



Message from the President



Compatriots,

My schedule has been greatly reduced the last two months due to some health issues that have thankfully been resolved. I will not go back to the same strenuous schedule, but I will increase my activities somewhat.

So far we have not received any further monies from the grant requests, but I will continue to seek more funding for our youth programs. It is my opinion that we need to increase our scholarship checks to \$100.00 for each of the youth programs. Our high school students, for the most part, will not consider one of our contests with a first place prize of \$50.00. It's a sign of the times. I also understand that the chapter cannot afford to fund these contests without requesting additional funds from the membership, hence the grant requests. Over the past year we conducted the Knight Essay contest, the Outstanding JROTC contest and the Poster Contest. The Knight and JROTC contests also require the purchase of medals and certificates from National. The Poster contest has a locally produced certificate to accompany the check. I hope at some point in time to have an Eagle Scout enter our Eagle Scout Scholarship program. This would entail an additional check and purchases from National. Our Poster winner, Gage Tinkham, also won the State contest and will be participating in the National contest at the National Congress in Phoenix in July. It is important that we continue to work with the youth. They are not getting the instruction they need concerning our history in school. We need to step up and get the job done.

As I have stated in the past, we need to get new members in the chapter that can and will take over in the future. As VP and President of the chapter, I have done everything I can think of to get the chapter and the society out in the public view. There have been inquiries, but no one with enough interest to join. I bring this to the chapter's attention because we need someone to step in when I step down as President in November of 2013 who will continue the progress made over the last 4 ½ years. In November 2013 I will have served 2 years as VP and 4

years as President. Truthfully, I need a break. I will however continue work with the youth programs and the Flag certificates at the behest of the incoming president.

At this time I would like to again thank Compatriots Steve Avent, Rev. Duncan Jones and R. Allen Brahin for all of their help and continued support during my term of office.

Ken Wilson

The July meeting will be held on **Wed., July 11**, at the Halifax United Methodist Church on **152 S. King Street (Main Street) in Halifax at 6:30 pm**. The cost of the meal will be \$10. **Reservations are required.** Please contact Ken Wilson or Steve Avent if you're coming. On the agenda: Ken Wilson will present a program on the origins of the 21 gun salute.



In this Issue...

- 1 Remarks from President Ken Wilson
 - 2 Highlights of May, 2012 meeting
 - 3 Recent Chapter Activities
- Upcoming NCSAR Events

President Wilson reported on the following chapter activities since our March 2012 meeting:

- Chaplain Duncan Jones represented the chapter at the Weldon HS JROTC military ball and awarded the JROTC Outstanding Cadet medal to Cadet Captain Marcell Gorham
- Ken Wilson and Steve Avent participated in the Guilford Courthouse ceremony on March 17th.
- He awarded the check and certificate to the winner of the Americanism Poster contest, as well as Honorable Mention certificates to the other students involved in the final round of judging.
- He attended the NCSSAR Annual Convention held in Carolina Beach and participated as a member of the Color Guard.
- The chapter was awarded a streamer for 10 or more Flag Certificates awarded during 2011 (the only chapter in the state). We also received a 1st place streamer for the chapter scrapbook, and another one for 1st place in the chapter achievement award contest.
- He received a Certificate of Appreciation from outgoing NCSSAR President Steve Pittard.
- He presided over the Flag Retirement ceremony, the luncheon and the Halifax Resolves Anniversary ceremonies on 4/17, and assisted NCSSAR Glenn Sappie at the Owens House wayside marker dedication.
- With Steve Avent and Sam Powell he participated as Color Guard for the J.R. "Rudy" Morton monument dedication on 4/14.
- On 4/17 he spoke to 2 groups of 4th grade students at Manning Elementary School about the meaning of the dates on the NC Flag and how Halifax County was affected by the Revolutionary War.
- On 4/18 he participated in the planning meeting for the Memorial Day ceremony to be held 5/28 at Cedarwood Cemetery.
- He awarded the Outstanding JROTC medal to Cadet Patrese Sanders of Nash Central HS on 4/25.

President Wilson reported on upcoming events, including the Patriot's Day ceremony to be held 5/19 at the Alamance Battleground. Chaplain Duncan Jones then gave a most interesting and thought-provoking presentation on the religious roots of the American Revolution.

Chapter Activities

President Wilson and Chaplain Duncan Jones presented three JROTC Outstanding Cadet Certificates since our last meeting— to Cadet Commander James Dylan Elliott of J.F Webb HS in Oxford on 5/17/2012, to Cadet/Major Austin Fennell of S. Nash HS on 5/18/2012 and to Cadet Captain Manuel Lara at N. Edgecombe HS on 6/4/2012.



Cadet Commander James
Dylan Elliott



Cadet/Major Austin Fennell



Cadet Captain Manuel Lara



Ken Wilson and Duncan Jones attended the May 20th Jeremy Staats Foundation Wall to Wall Bicycle Tour. (l) Ken and Duncan with Jeremy Staats and (r) Wesley Barrientos, who is a double amputee. They left the Vietnam Veterans Wall in Bakersfield, CA in April, planning to bicycle across the nation, ending at the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC on Memorial Day.

Ken Wilson and Duncan Jones attended the Rolling Thunder Flame of Freedom ceremony on May 23 at the Roanoke Valley Veterans' Museum. Two members of the Rolling Thunder veteran's motorcycle group left Bakersfield, CA, in April and carried the flame from the Vietnam Veteran's wall there to Arlington National Cemetery, stopping on the way to participate in ceremonies honoring POW/MIAs such as the one pictured above.

The purpose of their ride was to publicize problems veterans encounter with health, education and jobs on their return to civilian life. Wesley, the double amputee, rode his hand-pedaled bicycle just over 3300 miles before injuring his shoulder. He is currently driving one of the support trucks. Jeremy was a college teammate and close friend of Pat Tilman.



Ken Wilson and Duncan Jones attended the AMVETS Memorial Day ceremony on May 28th. Ken (r) presenting the chapter wreath during the ceremony.



Ken Wilson with Gage Tinkham, the statewide winner of the Americanism poster contest.



(l) Registrar Allen Brahin with NSSAR President General Larry Magerkurth at a June 22 wreath laying ceremony at Thomas Jefferson's home, Monticello.

(r) Ken Wilson presenting Eagle Scout Jonathan Scott Hayes of Troop 146 the NCSSAR Eagle Scout recognition certificate on June 24th.



Upcoming NCSSAR Events

July 21, 2012 - 232nd Anniversary of the Battle of Colson's Mill, Norwood, NC.
October 13, 2012 - Fall 2012 NCSSAR Board of Managers meeting, Raleigh



The Halifax Dispatch

The Newsletter of the Halifax Resolves Chapter, NCSSAR

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P.O. Box 221, Red Oak, NC 27868



The Halifax Dispatch

A publication of the

Halifax Resolves Chapter

of the

NC Sons of the American Revolution

Volume 10—Number 4

July, 2012

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The Sons of the American Revolution is a **PATRIOTIC** organization formed in 1889 and chartered by the U.S. Congress in 1906, with more than 25,000 living members from all 50 states and 23 foreign countries. Throughout its 120-year history, the SAR has admitted more than 155,000 members. Among them are 16 **PRESDENTS** of the **UNITED STATES**, including George W. Bush and his father George H. W. Bush, Jimmy Carter, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Harry Truman and Theodore Roosevelt. The SAR also has had among its members Sir Winston Churchill and King Juan Carlos I of Spain, both of whom trace their ancestry to **REVOLUTIONARY WAR** patriots. Membership requires proof of descent from a person who aided in the **PATRIOT** cause. Some of the activities in which we engage are:

- * commemoration of Patriot graves and monuments
- * educational programs in the schools and elsewhere on the ideals of our Patriot ancestors and the American Revolution
- * recognition of outstanding law enforcement officers and JROTC cadets
- * sponsorship of Boy Scout troops

Chapter Officers

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Go to: www.ncssar.com, "NC Chapters"
Click on our chapter name on the NC map.