted by the Coweta Falls Color Guard. The National Anthem was performed by Janet Durden, Jan Hyatt, and Connie Ussery, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, lead by COL (Ret) John M. House, Coweta Falls SAR. The invocation was given by The Reverend Dr. Rick Mitchell, Pastor, Wynnton UMC, and the eulogy and Prayer for the Fallen were given by the Reverend Taylor Burton-Edwards. "God Bless America" was performed by Janet Durden, Jan Hyatt, and Connie Ussery. Wreaths were presented by the Coweta Falls Chapter, SAR, the George Walton Chapter, DAR, the Oglethorpe Chapter, DAR, the Lucy Spell Raiford Society, CAR, the Benjamin Hardin Chapter 366, United States Daughters of 1812, the American Legion, Post #189, Harris County, the Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 7, the Military Order of the World Wars, Chapter 52, and Chattahoochee Valley Veterans Council.

The Coweta Falls Color Guard presented the Retiring of the Colors and, following the Moment of Silence, a Gun Salute. Taps was presented by Compatriot Charles E. Hall Jr., Sergeant-at-Arms, Coweta Falls Chapter SAR, and the benediction was given by Bill) Pruitt, Chaplain, Coweta Falls SAR.



Tot and Left: Presentation and Retiring of the Colors, Coweta Falls Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard.

Memorial Day Ceremony, Park Hill Cemetery

Presentation of Wreaths



The National Anthem and "God Bless America" performed by Janet Durden, Jan Hyatt, and Connie Ussery

Memorial Day Ceremony, Park Hill Cemetery



Right: Grand-sons of Com-patriot Dan McMichael: Left to right are Hudson McMichael and Caleb Ki-nard .



Memorial Day Ceremony, Park Hill Cemetery



A Memorial Day Prayer

Delivered at the close of the Memorial Day Ceremony on May 27th, 2019, at Park Hill Cemetery

God of our Fathers:

Today we honor men and women who fought and died on Middle Eastern and African sands, in the barren wastelands of Afghanistan and the jungles and swamps of the Pacific and Vietnam, atop frigid, cold hills on the Korean Peninsula, in the trenches of Europe, and while storming beaches at Normandy. We honor those who fought brother against brother in the American Civil War. We remember rebellious colonists who fought and died in freezing battles at Valley Forge and in the humid swamps of the coastal country.

They died fighting for freedom. Most died young. Fighting is the job of the young. Allow us, God, to remember those young people each and every day.

Let us remember the troops buried in cemeteries both here and in Africa, Asia, Europe, and on many Pacific Islands. These cemeteries abroad are, to paraphrase Kipling, "Forever America." They are filled with the flowers of many generations; flowers which barely, upon this earth, bloomed. Yet God, we are comforted in knowing they, in your garden, reached full blossom.

Others have no graves; their bodies were lost to the depths of the ocean, mutilated in plane crashes, or destroyed in prisoner of war camps. We honor them. Their names are inscribed upon Walls of Remembrance. You, alone, know their location, Father. We know you hold them in the palm of your hand.

Let us remember today is about more than buns, burgers, beaches, boats, and beverages. It is about the many lives cut short by a bullet, a shell, a minie ball, a bomb, or torpedo. It is about the spouse who lost a loved one, a parent who lost a child, a child who lost a parent. Comfort and strengthen those survivors, Father. Allow them to know the sacrifice was not in vain.

Grant us, oh God, the power to remember, today, the many lost in conflict. Allow us to take a moment to think of them and their sacrifice. For Father, we know today is about their, and not our, lives. It is in your name we pray,

Amen.

John O'Quin

John O'Quin, a Revolutionary War veteran, was born June 13, 1754, in Halifax County, North Carolina.

O'Quin was living in Sampson County, North Carolina when called into Revolutionary War service. He was drafted and served three 3-month tours with Colonel James Moore's regiment under General Ash. After the third tour, he volunteered and served 12 months with Colonel Johnson's regiment under Generals Butler and Linkholm. O'Quin participated in the battle of Stone, Georgia, and was discharged shortly afterward.

Following the war, O'Quin lived in North Carolina before moving to South Carolina. On October 7th, 1790, in Kershaw District, South Carolina, he married Rhoda Horton. They had nine children. They lived in South Carolina for the next 20 years before moving to Georgia and living in several areas, including Milledgeville, Stewart and Muscogee Counties.

O'Quin passed away on 8 January 1836, and is interred at Cemetery 33, Fort Benning Georgia.

To commemorate his service and in honor of Memorial Day, John and Marilyn House placed an American flag on his grave. Thank you, John and Marilyn.



Snellville Memorial Day

Past President Dan McMichael , on May 25th, participated in the annual Snellville Memorial Day Celebration. Events included the Sons of the American Revolution, a wreath-laying, a musket salute, a small cannon firing, a speech by U.S. Army veteran Jim Leiker, and patriotic music. A concert followed.

SNELLVILLE MEMORIAL CELEBRATION
Freedom to Honor You

6th Annual Snellville Memorial Celebration

May 25th ★ 4:30–5:30 PM
In Front of the Veterans Memorial

Join us at the Snellville Veterans Memorial for a patriotic program to remember veterans from across the region featuring the *Button Gwinnett Chapter Militia!*

Memorial Day was created to honor those who have paid the ultimate price to ensure our freedom. We hope you take the opportunity to join us on May 25th to memorialize and honor our veterans.

4:30 PM - Program Begins
4:30 PM - Patriotic Music
by Sheri and Bill Eppright

Sheri and Bill Eppright

Dan McMichael from the Coweta Falls Chapter of SAR is standing next to the Swivel Cannon. This is a small cannon used during the Revolutionary War to fire either a small cannon ball, or many small balls at one time and will be fired at the Memorial Celebration.

SILENT AUCTION
4-8 PM
to benefit the Veterans Memorial.
Restaurant Gift Cards, Grill, Beer Signs, Lincoln Fill Station Gift Card plus much more!

Snellville Memorial Day (cont.)

A highlight of the Snellville Memorial Day was four members of Coweta Falls participating in the event at the City Hall. The Swivel Gun was fired as part of Musket Salute. Members also carried flags as drummed for Color Guard. Participating were Bernie Talley, Roy Collier, Dan McMichael, and (pending member) Caleb Kinard.



Midway

Coweta Falls was represented by Dan McMichael , on April 28th in Midway Ga. McMichael participated in Color Guard , Wreath Ceremony & Musket Salute. He participated at the Midway Cemetery (Midway, GA) for the marking of the graves of patriots William Girardeau, Robert Quarterman, Thomas Quarterman, John Stacy, and Peter Winn

The program was jointly sponsored by the Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution and the St. John's Parish Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Colonists.



Meeting: June 13th, 2019

The Coweta Falls Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met on Thursday, June 13th, 2019, with President Danny Ginter presiding. The opening invocation was presented by the chaplain, Compatriot Bill Pruitt. The Pledge to the SAR was presented by Compatriot Dan McMichael. The Recessional was led by Compatriot Hugh Rogers.

David Owings, Head of Archives at Columbus State University, spoke at the meeting on preserving family history. The presentation included various ways to preserve older documents and photographs, along with helpful do's and do not's. He is actively engaged in historical preservation, serving on the executive board of the Georgia Association of Historians and the editorial board for *Muscogiana: Journal of the Muscogee Genealogical Society*. Too, he is a member of several round-tables of the Society of American Archivists and serves on committees for the Society of America Archivists Committee (Archival Facilities Guidelines) and the Scholarship Committee for the Society of Georgia Archivists.

David holds a BA in History from Columbus State University and an MA in History with specialization in archival and museum studies from Auburn University. He has served as archivist for the Alabama Labor Archives in Montgomery, Alabama. Research interests include the World War II era, the experiences of prisoners of war, and memory studies. His publications include *Columbus, A Pictorial History of Columbus, Georgia* (chronicling the city's past through vintage images) along with articles including "The Orphans of G. Gunby Jordan" in *Muscogiana* and "European Political Agendas Running Amuck in a New World South" in *The South Writ Large*.



Meeting: April 11th, 2019

The Coweta Falls Chapter recently, with the assistance of the Columbus Fire Department, completed upgrades on the flag and flagpole at the grave of Patriot Samuel Cooper (1754 - 1841}.

Born in Maryland, Cooper served in the South Carolina Militia during the American Revolution and participated at Brandywine, Germantown and Stony Point. He later moved to Muscogee County in the 1827 Lottery. A member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, he is buried with his family at a cemetery which was in front and south of his home. Abandoned many years, the cemetery was reclaimed in May 1989.

The cemetery is maintained by the Historic Chattahoochee Commission, the Coweta Falls Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, and the Oglethorpe, George Walton, and Button Gwinnett Chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution.



Patriot Samuel Cooper Grave Flag (cont.)

Columbus Firefighters T. Faulkner, J. Lassen, C. Jones, and D. Brown assisting with repairs to the flag-pole at the grave of Patriot Samuel Cooper.

