



## COL. MATTHEW SINGLETON



Chapter of the SCSSAR, Sumter, SC

# Dispatch

July 2024. Vol. 1-1

*President's Remarks* – Compatriots, I'd like to take a moment to welcome everyone and introduce our new newsletter format. We hope this informative and that you will join for our meeting this month at the Restaurant on Second Mill, this coming Tuesday, **July 9<sup>th</sup>**.

Our **guest speaker**, author **Aliene Humphries**, shares fascinating stories that happened on and off the battlefield in her presentation on the **"Importance of South Carolina During the Southern Campaign"**.

It is with regret that I announce the Colonel Matthew Singleton Chapter has lost Compatriot William "Billy" Rowe at the age of 91. Upon first learning of the SAR, I would frequently carpool with Compatriots Rowe, Bagnol, and Harvin to chapter meetings and activities.

Since our last meeting, we have four new Compatriots. Please welcome Maxie, Eric, Thomas, and Joshua Shumpert who all descended from Patriot Phillip Strickland. Also, we have submitted 4 new applications to National plus 3 supplementals. It's already been eventful year with new members and several events.

In April, we had a tent at the Arts in the Park here in Sumter. On April 27<sup>th</sup>, we hosted the 243<sup>rd</sup> Commemoration of the Siege of Fort Watson and wreath laying ceremony in Summerton, SC. The battle taking place April 15-23, 1781, targeted British Supply lines supporting General Cornwallis' move north. The result was an American victory, capturing 114 British soldiers and make Ft. Watson the first military fortification captured solely by Patriot forces. BG Francis Marion, LTCs Henry "Light Horse" Lee and Hezekiah Maham leading the battle.

In May, we presented SAR JROTC awards to students at Crestwood, Kingstree, and Manning High Schools plus we delivered awards packages to the JROTC Instructors at Lee Central and they made class room presentations for their students. For Memorial Day, I had the privilege of attending the Clarendon County Memorial Day Ceremony. Our chapter presented a wreath of honor at the Veterans and First Responders Memorial. During



the ceremony, passing traffic honked horns saluting those who sacrificed their lives serving their country.

In June, Sumter Mayor David Merchant made an official city proclamation that June 28, 2024 be recognized as "Carolina Day" in Sumter. Carolina Day commemorates the Battle of Sullivan's Island, fought on June 28, 1776. A major victory for the Patriots in the American Revolution, they repulsed 50 heavily armed British Ships and some 2,500 soldiers attempting to take the key island entering Charleston Harbor with minimal casualties but inflicting casualties five times worse to the attacking British forces.

Have a fun, enjoyable Independence Day Celebration and we hope to see you on Tuesday, July 9<sup>th</sup>!

Your Humble Servant,

Thomas Blackmon  
Vice President, Pee Dee Region

### Next Chapter Meeting:

**Tuesday, October 8, 2024**

*The Restaurant at Second Mill @ 6pm*

*2390 Broad Street, Sumter, SC*

*Chapter Meeting Begins @ 7pm*

*Secretary's Notes:* I hope you are enjoying this look for a new chapter newsletter. With all the activity of our chapter, the idea is shed some light on events our members attend and provide some recognition so everyone can see just what we have going on and have done, and upcoming events for your planning purposes.

At some point, I'd like to get a Chapter web page up and this newsletter becomes one feature on the site among other items of interest or historical significance. As we move further into the led up to the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the war years, there will be more to cover and add.

South Carolina led all the colonies with Revolutionary War battles, skirmishes, and encounters number over 200 engagements. One blogger estimated that a near equal number of engagements occurred just between Patriots and Loyalists. There will be many opportunities to lay wreaths and commemorate the actions on the battle fields by brave men who believed in the cause and that free people have the sense and sensibility to govern themselves.

If you want something included in the newsletter, let me know. I appreciate your feedback and inputs to help generate a better and more interesting product for the chapter.

With four new members and the passing of one member, we are at 72 members strong.

Larry Gamble  
Secretary, Colonel Matthew Singleton Chapter  
Contact me: [WLGamble@icloud.com](mailto:WLGamble@icloud.com) or (414) 699-9061



The photo at the right is an image the NY Times published that depicts what George Washington might look like in an enhanced image processed with modern technology that ages people in photographs. It's a very interesting take on the man who inspired us for more than 250 years. Factoring in the changes in hygiene, fashion, and the aging process in our times; it certainly is an amazingly Presidential looking image. Yes, it's George Washington.

In this modern looking portrait, he appears as any of us might, as a kindly grandfatherly figure. It's not hard to imagine him today as a successful businessman, farmer, or holding political office. It's a humble yet confidence inspiring image.

George Washington followed up two major disappointments in his life with true grit and spinal fortitude to try again and using what he learned in failure to drive future success.

He was disappointed by his own failure as at Fort Mifflin, but he recovered. Later, British officers praised his actions saving the fight after a successful battle where he received a battlefield command appointment, but extreme disappointment followed when the highly coveted commission in the British Army never came.

His failure and disappointment fueled him to do better. That is the lesson for us. Rise above the challenge and failures to be victors for ourselves, family, and others.

### ***Welcome New Members!***

Eric W. Shumpert  
Joshua T. Shumpert  
Maxie D. Shumpert  
Thomas A. Shumpert

### ***Registrar's Notes:***

Our chapter has four new applications in the process of gathering information for the documentation that's needed to prove the person's Patriot Lineage.

We also have three supplemental packages submitted from members.





- New applications, once they arrive at National and get marked received, the current approval wait time is 14 weeks.

- Supplemental applications, presently take about 26 weeks after receipt at the national headquarters for approval.




*George Washington, enhanced photo to depict him in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.*






*Thos. Sumter*  
**COMMEMORATION**  
AUGUST 02, 2024 • 11AM




THOMAS SUMTER MEMORIAL PARK  
7120 ACTON ROAD  
DALZELL, SC

**WREATH LAYING CEREMONY**  
★★★★★  
**PRESENTATION OF WREATHS**  
*Courtesy of*  
**Sumter County America 250 Committee**  
**Colonel Matthew Singleton Chapter**  
*Sons of the American Revolution*  
**Sumter's Home Chapter**  
*Daughters of the American Revolution*  
*For information, contact Thomas Blackmon <blackmonta@hotmail.com>*  
*Attendees should provide their own seating*



**RECREATION AND PARKS**






**BATTLE OF EUTAW SPRINGS CHAPTER**  
**SOUTH CAROLINA SOCIETY**  
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



**SAR**  
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION




A National SAR Recognized Event

**243<sup>RD</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

# BATTLE OF EUTAW SPRINGS

## COMMEMORATION

AUGUST 30-31, 2024



*Mifflin*

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 30th**  
9:00 AM  
Narrated Tour of Fort Motte and Fort Watson Battle Sites  
1:30 PM  
Narrated Tour - Eutaw Springs Battleground  
(Donation of \$30 is requested and covers both morning and afternoon tours.)  
5:30 PM  
Social/Dinner/Program - Clark's Inn and Restaurant, Santee, S.C.

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 31st**  
10:00 AM  
Patriotic Program, Historic Church of the Epiphany, Eutawville, S.C.  
11:15 AM  
Wreath Laying Ceremony, Battle Monument Park, Eutawville, S.C.  
12:15 PM  
Lunch, Sweatmans BBQ, Eutawville, S.C.  
2:15 PM  
Honor Wreath Ceremony, Gen. Francis Marion 's Tomb, Pineville, S.C.

Washington Light Infantry  
S.C. Battleground Preservation Trust Cannon Team

★ ★ ★ ★ ★


\$30 Donation requested for Battle Site Tours to cover the bus rental. Seating limited.  
There will be a 5:30 social time at Clark's before the dinner at 6:00 that Friday.  
These events are open to the public. Registration with payment (\$50 pp) for the Friday evening dinner is required by August 20th. Make check out to Battle of Eutaw Springs Chapter SCSSAR. Mail to Douglas Doster, 480 Winding Brook Drive, Cameron, S.C. 29030

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For information, contact Douglas Doster  
<dosterdouglas@gmail.com> or call 803-456-5015




South Carolina  
Battleground  
Preservation Trust  
Cannon Team



VALOR AND VIRTUE  
1774-1865



Washington Light  
Infantry Color Guard



BELLS MARINA  
& RESORT





**FRIDAY, AUGUST 30th**

**9:00 AM FORT MOTTE/FORT WATSON NARRATED TOUR**

Bradford Village Shopping Center, 697 Bass Drive, Santee.

**12:00 NOON LUNCH IN SANTEE ON YOUR OWN**

**1:30 PM EUTAW SPRINGS BATTLEGROUND NARRATED TOUR**

Church of the Epiphany, 101 Porcher Ave., Eutawville.

Tour will end by 3:30 and return to the church in Eutawville.

*A \$30 donation to cover the bus rental is requested for tours.*

**5:30 PM RECEPTION, DINNER AND PROGRAM**

Clark's Inn and Restaurant, Santee

Speaker: Steven D. Smith, PhD.: *The Battles of Fort Watson and Fort Motte, 1781*

**DINNER REGISTRATION**

Select one entrée per person: Roast Beef ☐ Clark's Special Chicken ☐ Vegetable Plate ☐

*Registration with payment (\$50 pp) is required by August 20th*

*Make check out to Battle of Eutaw Springs Chapter SCSSAR and Mail to Douglas Doster, 480 Winding Brook Drive, Cameron, S.C. 29030*

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**SATURDAY: AUGUST 31ST**

**10:00 AM PATRIOTIC PROGRAM**

Historic Church of the Epiphany, 101 Porcher Ave., Eutawville

Speaker: Rick Wise, Interim Director, South Carolina Battleground Preservation Trust.

**11:15 AM WREATH CEREMONY**

Battle Monument Park in Eutaw Springs.

**12:15 PM LUNCH AT SWEATMAN'S BBQ**

1427 Eutaw Road. Holly Hill, S.C.

**2:15 PM HONOR WREATH CEREMONY**

Gen. Francis Marion's Tomb, Belle Isle Plantation, Pineville, S.C. Berkeley County

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**WREATH REGISTRATION\***

Organization/Chapter and State \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Title of Presenter(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Information: Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Wreaths must be registered with Doug Doster by August 25th to receive a ribbon.*