

Message from the President

Compatriots,

This month we are set, as a state society, to honor 14 free black patriots. The importance of this should not be overlooked or lessened. After our meeting upon the 12th, there will be the regularly scheduled events at the Guilford Courthouse on the 15th. On the 16th, the memorial service for these black patriots will be held.

Some of you may not realize or are unaware of the events around the War for Independence which relate to the Black community during that time period. We will never know the full number of enslaved or free men who fought or supported either side during the war. I, myself, knew on an intellectual level that African origin and mulatto individuals fought for our side. However, recently I have begun to research further into the roles played and politics of the time before, during, and after the War. It has been an eye opening experience in some respects. Most of us learned about the institution of slavery here in the Carolinas while in school or had/have children who did so during their schooling.

While the institution cannot be denied to have existed, the fact remains that there were a larger number of free or freed individuals than most people realize. It is an accepted fact that most free Blacks fought for the Colonies against the British while many slaves flocked to the other side. The culture at the time was varied and complex. Regardless, it is important that we recognize the contribution of these patriots who served our country as so many other patriots did. We may never know them all, just as we don't know everyone who served or supported our independence. Whether you can attend or not, please keep this in your hearts and minds.

Our Chapter has been busily represented in recent events statewide and also in VA. I would like to take this moment to thank RJ Myrick for his efforts on flag certificates, as well as representing the chapter at the Board of Managers meeting and presenting a wreath for the chapter at Cowpens Ford. R. Allen has been busy presenting wreaths at Cowpens in January and the Crossing of the Dan in February. As usual, Ken Wilson remains

busy with his district duties but keeps an eye on me and the chapter. (He gets help with this from Steve Avent. It takes both to make sure I'm not missing something.). In short, thank you to all who participate and help make our chapter the greatest in the nation.

If any of our member compatriots, or their families, would like to participate more or get plugged in to an event, please contact me or one of the other leaders. I would love to see more members at events although I do realize this may not be possible. I appreciate your support for our chapter in every way you provide it.

In closing, this season has been very cold so everyone please be mindful of your health. As for what's coming at the meeting, we will be judging the poster contestants for our region and don't be surprised if I do a small presentation from my research. However, I do promise to not be long-winded.

Fraternally,

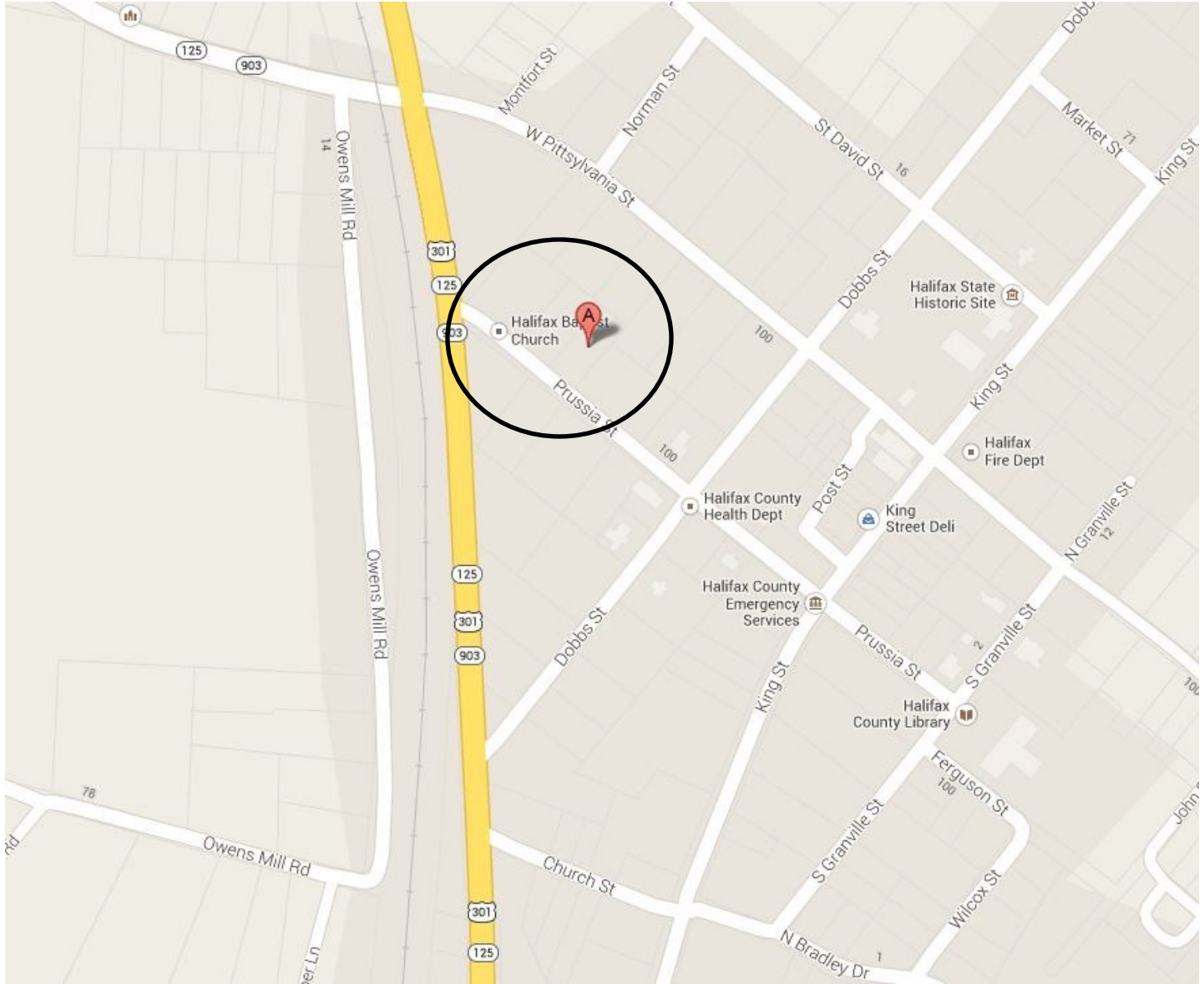
Geoff

The March meeting will be held on **Wed., March 12**, at the Halifax Baptist Church on **131 Prussia Street in Halifax at 6:30 pm.**

On the agenda: judging contestants in the poster contest and a presentation from President Pittard.

The cost of the meal will be \$10. **Reservations are required.** Please contact Geoff Pittard or Steve Avent if you're coming.

Map to New Meeting Place—Halifax Baptist Church



Chapter Activities





Previous page, l-r: Albemarle President Chris Grimes gave a most interesting presentation on 18th century medicine; Ken Wilson's better half, Jan, received the Martha Washington medal for her loyal support of Ken and the Chapter

Above (l-r, top-bottom): The attendees at the Harney grave marking, sponsored by the Albemarle Chapter & held in Elizabeth City on 1/25; Ken gave a presentation to the 8th grade class at Chaloner Middle School in Roanoke Rapids on 1/17, explaining the meaning of the dates on the NC flag; Also on 1/17 Ken presented the Eagle Scout recognition certificate to Eagle Scout James W. Taylor.

Upcoming SAR Activities

March, 2014

March 15, 2014 - The annual commemoration of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse will be held in Greensboro, NC

March 16, 2014 - Beginning at 2:00 PM, the North Carolina State Society will sponsor a ceremony honoring the 14 free Blacks of the Harlowe Community that fought for Liberty in the American Revolution. Harlowe - Havelock Senior Center, 125 Old Godette School Road, Havelock, NC.

April, 2014

April 12, 2014 - The 238th Anniversary Celebration of the Adoption of the Halifax Resolves, 2:00p.m., Halifax, NC

April 25-26, 2014 - The NCSSAR Annual Meeting, Fayetteville, NC

May 2014

May 10, 2014 - The Mecklenburg chapter, NCSSAR, and the Mecklenburg chapter, NCSDAR, are co-sponsoring a grave marking ceremony for Patriot Lewis John Jetton (1749-1826) beginning at 10:00am at Centre Presbyterian Church, 129 Centre Church Rd., Mooresville, NC 28117. For more information, and to participate in the Color Guard, please contact Ken Luckey at kluckey83@bellsouth.net.


May 20, 2014 - The Mecklenburg chapter invites you to participate in the annual commemoration of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence beginning at 11:30am on the corner of Trade & Tryon Streets in Uptown Charlotte. If you would like to participate in the Color Guard, please email David Alls, chapter Color Guard Commander, at David.A.Alls@gmail.com.

May 31, 2014 - The 234th annual commemoration of the Battle of Buford's Massacre (Battle of Waxhaws) will begin at 10:00am near Buford, SC, about 9 miles east of Lancaster on SC Highway 522, a quarter of a mile south of Highway 9.



The Halifax Dispatch

The Newsletter of the Halifax Resolves Chapter, NCSSAR,
Steve Avent, Editor



The Halifax Dispatch
A publication of the
Halifax Resolves Chapter
of the
NC Sons of the American Revolution
Volume 13—Number 2
March, 2014

Steve Avent, Editor
202 Olde Colony Dr.
Edenton, NC 27932
(252) 482-1172
savent917@gmail.com



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

President: Geoff Pittard
7651 Hwy 48 S., Roanoke Rapids, NC 27870
(252) 532-0664, geospittard@gmail.com

Vice President: R. J. Myrick
262 Golf Course Rd., Littleton, NC 27850
(252) 586-7817, brendamyrick@embarqmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer: Steve Avent
202 Olde Colony Dr., Edenton, NC 27932
(252) 482-1172, savent917@gmail.com

Registrar: R. Allen Brahin, Waynesboro, VA
starline@ntelos.net

Chaplain: Rev. Duncan Jones

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