



TO ALL COMPATRIOTS AND FRIENDS

OCTOBER MEETING

The October meeting of the Wiregrass Chapter will be held **October, 21 at Noon at Po' Folks in Enterprise**. Everyone is encouraged to attend as several important matters of business will be addressed. Following the business meeting President Kemp will present a short video on the Battle of Brandywine.

Those of you who were not able to attend the Bicentennial Celebration presented last month at the Elba High school, missed an outstanding program. Some three hundred sixth grade students from Elba, New Brockton, Zion Chapel and Kingston were treated to a excellent presentation by Mr. Mike Kozlinski. Dressed as a Revolutionary War Regimental Commander, he kept the audience spellbound with his monologue, *Greatness Remembered*, based on the Commander's "personal recollections" of George Washington. Mike also has a beautiful voice and led the group in the singing of the National Anthem. This was the final event scheduled with the John Coffee Chapter, DAR for the George Washington Bicentennial Celebration, and it was well received and covered by the local press. State Representative Spicer and Mayor Grimes of Elba were both in attendance along with numerous faculty members of the various schools.

DUES

I want to again thank those of you who have submitted your dues for the Year 2000. The push to have these paid early is a result of a National Society decision to adjust its fiscal year to the Calendar Year over the next 24 months. Late submission of chapter dues to the

State Organization can result in individuals being dropped and then the chapter having to undertake to have them reinstated. For those of you who have not yet paid, the Year 2000 dues are \$37.50 and a check payable to the Wiregrass Chapter should be sent to : John R. Wallace, 200 E. Silver Oak Drive, Enterprise, AL 36330-1572.

BOSNIA BOUND

Some three weeks ago, SGT **John Ray Fuller, III**, a member in good standing of the Wiregrass Chapter, was deployed to Bosnia for a six month tour of duty. His deployment means he will miss the holiday season which will soon be upon us. Why not take a minute to drop him a note:

SGT John Ray Fuller III
OPERATION JOINT FORCE
Task Force, HHC 1/16 COMO
Camp Dobol, D Co, 1-34 AR
APO AE 09789

John is not the only member of our chapter who is overseas with the military. SGM **Daniel L. Coberly** is currently serving with the Army in Germany. Please keep these two members, as well as all of our military personnel, in your thoughts and prayers.

BICENTENNIAL MEDAL SET

A *George Washington Bicentennial Commemorative Medal* has been produced and is one of the most attractive medals the Society has created. It is available to any SAR Compatriot who is in good standing during 1999. A set of a Large and Miniature Medal is \$45.00; Large - \$30.00 and Miniature - \$20.00. Please contact the Chapter Secretary for additional information.

LEST WE FORGET -

The Bicentennial Year of George Washington is rapidly coming to a close. This does not mean that with the new year we should stop remembering those men who help found our country and fought for those liberties which we all enjoy today.

In keeping with the Bicentennial spirit, a short biographical sketch of two known Revolutionary War veterans buried in the Wiregrass area is provided:

· **John Merrick (Marick) Sr.** b. 1758 Frederick City, Md. d. March 28, 1845 Dale County, at the age of 96. He and his wife Elizabeth are buried in the Ozark City Cemetery south of the Ozark Baptist Church. He was living in Maryland when he volunteered for service and saw duty in Virginia, Georgia and South Carolina during the Revolutionary War. In his early days of residence in Alabama he was credited with success as an Indian fighter. He and his family moved from Louisville, AL to Dale County in 1822 and built a home where the First United Methodist Church of Ozark now stands. He and his son were both listed as members of the famous Claybank Log Church. The original settlement of Ozark was named "Merrick's" in honor of this Revolutionary Soldier.

Children:

John Merrick, Jr. b. 9/8/1806 d.1/27/1880

Grandchildren:

Richard Merrick b.3/11/1828 d.3/16/1867

John Merrick b. 2/18/1830 d.11/22/1860

· **Solomon Walker** b. August 1, 1757 d. August 11, 1837 in Barbour County. He was married to Gooden Cox (Nov 15, 1762 - Nov 5, 1838) in North Carolina. He and his family came to Barbour County about 1823 from Cumberland

Co, North Carolina via Georgia. He and his wife along with a son and several grandchildren are buried in the Walker Family Cemetery on land settled by the family. His original headstone bears the inscription " NC Troops, Rev War"

Children:

Maisy Walker 1785-1820 never married

Lewis Walker 1781 - 23 Nov 1877

Grandchildren:

Maisy Catharine Walker 1832-1889

Nancy Jane Walker 1835-1929

Solomon Miles Walker 1837-1837

Mary Walker 1838-1925

John Alexander Walker 1841-1862

Amanda Walker 1844-1931

David Lewis Walker 1846-1935

James Franklin Walker 1849-1933

Cynthia Caroline Walker 1851-1945

One of the ongoing programs of the SAR is to locate and mark the grave sites of Revolutionary War Patriots. It is known Revolutionary War veterans did migrate to the Wiregrass area, but few of the graves have been located and marked. The major problem is many of these graves are located in inactive/abandoned cemeteries or in forgotten family plots. This, coupled with the fact, the grave sites are now over 150 years old or more, makes it extremely difficult to keep alive the story of these patriots who helped fight for our independence. The SAR have special markers for such graves and will prepare a suitable program and dedication program for any newly located grave site of a Revolutionary War Veteran. Should you know of any such grave site it is requested that you please contact one of the Chapter Officers.

Dick Kemp President

John R. Wallace Editor