

Message from the President



Compatriots,

It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve as your president over the last two years. We have come a long way in our outreach to the community and I hope we will continue to do so in the future.

Our youth contests are slowly but surely growing. I have learned that the best way into most of the public schools is through the JROTC. We have different units who participate in both the Enhanced JROTC and the Knight Essay contests. The poster contest this past spring saw an increase from one to two schools.

Another area of outreach is our flag retirements. Since we allowed the scouts to assist at the Halifax ceremony in April, they were active in Jackson also. Scout masters are giving instruction using our ceremonial drum after the ceremony has ended instead of having to add it into instruction at one of their other events where time is more restricted.

Finally, the Eagle Scout Recognition certificates awarded at the Eagle Scout Court of Honor have been a big help in opening doors that had been closed to us in the past.

I must congratulate our Chapter Registrar & Color Guard Commander R. Allen Brahin for his efforts in representing not only the chapter, but the state society at the "Vigil at Mount Vernon" on September 17th. Allen stood guard at the grave of President George Washington for two 30 minute tours at Mount Vernon. Thank you, Allen, for a job well done.

Many in the chapter do not realize the work that goes on behind the scenes. If it had not been for the efforts of Compatriot Steve Avent my term as president would not have been as successful as it was. Steve has given excellent advice and guidance to me as to the workings of the SAR. There are not enough ways to say thank you for a job well done. He made my job easier and taught me a lot. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

As a final note, we are establishing a separate Chapter Calendar listing all upcoming chapter events. Anyone attending an event, program or function representing the chapter should notify Chapter Sec.-Treas. Steve Avent or I as soon as the date of the

event is known. Since January there have been too many last minute conflicts in the scheduling that have resulted in extra duties for the remaining members at chapter sponsored events. I have sent a list of known events to Steve. Each member should also send their schedule to him. In turn, an updated list will be emailed to the chapter officers.

This month's meeting is our annual meeting where we will elect our officers. Since our last meeting, Compatriot Ron Jones has requested that his name be removed from the slate of proposed officers as the VP candidate. This leaves an opening that needs to be filled. If anyone would like to serve in this position, please let the officers know as soon as possible. I encourage each and every one of you to attend. NCSSAR President Mr. G. Steven Pittard will be in attendance to perform the installation.

I would like to extend a heartfelt welcome to two new members. First, Mr. William Roger "Bill" Peele of Rocky Mount and secondly, Mr. Timothy "Tim" Rackley of Winston-Salem have had their applications approved recently and will be inducted soon.

Ken Wilson

The November chapter meeting will be held on **Wed., Novemrr 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. On the agenda:

Officer elections will be held, and if you would like to get more active in your chapter, this is your chance.

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President Wilson reported on the following chapter activities since our July 2011 meeting:

- He participated in the August and September Veteran's ceremonies at the Roanoke Valley Veteran's Center and Museum
- He awarded four SAR Flag Certificates
- He represented the Chapter along with Se.-Treas Avent at the Gen. Isaac Gregory grave marking ceremony, sponsored by the Albemarle Chapter and held near Camden, NC
- He sent out packets for the youth contests to the area schools
- He participated in the planning of the 9-11 ceremony and also with the NCSSAR Combined Color Guard at the ceremony
- Currently actively participating in the planning of the October 15 Flag Retirement ceremony with VFW Post 1702, the Burwell Davis/ David Koontz grave marking and the Nathan Boddie grave marking.
- He is planning to attend the NCSSAR Board of Managers meeting on October 8.
- On Saturday, September 17, Constitution Day, our Chapter Registrar and Color Guard Commander Allen Brahin will represent the Chapter and State Society as a member of the National Color Guard by standing guard over the tomb of George Washington at Mount Vernon for one hour.
- Our Chapter Achievement contest point total is currently 7950.
- We have 110 flags awaiting retirement.

Ron Jones proposed that the Chapter Achievement Award points that are awarded for giving a SAR-related talk be increased, due to the planning and preparation and travel that are usually required for these talks. Ken brought up the Chapter's need for new members, and there was a discussion on various ways of attracting new members. He then discussed the many youth-related programs in which the Chapter is engaged and reported that our Chapter funds are insufficient for the various awards needed for these, and asked for donations from members to make up the shortfall and enable us to continue these important activities.

Chapter Activities

On October 22 the Chapter sponsored a grave marking ceremony for Patriot Burwell Davis and SAR member David Koontz at Shady Grove UMC near Inez, NC. The event was well attended by SAR participants as well as the general public, many of whom were descendants of Burwell Davis. Past Chapter President Cleveland Hawkins, who is related to Davis through marriage, also attended with his wife Doris. Past NCSSAR State President Sam Powell, another Davis descendant, was the keynote speaker.

On October 30 Ken presented the Society's Eagle Scout Recognition Certificate to Kevin Moore of BSA Troop 146 in Roanoke Rapids, at the Court of Honor recognizing Kevin's outstanding achievement and exceptional leadership and citizenship evidenced by his attainment of the rank of Eagle Scout.



(left) attendees of the Davis/Koontz ceremony

(right) Ken presenting the Eagle Scout award to Kevin Moore

On November 19 at 2:00 pm the Halifax Resolves Chapter will be marking the grave of Patriot Nathan Boddie, at his home and burial place Rose Hill Plantation, located near Nashville, NC. Here is his biography:

Nathan Boddie was born 22 February 1732 in Isle of Wight County, VA, eventually settling in Edgecombe (present day Nash) County, NC. He became a dominant figure in local and state affairs, representing Edgecombe County in the Fourth Provincial Congress that assembled in Halifax, NC, on April 4, 1776 and adopted the Halifax Resolves. As a member of the First General Assembly of North Carolina in 1777, Nathan sponsored the legislation that created Nash County from a part of Edgecombe. In addition, he was one of five justices charged with finding a location in Johnston, Wake or Chatham counties for the capital of North Carolina. At his death in 1797, Nathan was accorded many accolades, including the title Father of Nash County.

Hope to see you there!

Chapter Calendar

Nov. 6 – Veterans’ Day Ceremonies. Calvary Baptist Church, Roanoke Rapids. 8:30 & 11:00 services

Nov. 7 – Roanoke Valley Veterans’ Center & Museum. Becker Village Mall, Roanoke Rapids. 11:00 Veterans’ Day Ceremony - possible wreath laying

Nov. 9 – Chapter Meeting. Halifax UMC, Halifax 6:30 pm.

Nov. 13 – “March of Patriots” Veterans’ Day Parade. Assembly point is the Kirkwood Adams Civic Center, 1100 Hamilton St., Roanoke Rapids. Show time/line-up 2:15-2:30, step off 3:00. **This is a Chapter Color Guard Event**

Nov. 19 – Nathan Boddie Grave Marking Ceremony. Rose Hill Farm Hwy 58 North of Nashville, NC (Nash Co.). **Start time is 2:00 pm - Show time is 1:15pm for all officers.** NCSSAR officers will be in attendance. **This is a Chapter Color Guard Event**

Dec. 4 - Roanoke Rapids Christmas Parade (We are the lead unit). Assembly point is the Kirkwood Adams Civic Center, 1100 Hamilton St. Roanoke Rapids. **Show time 1:15 – step off 2:00** (consideration being given for ala carte lunch meeting before parade). **This is a Chapter Color Guard event**

Dec. 7- Pearl Harbor Memorial Service. Roanoke Valley Veterans’ Center & Museum, Becker Village Mall, Roanoke Rapids. 11:00 (tentative) (possible wreath laying).

No Wreaths Across America ceremony is currently being planned

Upcoming NCSSAR Events

Dec. 3 - Great Bridge Celebration - Norfolk, VA (chapter to be represented by Registrar R. Allen Brahin)

2012

Jan. 14 - Battle of Cowpens - Gaffney, SC

Jan. 28 - Battle of Cowen's Ford - Huntersville, NC

Feb. 11-12 - Battle of Kettle Creek - Washington, GA

Feb. 18 - Crossing of the Dan - South Boston, VA

Feb. 25 - Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge, Currie, NC

Mar. 17 - Battle of Guilford Courthouse - Greensboro, NC

Mar. 30-31 - NCSSAR Convention - Carolina Beach, NC

Apr. 7 - Celebration of the Adoption of the Halifax Resolves



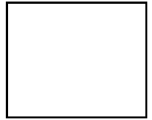


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The Sons of the American Revolution is a **PATRIOTIC** organization formed in 1889 and chartered by the U.S. Congress in 1906, with more than 25,000 living members from all 50 states and 23 foreign countries. Throughout its 120-year history, the SAR 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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our website:

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