

South Atlantic District (SAD) Minutes
Quarterly Meeting of 06 OCT 2023
Sons of the American Revolution

VPG George STRUNK called the meeting to order; he noted that PG C. Bruce PICKETT would not be able to attend due to the passing of an Aunt. VPG STRUNK thanked all the General Officers and candidates who were in attendance for coming and presenting their views for endorsement by the District. VPG STRUNK asked for a moment of silence for Georgia State President Joe VANCURA, who passed away just after Congress. District Chaplain Lawrence PEEBLES gave an invocation. The District Colorguard presented colors, and the pledge to the U.S. Flag was lead by Jay DELOACH. Compatriot Brooks LYLES led the SAR Pledge. VPG STRUNK noted the SAD Secretary, Jim WYROSDICK, could not attend, but the meeting would be recorded to allow for Compatriot WYROSDICK to compose minutes. VPG STRUNK noted that there were no printed previous minutes from the July SAD 2022 Quarterly Meeting, since the only noteworthy business was the passing of the gavel from the previous VPG to the current VPG. VPG STRUNK then asked three of the four SAD State Presidents for reports: Jay DELOACH of North Carolina, Lawrence PEEBLES of South Carolina, and David LUDLEY of Georgia. (For detailed report information, see attachments to minutes). VPG STRUNK then noted that Florida State President Earl MATTHEWS had submitted a written report but was unable to attend due to a scheduled Florida Board of Management (BOM) Meeting scheduled to begin tomorrow; VPG STRUNK then proceeded to give a brief summary of the report given by Compatriot MATTHEWS. (For detailed report information, see attachment to minutes). VPG STRUNK then ironically noted his term of office began with the most successful National Congress in Savannah ever held, and will coincidentally end with an anticipated highly successful National Congress in Orlando, Florida—both being held in the SAD District, and he was thrilled to be able to say this. He emphasized he was looking forward to the July National Congress in Florida, and a successful Congress to end his term. Jay DELOACH noted the Rosen Plaza Hotel in Orlando, the site of the National Congress, has free parking. VPG STRUNK stated the importance of making reservations, and someone added a comment the hotel was currently 60% full. VPG STRUNK then reported a desire to make a presentation. PG PICKETT had originally been slated to make the award, but as previously noted, was unable to attend; particularly meaningful to the PG were two tours of neighboring military facilities during the July Congress; the Department of Defense (DOD) had implemented an award pin to recognize veterans who served in Vietnam from 01 NOV 1955 TO 15 MAY 1975. SAR Compatriots who qualified were asked to complete a card with their Veteran information for the award. Jay DELOACH read Compatriot recipients, who came forward to receive the pin: Jack DUGGER who served in the Army as an Artillery SPEC 5; Sh TURNER who served in the Army's 716th Military Police Battalion in Vietnam; Mike KING, served as an Army Sergeant, 1st CAV, H Company Rangers; VPG George STRUNK, Staff Sergeant, USAF, Weather Observer; and lastly, Jay DELOACH who served in the Navy's Submarine Force. VPG STRUNK then congratulated and thanked all veterans for their service. He then announced the open candidate forum for SAD endorsements and invited attending

National candidates to make comments. Those making a presentation to SAD included: Treasurer General Darryl ADDINGTON MD, candidate for Secretary General; Chancellor General Michael J. ELSTON, candidate for Treasurer General; Genealogist General Gary GREEN running for reelection; and Historian General Brooks LYLES running for reelection as Historian General. VPG STRUNK noted all these candidates are running for uncontested positions. The following was duly noted: Secretary General John DODD, candidate for President General; Compatriot Edmond MCKINLEY, candidate for Chancellor General; Registrar General Allen GREENLY; and Librarian General Fred OLIVE were running unopposed. VPG STRUNK then noted the Chancellor General Position had been a contested position, but Compatriot Gregg OHANESIAN of South Carolina, withdrew his candidacy for Chancellor General against Edmond MCKINLEY. VPG STRUNK then asked for a motion to be made for SAD to endorse all uncontested candidates for office, seconded by Compatriot PEEBLES, no discussion, and the motion passed. VPG STRUNK mentioned that PG Bruce PICKETT, as the immediate Past President General will fill the seat unopposed as Past President General on the Foundation Board, and thusly, will receive the District's endorsement; however, there are two candidates for the Foundation Board who are seeking the District's endorsement—Compatriot Jeff THOMAS of Virginia, and Compatriot Sam POWELL of North Carolina. Both men were present, and gave brief presentation about their candidacy. VPG STRUNK then directed that a vote for District endorsement be taken, which would mirror National bylaws—VPG STRUNK defined a voter as anyone who is a primary member of a State Society in SAD. Compatriot PEEBLES acted as teller, and counted the votes, announcing Compatriot POWELL as the winner. VPG STRUNK then went into new business: he encouraged States to begin early collection of dues before the oncoming holidays when household budgets are otherwise occupied! He noted early dues collection was important to enable accurate membership reconciliation. VPG STRUNK also talked about the importance of continuity of leadership—he said he had learned a “hard lesson” himself regarding the transfer of Chapter Treasury and Web Site accounts. There was particular discussion concerning the transfer of money accounts and having multiple names on accounts, and especially Chapter Treasurers allowing for transfer of authority. Compatriot LYLES mentioned importance of all Chapter property to have documented transfer of ownership (flags, meeting supplies, etc.), written down and signed off. Compatriot POWELL then talked about the District website: he noted most all members are online and would most probably have access to the website. The VPG is tasked to update the website during his term, and continuity of leadership in this regard is also important—for example, he noted this: current meeting should have been on the District Website Calendar as well as District Commemorations. Compatriot POWELL further noted the website costs the District approximately \$400 per year—we pay for the domain name and \$30 per month to continue the site—we've been paying that for a couple of years, but not using it. The webmaster is Compatriot Gary Page of Georgia, and VPG STRUNK said he would further coordinate with Compatriot PAGE. There was discussion about two obvious errors, and VPS STRUNK said he would follow up with Compatriot PAGE. VPG STRUNK then started discussion of when and where to have the next Quarterly Meeting in January—he was thinking of between the 27-29, and he wanted to have the meeting further South to involve more Florida participation. It was duly noted that these dates

may conflict with Cowen's Ford Commemoration. Also, to include the colorguard participation, commemorative dates of Georgia's Kettle Creek and Florida's Thomas Creek in Jacksonville could be considered. Discussion ensued. A suggestion was made for a Zoom meeting, 7:00 PM, Thursday, 26 January 2023, and a motion was made. Compatriot LYLES seconded. Subsequent discussion brought ideas of Zoom platform enabling greater participation, rather than physical attendance, and a greater audience for State Presidents to market activity for attendance in their respective areas. VPG STRUNK called for a vote, and the motion for a Zoom Meeting on 26 January 2023 passed. VPG STRUNK announced the North Carolina Annual Meeting as March 31 2023 in Greensboro, NC. A comment was made regarding the disposal of cremated veteran remains, and it seems to be a national problem in funeral homes—stacked boxes of unclaimed cremated remains. Discussion centered on the importance of encouraging Compatriots contacting local funeral homes to possibly assist. VPG STRUNK noted that, through improved technology and for other reasons, veteran remains are being found worldwide; the NSSAR Veterans Committee would assist in coordinating and notifying local Chapters if a ceremony is being held in a Chapter area; Armed Forces Casualty Assistance Call Officers (CACO) are in place to assist in burial ceremonies, as well as coordinating colorguard participation. Discussion followed about a charity known as, "MIAs" (Missing in America) that apparently provided services for missing veterans or veterans not found. A representative from the Blue Ridge Chapter in Georgia said he and two other of his Chapter members were first time attendees—they were welcomed by VPG STRUNK and encouraged to come again. VPG STRUNK asked for the closing SAR Recessional to be led by Treasurer General ADDINGTON, followed a closing benediction by SCSSAR President PEEBLES. VPG STRUNK then declared the meeting adjourned.