

Message from the President



Compatriots,

The last two months have passed quickly and a lot of things have happened. Our Americanism Poster winner was Gage Tinkham of Belmont Elementary School in Roanoke Rapids. I awarded his check and certificate at a gathering of 4th & 5th grade students the week after our last meeting. That same day I also awarded Honorable Mention Certificates to the runner up students at Manning Elementary, Cornerstone Christian School and Belmont Elementary. Society Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to the teachers who promoted the contest. They were Ms. Chris Chambers of Manning Elementary, Ms. Adrienne Powell, Mrs. Donna Hardy and Ms. Stephanie Taylor of Belmont Elementary; and Ms. Shelley Dixon and Ms. Renee Walker of Cornerstone Christian School.

Our State Convention at Carolina Beach was informative to say the least. In addition to the election of new state officers, Compatriot G. Steven Pittard, our Immediate Past President was selected as the NCSSAR candidate for Vice President General. Congratulations, Steve. As far as the chapter is concerned, we received streamers for Chapter Achievement (Small Chapter), 1st place Scrapbook, and Flag Certificates. I received a Certificate of Appreciation from NCSSAR Pres. G. Steven Pittard.

The Halifax Day celebration was successful in one sense and disappointing in another. The Flag Retirement was a success with the retirement of 68 U.S. flags. As is customary, the ashes were buried in the Colonial Cemetery. Burn Master James Tuck did a great job. He was assisted by Mr. Gary Hackenburg. The NCSSAR Combined Color Guard was on hand to present the Colors.

Our dedication of the wayside sign at the Owens house was well attended and highlighted the morning's events.

We had the largest group to date at our luncheon. Over 40 people attended. There was some good food, good fellowship and a renewal of friendships.

At the 2:00 ceremony celebrating the 236th Anniversary of the Adoption of the Halifax Resolves, the keynote speaker, Mr. Gary Hackenburg in the persona of Thomas Jefferson, did an excellent job. This was one of, if not the best keynote speaker we have had in recent years. Following the wreath laying ceremony, I presented Mrs. Stephanie Ann Brahin the SAR Martha Washington Medal for her service to the SAR. I also presented Certificates of Appreciation to Ms. Gloria Goode who sang our National Anthem, Mr. Hackenburg for his keynote address and the Nash Central HS JROTC Color Guard for their participation in presenting and retiring the Colors.

My disappointment came with the lack of chapter members who attended. We had a total of 4 primary members and 2 dual members on hand for the afternoon ceremony. What made it more disappointing was that this was one of the highest attended ceremonies we have had since I have been a member. The only one I can think of that may have had a higher attendance was when the President-General attended several years ago.

I have had the good fortune to speak to 2 groups of 4th grade students at Manning Elementary School about the NC flag and the significance of the dates on it. It was one of the most enjoyable events I've had since joining the SAR.

As we move forward, I ask each of you to evaluate your role in the chapter and what you can do to aid in its growth. We are coming to a point where we will need to train someone to take the reins of the chapter in about 18 months. It is an honor and privilege to serve as your president, but it is not a job that needs to be permanent. Four years is enough for any individual. We need to remember that it takes time to train a president and we don't have anyone in the "pipeline". This is not a problem we need to push down the road. It needs to be handled now.

Ken Wilson

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

- He awarded the Eagle Scout recognition certificate to Jacob Allen Hackenburg, Kyle Acree and Justin Curtis Wynn.
- He participated in the February and March ceremonies at the Roanoke Valley Veteran's Museum
- He attended the NCSSAR Board of Managers meeting in Salisbury.
- He attended the Crossing of the Dan ceremony in S. Boston, VA with Compatriots Allen Brahin and Lee Scouten along with several members of the NCSSAR Color Guard.
- He attended the Outer Banks Chapter meeting with Compatriots Steve Avent and Sam Powell. The program was on the invasion of Edenton during the Revolution.
- He and Chaplain Duncan Jones did the preliminary judging of the Americanism Poster Contest at Manning and Belmont Elementary Schools and Cornerstone Christian School. 32 students participated in all.
- He submitted four grant requests seeking funds for the Chapter Youth programs. Grants were submitted to Boddie-Noell enterprises, First Citizens Bank & Trust, Dominion Power and Wal-Mart. The only response was from Boddie-Noell Enterprises. Chairman of the Board, Mr. Mayo Boddie, sent a personal check for \$500 designated for the Youth programs. No word as yet from the other companies.

He announced the following upcoming Chapter events:

The Chapter will be sponsoring the annual celebration of the Adoption of the Halifax Resolves, to be held 4/7/2012 at 2:00 pm at the colonial courthouse site in Halifax. At 10:00 am we will be holding a Flag Retirement ceremony and at 11:00 am we will be dedicating a historical marker at the Owens house in Halifax. The marker was paid for with a donation from the NCSSAR.

On 4/14/2012 we will be assisting with the dedication of a monument at Roanoke Rapids airport.



Jacob Hackenburg



Justin Curtis Wynn



Kyle Acree

The May chapter meeting will be held on **Wed., May 9**, 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. Our Chaplain, the Rev. Duncan Jones will be giving a presentation on a topic yet to be announced, but sure to be most interesting and informative.



4/16/2012: Chaplain Duncan Jones presenting the JROTC Outstanding Cadet Award to Cadet Captain Marcell Gorham



4/2/2012: Ken Wilson and Steve Avent participating in a ceremony honoring the Vietnam War POW who was held the longest by the N. Vietnamese.



4/2/2012: Ken Wilson and Steve Avent beside a dragster, which honors American POWs.



Ken receiving the streamer for the Chapter Achievement Award



(l) the Flag Retirement ceremony held the morning of the Halifax Resolves celebration, 4/7/2012, and (r) the SAR participants in the ceremony



The marker dedication at the Owens House in Halifax, 4/7/2012



Mrs. Stephanie Brahin (center) with Allen Brahin (l) after she was awarded the Martha Washington Medal during the Halifax Resolves ceremony.

Upcoming NCSAR Events

May 19 - Patriot's Day, Alamance Battleground, Alamance Co.
June 23 - 232nd Anniversary of the Battle of Ramsour's Mill - Lincolnton, NC

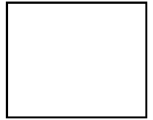


The Halifax Dispatch

The Newsletter of the Halifax Resolves Chapter, NCSSAR

Steve Avent, Editor

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 3

May, 2012

Steve Avent, Editor

P.O. Box 221

Red Oak, NC 27868

(252) 459-9427

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: Ken Wilson

121 Northside Dr., Roanoke Rapids, NC 27870
(252) 537-5406, boxcar27870@embarqmail.com

Vice President: Acting VP: Steve Avent

Secretary/Treasurer: Steve Avent

P.O. Box 221, Red Oak, NC 27868
(252) 459-9427, savent917@gmail.com

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

Chaplain: Rev. Duncan Jones

our website:

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