

## Message from the President



Compatriots,

Another year has passed in a virtual blur. Since the September meeting a lot has transpired. We have a new member, Randy Dale Vester who will be inducted at our November meeting. There are also two new members, Geoff Pittard and R.J. Myrick, who have applications that are approved, but have not been received from National.

We were awarded the Partners in Patriotism certificate last July at the National Congress. NCSSAR President Glenn Sappie awarded it to us at the Frederick Shearin grave marking ceremony.

The chapter will be presenting the Society's Law Enforcement Commendation medal to Halifax Sheriff's Department Detective John Richard "Rich" Somogyi. A Fire Safety medal will be presented to Karl Wiltsie of the Roanoke Rapids Fire Department. A Bronze Citizenship Medal will be presented to Ms. Suetta Scarbrough, a member of the Roanoke Rapids City Council.

I wish to thank the chapter officers for their assistance and support over the past year. It is very much appreciated.

Our annual youth contests have concluded. We had thought, from talking with local Scout Masters, that we would have some candidates for the Eagle Scout Scholarship. It turned out that we had no entries. Students from J.F. Webb and Southern Nash High Schools participated in the Knight Essay and the Enhanced JROTC contest. J.F. Webb won both contests. Judia Watson won the Knight Essay and Branson Isley won the Enhanced JROTC contest. A date for the presentations has not been set.

NSSCAR Secretary-General Joseph Dooley is scheduled to march with us at the November 11<sup>th</sup> "March of Patriots"

Veterans Day Parade.

The Chapter Color Guard is committed to the Roanoke Rapids Christmas Parade on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive year we will be the lead unit. Also, they are committed to the Wreaths Across America ceremony on December 15<sup>th</sup>.

The date for the 2013 Halifax Resolves Commemoration ceremony is April 6<sup>th</sup>. Compatriot Scott Kennedy, a member of the Raleigh Chapter NCSSAR, will be our keynote speaker.

I hope everyone will make an effort to be at the meeting on November 14<sup>th</sup>.

Fraternally,

The September meeting will be held on **Wed., November 14**, 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 .

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President Wilson first made his report:

- He awarded Flag Certificates to Iluka of NC, the Halifax Co. library, Rufus Rose and Hockaday Funeral Services.
- He represented the Chapter at the funeral of George H. Willis of the Roanoke Valley Veteran's Museum.
- He presented the SAR overview program to the Franklin rifles SCV Camp in Louisburg.
- He participated in the Roanoke Valley Veteran's Museum September Veteran of the Month ceremony.
- H was Master of Ceremonies and Burn Master at the Joint Flag Retirement held 9/8 in Roanoke Rapids, and retired 402 US Flags and 23 assorted NC, Military Service and POW/MIA Flags.
- He participated in planning meetings with AMVETS 101 for the Flag Retirement, 9-11 ceremony and veteran's ceremony.
- He participated in the 9-11 ceremony at Veteran's Park in Roanoke Rapids, and presented the Chapter wreath.
- He's been planning the Frederick Shearin grave marking, set for 10/20.
- He presented the Eagle Scout recognition certificate to Lucian Maxwell Hairston of Troop 129.
- He contacted the Tar River Council BSA about awarding Eagle Scout recognition certificates to their new Eagle Scouts.
- Sent youth contest materials to local schools

SE District VP General Steve Pittard was present and was welcomed by the Chapter. Steve then made a few brief comments, emphasizing the importance of the SAR's youth programs and the importance of SAR involvement in schools. President Wilson reported that Compatriot Allen Brahin recently experienced a heart issue, but is back at home and doing well.

He then presented a most interesting and informative program on the Powell family of New Jersey, who had 20 sons, 17 of whom served in the American Revolution.

*Chapter Activities*



(left) Nov 2 presentation of the SAR Flag Certificate to David and Grace Bobbitt of Littleton.

(right) Nov 2 presentation to the Towne Center, also in Littleton, accepted by Mr. E. Carroll Mann, owner.

(below) Certificate of Appreciation to B shift of the Roanoke Rapids Fire Department for their participation and assistance in the recent flag retirement ceremony. (Sep 17)





On Sat., October 20, the Halifax Resolves Chapter dedicated a Patriot marker at the grave of Frederick K. Shearin, Private, Bute (now Warren) County militia. Shearin was born in 1761 and served two enlistments in the Bute County militia. The first enlistment in early 1780 was under the command of Captain Edward Clauter, Colonel Benjamin Seawell and General Ned Sumner for a period of three months. He was marched south to Camden, South Carolina and arrived shortly after the defeat of General Horatio Gates. Upon his unit's return to North Carolina, he was taken ill. Before his recovery he was discharged.

Shearin was again drafted for a three month tour in early 1781. This time he was under the command of Captain Jordan Harris, Colonel Haines, and General Thomas Eaton. They marched to Harrisburg (now Oxford) in Granville County, then to Hillsborough and finally to Guilford Courthouse. Frederick fought in the Battle of Guilford Courthouse and was severely wounded. The American army was disbanded after the battle and he was placed on the public wagons for the trip back home. He never fully recovered from the wound. Frederick died in Warren County, North Carolina in 1845.

Chapter President Mr. Ken Wilson was the Master of Ceremonies for the event. The colors were posted by the Combined North Carolina Color Guard under the command of Chapter Color Guard Commander R. Allen Brahin. President Wilson led the gathering in the Pledge of Allegiance and the SAR Processional. The Invocation was given by Rev. Duncan Jones, Chapter Chaplain. Greetings were brought by Mr. Glenn Sappie, President of the North Carolina Society of the SAR and Mrs. Karen Powell, Historian of the North Carolina Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Mr. Wayne Haithcock, a descendant of Frederick Shearin, gave a short presentation about Frederick. The marker was then unveiled and dedicated by President Wilson and Rev. Jones followed by "Taps" played by R. Allen Brahin. Wreaths were presented by NCSSAR President Mr. Glenn Sappie, Alamance Battleground Chapter SAR Past President Dr. Samuel C. Powell, Halifax Resolves Chapter SAR President Mr. Ken Wilson, and Raleigh Chapter SAR Color Guard Commander Mr. Scott Kennedy. Additional wreaths were presented by NCSDAR Historian Mrs. Karen Powell, Elizabeth Montfort-Ashe DAR Chapter Regent Mrs. Carol Guidry, John Penn Chapter DAR Regent Mrs. Emily Champion and Warren Chapter DAR Regent Mrs. Constance Thacker. Wreaths were also presented by AMVETS Department of North Carolina Commander Mr. David Beam, AMVETS Department of North Carolina Ladies Auxiliary Past President Mrs. Pat Pulliam, AMVETS Post 320 Ladies Auxiliary member Ms. Karen Schoonover and Junior member Miss Destiny Scarboro. The SAR Recessional was led by President Wilson. Following the retirement of the colors by the Combined NCSSAR Color Guard, Rev. Jones gave the Benediction.



### *Upcoming NCSSAR Events*

- \*November 10, 2012 - The Charlotte Veteran's Day Parade
- \*November 10, 2012 - Fayetteville Veteran's Day Parade
- \*November 11, 2012 - "The March of Patriots" Veteran's Day Parade, Roanoke Rapids.
- \*November 11, 2012 - The Annual Old American Flag Retirement Ceremony, sponsored by Mecklenburg Chapter.
- \*December 2, 2012 - Christmas Parade, Roanoke Rapids .
- \*December 15, 2012 - Wreaths Across America Ceremony, Fort Bragg, NC.
- \*January 18-19, 2013 - Battle of Cowpens Commemoration
- \*January 26, 2013 - Battle of Cowan's Ford & Wreath Laying




# The Halifax Dispatch

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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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Click on our chapter name on the NC map.