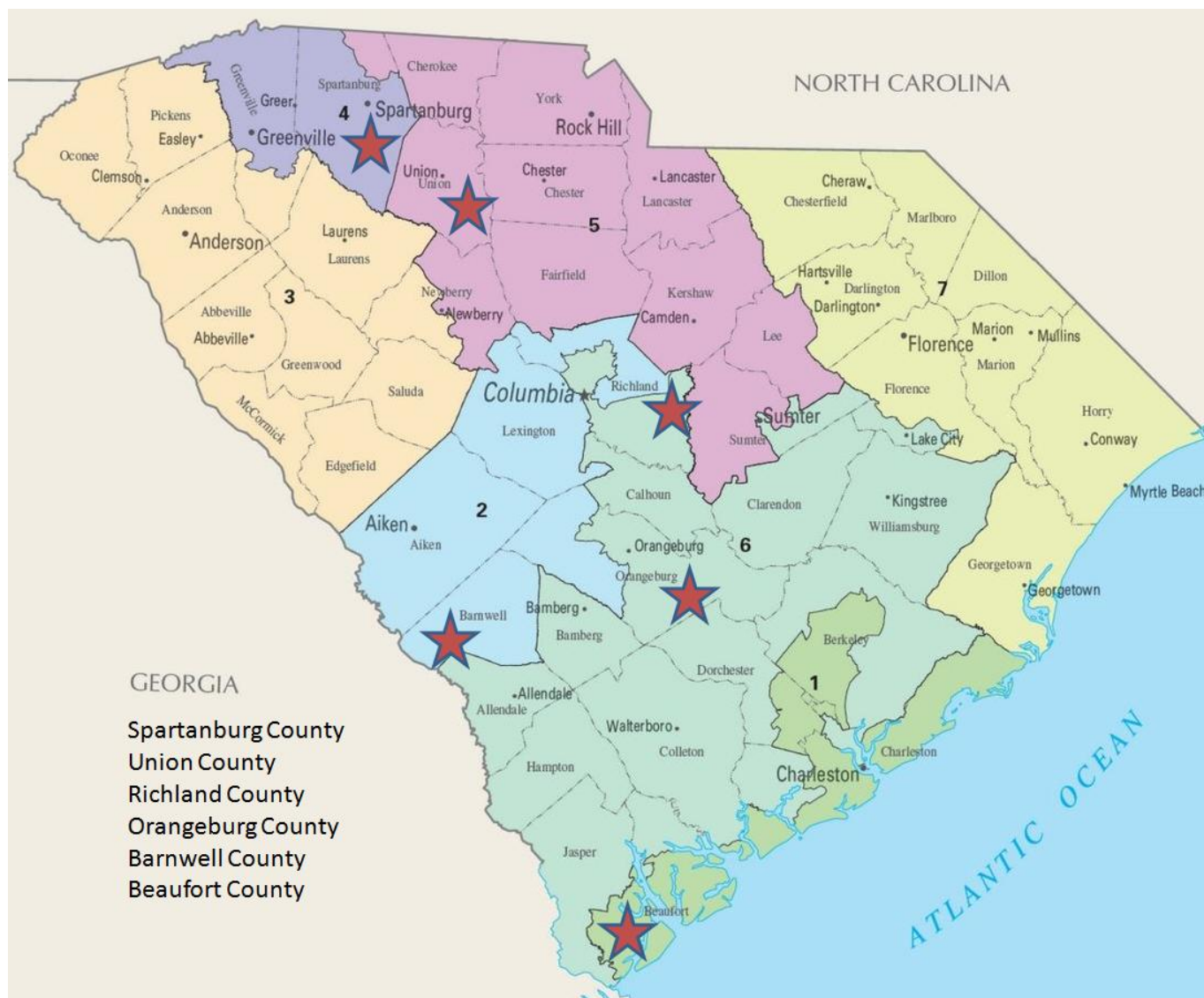


Community Ties of South Carolina's African American Soldiers, Sailors and Patriots of the Revolutionary War



GEORGIA

- Spartanburg County
- Union County
- Richland County
- Orangeburg County
- Barnwell County
- Beaufort County

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<http://www.libertyfunddc.com>

Maurice A. Barboza

mbarboza@libertyfunddc.com

703-299-0408

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Patriot Ties to Congressional Districts

COUNTY	USC DISTRICT	MEMBER OF CONGRESS	DISTRICT PATRIOTS / PENSION <i>(Click link to see application)</i>
1. Orangeburg	<u>2nd</u>	<u>Joe Wilson</u>	Lazarus Chavis, <u>S9316</u> Shadrack Reed Willis Reed Abraham Scot
2. Orangeburg	<u>6th</u>	<u>Jim Clyburn</u>	
3. Spartanburg	<u>4th</u>	<u>Trey Gowdy</u>	Spencer Bolton, <u>R995</u>
4. Richland	<u>2nd</u>	<u>Joe Wilson</u>	Gideon Griffin, <u>W8877</u> Morgan Griffin, <u>S18844</u> Allen Jeffers, <u>S1770</u>
5. Richland	<u>6th</u>	<u>Jim Clyburn</u>	
6. Beaufort	<u>6th</u>	<u>Jim Clyburn</u>	Rapes Going (also Goins), See brother Edward Going, <u>S6899</u>
7. Beaufort	<u>1st</u>	<u>Mark Sanford</u> (formerly <u>Tim Scott</u>)	
8. Union County	<u>5th</u>	<u>Mick Mulvaney</u>	John Biddie (also Biddey), <u>S10374</u>
9. Barnwell County	<u>2nd</u>	<u>Joe Wilson</u>	John Busby, <u>SC1</u>
10. Christ Church Parish	<u>1st</u>	<u>Mark Sanford</u> (formerly <u>Tim Scott</u>)	Isham Carter, <u>S39293</u>

Fact Sheet for South Carolina

African Americans served in all of the major battles of the Revolutionary War (1775-1783), from Lexington and Concord to Yorktown. Revised estimates suggest that 10,000 or more could have served as soldiers, marines and civilian workers (referred to interchangeably as soldiers and patriots).



For generations, historians had estimated that at least 5,000 served; however, less than half were known until 2008 when [*Forgotten Patriots, African American and American Indian Patriots in the Revolutionary War*](#) (See South Carolina chapter, page 581) was published by the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and put names to numbers.

Initially, George Washington and the Continental Congress were reluctant to enlist black soldiers. Washington partially reversed the order to make an exception for blacks already serving. John, the son

of influential Henry Laurens, proposed the creation of a brigade of 3,000 slaves. Backed by his father, who was also the largest slave trader in North America, the plan was approved by the Continental Congress but later rejected by the SC Provincial Legislature.

By 1778, through their own determination, blacks made their way into the ranks up and down the Atlantic coast. So, too, in SC, African Americans came to play diverse roles in winning Independence and setting a course for liberty and citizenship deep in the future. While their own dreams may not have been fulfilled, they raised families that for generations laid the groundwork for liberty one inch at a time.

Among the 121 known by name or description are 24 soldiers, 5 drummers and 10 sailors. 9 men were captured as prisoners. There was one spy, 2 messengers, 2 pilots and 2 boatmen. Many more black South Carolinians ran away from plantations and fought with the British and Loyalist out of self-interest to preserve their fragile freedom. One veteran recollected confronting 4 or 5 hundred Negroes in battle. John Biddie, who had served 3 years, became a "refugee" when the British overtook SC. However, he said he "never took protection," which the British promised.

There were 39 who served in the patriotic service -- 27 servants, 5 shipyard workers, and 4 at the public rope walk. 11 among them are identified as enslaved persons. Some or all of the 27 servants could also have been enslaved.

Among the two women identified are Polly, a seamstress and Patty, a servant to General Thomas Sumter. Countless women likely served in these, and other, roles but only two so far are lucky enough to be known.

Whatever role they played, all were in harm's way, if not by a bullet, by disease, malnutrition or bad luck. Jack Primus, a laborer, employed in the public service for "upwards of 4 years," was killed while working to "scale" cannons. His owner sought restitution from the state.

15 soldiers filed pension applications which may be accessed at the [Southern Campaigns of the American Revolution](#). 7 are listed on census records between 1790 and 1840. These illuminate details about battles, wives, children, color, status as free, deteriorating health and financial affairs in old age. Although many pixels are missing, they form a likeness of the most extraordinary American patriots of any age.

These men and women knew what they had done was of great significance. John Busby, Pension #SC1, says he "never shrunk from the performance" of his duties but was never wounded or in a battle. "That for his services which he flatters himself were important to his country, he never received any compensation whatever."

In Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island, [Liberty Fund DC was able to connect thousands of patriots to communities where they lived](#) and to current congressional districts. In SC, 12 such connections are apparent. 4 patriots are from Orangeburg, 3 from Richland and 1 apiece from Spartanburg, Union (formerly Union District), Beaufort (formerly Granville County) Christ Church Parish and Barnwell (formerly Barnwell District).

Reps Jim Clyburn and Joe Wilson share 7 patriots. Both represent 1 additional from Beaufort and Barnwell counties, respectively. Rep. Trey Gowdy represents patriot and poll tax protester Spencer Bolton who served under Gen. Francis Marion. From 1959 to 1961, patriot Oscar "Buddy" Marion was portrayed by actor Jordan Whitfield in the popular Walt Disney miniseries, "The Swamp Fox."

Black patriots throughout the states served in many roles: soldier, sailor, marine, patriotic service, laborer, cobbler, cook's mate, waiter, barber, landsman, drummer, fifer, carpenter, servant, and gentleman soldier. (The majority listed in [Forgotten Patriots](#) were fighting men put in harm's way by choice.)

About 75 percent or 3,770 of the 5,000 known black patriots resided in MA (1,570), CT (821), RI (783), and VA (596). There could be over 8 million descendants across the nation. Brand Pendarvis, of Orangeburg District, had three brothers who also served in the Revolutionary War. He is a "DAR Established Patriot," which means at least one of his descendants became a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

**Figures by sculptor David Newton for Liberty Fund DC*

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	COUNTY/USC DISTRICT	ROLE
Adam	**	County in SC	Soldier
African American Man	(No Name)	County in SC	Artificers and Pioneers
African American Man	(No Name)	County in SC	Servant to Capt. Goodwin
African American Man	(No Name)	County in SC	Servant to Capt. Goodwin
African American Men	(No Name)	County in SC	Shipyards
African American Men	(No Name)	County in SC	Shipyards
African American Men	(No Name)	County in SC	Shipyards
African American Men	(No Name)	County in SC	Shipyards
African American Men	(No Name)	County in SC	Shipyards
Agrippa	**	County in SC	Soldier
Antigua	**	County in SC	Spy
Bacchus	**	County in SC	Navy
Bacchus	Negro	County in SC	prisoner of war
Biddie/Biddey	John	Union (was Union District)	Soldier (Married 32 years, Children)
Billy	Negro	County in SC	Prisoner of War
Boatswain	Negro	County in SC	**
Bob	**	County in SC	Drummer
Bolton	Spencer	Spartanburg	Soldier
Bond	Stephen	County in SC	Navy
Bram	**	County in SC	Soldier
Brownsguard	Gasper	County in SC	**
Busby	John	County in SC	Soldier
Cain	**	County in SC	prisoner of war
Capers	Jim	County in SC	Drummer
Carter	Isham/Isom	Christ Church Parish	Soldier
Charles	**	County in SC	Navy
Charles	Negro	County in SC	Prisoner of War
Chavers	John	County in SC	Soldier
Chavis	Lazarus	Orangeburg	Soldier
Chavis	John	County in SC	Soldier
Clomwell	**	County in SC	**
Coleman	Edward	County in SC	Soldier
Cooper	George	County in SC	Navy
Cooper	Pompey	County in SC	**
Cupid	**	County in SC	**
Dublin	**	County in SC	Navy
Eady	John	County in SC	**
Exeter	**	County in SC	Enslaved of John Laurens
Featherston	John	County in SC	Navy
Fralix	Simon	County in SC	Soldier
Franch	Michal	County in SC	Soldier
Francis	Jacob	County in SC	Soldier
Francis	**	County in SC	Enslaved to Capt. Baker

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	COUNTY/ USC DISTRICT	ROLE
Free	George	County in SC	**
Gazer/Grazer	Pompey	County in SC	**
George	**	County in SC	Enslaved of John Laurens
Gillon	Dublin	County in SC	**
Going/Goins	Rapes/Reeps	Beaufort (was Granville)	**
Griffen/Griffin	Premium/Primus	County in SC	Landsman
Griffin	Gideon	Richland	**
Griffin	Morgan	Richland	**
Harris	Edward	County in SC	Soldier (Continental Line)
Harry	**	County in SC	Messenger
Harry	**	County in SC	Servant to Capt. Goodwyn
Hector	**	County in SC	Prisoner of War
Hill	Tower	County in SC	Navy
Horace	**	County in SC	Laborer at Public Rope Walk
Issac	**	County in SC	Soldier
Jack	**	County in SC	Laborer at Public Rope Walk
Jack	**	County in SC	Soldier
Jacob	**	County in SC	Enslaved of Henry Laurens
January	**	County in SC	Servant of Capt. Gadsden
Jeffers	Allen	Richland	Soldier (private)
Jeffers	Barry	County in SC	**
Jemey	**	County in SC	Navy
Jemmy	**	County in SC	Pilot (Enslaved of Peter Croft)
Jemy	Negro	County in SC	Prisoner of War
Joe	**	County in SC	Servant of Lt. Hart
Joseph	**	County in SC	Servant to Capt. Warley
Julius	**	County in SC	Servant to Lt. Frierson
Kneller/ Neller	**	County in SC	Servant to Col. Henderson
Knight/Sharper/Mcintosh	Moses	County in SC	Soldier
Landy	**	County in SC	Laborer at Public Rope Walk
Lewis	**	County in SC	Laborer on Brig Comet
Marion	Oscar/ "Buddy	County in SC	Servant/Soldier
Mckenzie	Hector	County in SC	**
Ned	**	County in SC	Drummer 6th S.C. Regt.
Nelson	**	County in SC	Servant to Lt. Col. Henderson
Neptune	**	County in SC	Drummer
Patty	**	County in SC	Seamstress
Peas	Tom	County in SC	Patroon/Boatman (Enslaved of Henry Laurens)
Pendarvis	Brand	County in SC	DAR Established Patriot (Plantation Owner)
Pendarvis	James	County in SC	Brother of Brand Pendarvis
Pendarvis	Thomas	County in SC	Brother of Brand Pendarvis
Pendarvis	William	County in SC	Brother of Brand Pendarvis
Perkins	Jacob	County in SC	**

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	COUNTY/USC DISTRICT	ROLE
Perkins	George	County in SC	**
Peter	**	County in SC	Servant of Lt. Evans
Peter	**	County in SC	Servant to Capt. Mazyck
Peter	**	County in SC	Servant to Capt. Shubrick
Peter	**	County in SC	Servant to Capt. Uriah Goodwyn
Peter	**	County in SC	Soldier 6th S.C. Regt.
Pickens/Old	Dick	County in SC	**
Plymouth		County in SC	Soldier
Polly	**	County in SC	Servant to Gen. Thomas Sumter
Pompey	**	County in SC	Navy
Pompey	**	County in SC	Enslaved & Servant to Marquis de Lafayette
Porcy/Povey/Percy	Anthony	County in SC	**
Primas	Jack	County in SC	Laborer (Killed, Enslaved of John Calvert]
Primus	**	County in SC	Soldier
Reed	Shadrack	Orangeburg	Soldier
Reed	Willis	Orangeburg	Soldier
Robin	**	County in SC	Servant to Lt. Mazyck
Rouse	Cornelius	County in SC	Patriotic Service
Sam	Aka Negro Sam/Miller Sam	County in SC	**
Sandy	Old	County in SC	**
Scaramouch	**	County in SC	Boatman, Messenger (Enslaved of Henry Laurens)
Scot	Abraham	Orangeburg	Soldier
Sharper	Moses	County in SC	**
Shrewsberry	**	County in SC	Enslaved of Henry Laurens (at Valley Forge with John Laurens)
Stepney	**	County in SC	Enslaved of John Laurens
Titus	**	County in SC	Laborer at Public Rope Walk
Toby	**	County in SC	Prisoner of War
Tom	**	County in SC	Drummer 6th S. C. Regt.
Tom	**	County in SC	prisoner of war
Tom	**	County in SC	Servant of Paymaster Gray
Toney	**	County in SC	Servant to Capt. Mazyck
Waldron	Samuel	County in SC	Pilot
Wexford	Negro	County in SC	Prisoner of War
Will	**	County in SC	Servant of Capt. Baker
York	**	County in SC	Servant to Lt. Kolb