

Message from the President



To my Compatriots and friends,
Its Christmas time!

Well, not quite. Strange how our society is so focused on this holiday that we tend to forget other Holidays.

While Christmas is my favorite holiday for spiritual well-being, I hate to skip the importance of Thanksgiving and other holidays. Whether it be due to economics or simply expedient, our society as a whole is so concentrated upon the big event at the end of the year that they ignore other important events.

We of the Sons of the American Revolution are very familiar with this societal trend. The country comes together on July 4th every year to celebrate their independence from Great Britain, our founding. Unfortunately, they have very little actual knowledge of the time or men who lived, supported, and fought during that time. Society sits through each day of work and play and never realizes the mindset nor sacrifices of our ancestors. Our children learn only a basic curriculum of the history of our nation and never grasp how important and relevant our national history is even today.

We must continue to hold grave markings and other ceremonies. But we must also strive to get the word out and infuse our friends, neighbors and co-workers with a desire to attend these events and learn of our nation's great history. I have met many people

who through movies or media have a greater understanding of the Norse Gods, superheroes, or the Nazi 3rd Reich than they do of our own varied and valorous soldiers and patriots.

Truthfully, if there was one thing I would like us to do this holiday season it's to reach out to our families and while we are bouncing our kids or grandkids on our knees talk to them about this great nation. Give them a reason to be excited about us, not other nations or subjects. When we give Thanksgiving, let's be thankful for our freedoms, our country, our people, and our culture.

Geoff Pittard

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

On the agenda: We will hear a most interesting presentation on "German soldiers on both sides of the American Revolution".

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

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The Halifax Resolves Chapter NCSSAR met at the Halifax United Methodist Church on Wednesday, September 10th at 6:30 pm.

President Geoff Pittard called the meeting to order and the invocation was given by Chaplain Duncan Jones. The Sec/Treas read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were approved. He then gave the Treasurer's report, reporting that the Chapter had \$1062.03 in the checking account.

President Geoff Pittard then gave his report:

- he discussed the Chapter's participation in the NCSSAR's Brochure Contest. After discussion, Steve Pittard moved that the Chapter participate in the contest, seconded by Duncan Jones, with the amount of the Chapter's cash award to the winner to be determined later.
- on 8/3/14 he participated in a grave marking ceremony near Fayetteville sponsored by the M. de Lafayette Chapter
- he attended the NCSSAR Board of Managers meeting in August with VP RJ Myrick

Under new business:

- we have a Flag Retirement ceremony scheduled for 9/27/14 in Roanoke Rapids, co-sponsored with the VFW Chapter.
- we are sponsoring a grave marking ceremony at the Shearin family cemetery near Littleton, NC, on 10/18/14

NCSSAR President Ken Wilson reported that he is planning a Flag Retirement ceremony late in November with the Enfield 4H Club. He also reported that the won the National Partners in Patriotism Award for chapters our size.

He then called former Chapter President Cleveland Hawkins forward and presented him with the NSSAR Lamplighter Award for his generous support of the NSSAR Center for Advancing America's Heritage.

President Wilson then gave a most interesting and informative presentation on the active role of the town of Halifax in the American Revolution, emphasizing the significant contributions made by the women of Halifax.

Carlton Garner reported that the Halifax Restoration Association is hoping to purchase a book on cavalry tactics written by local resident and important Revolutionary War figure William R. Davie and would appreciate contributions toward this effort. After discussion, it was decided to urge chapter members to contribute privately rather than have the chapter itself make a contribution.

-There being no further business, the benediction was given by Chaplain Duncan Jones and the meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Highlights of Recent Chapter Activities



Above: NCSSAR President Ken Wilson gave a presentation to various grades at the Cornerstone Christian School in Roanoke Rapids on the US Flag and the Revolution. (l-r) Ken with the 4th and 5th grade classes; 5th grade teacher Mrs. Walker & 4th grade teacher Mrs. Wells with copies of the Declaration of Independence.



Above (l-r, top-bottom): On 10/21 the Halifax Resolves Chapter marked the grave of Patriot Joseph Shearin at the Shearin family cemetery near Littleton, NC. On 10/25/14 Chapter President Geoff Pittard and NCSSAR President Ken Wilson participated in a grave marking sponsored by the Gen. George Washington Chapter near Washington, NC. Bottom: a group picture of the participants in the Washington, NC grave marking.

Upcoming SAR Activities

November 2014

November 9, 2014 - The "March of Patriots" Veterans Day Parade in Roanoke Rapids will again be led by the NCSSAR Combined Color Guard.

November 10, 2014 - The Mecklenburg chapter is co-sponsoring their annual U.S. Flag Retirement Ceremony beginning at 7:00pm at St. Luke's Catholic Church, Mint Hill, NC

November 29, 2014 - The Otway Burns Chapter, NCS DAR, has requested SAR assistance in manning their "Washington Crossing the Delaware" float for the Emerald Isle Christmas Parade.

December 2014

December 5, 2014 - The Mecklenburg chapter will present the Colors beginning at 10:00am during the statue unveiling of Thomas "Kanawha" Spratt (1731-1807) and Catawba Chief King Hagler (1700-1763) in Charlotte, NC.

December 6, 2014 - The Battle of Kings Mountain chapter is participating in the annual Kings Mountain Christmas Parade beginning at 3:00pm in downtown Kings Mountain.

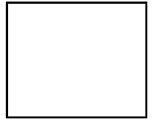
December 6, 2014 - The Norfolk Chapter, VASSAR, and the Great Bridge Chapter, NSDAR, invite all Compatriots to attend the annual Commemoration of the Battle of Great Bridge beginning at 11:00am in Chesapeake, VA.

December 7, 2014 - The NCSSAR Combined Color Guard will lead the Roanoke Rapids Christmas Parade



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 6

November, 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.