

Volume XVI
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November 2017

The Halifax Dispatch

*The Newsletter of the Halifax Resolves Chapter, NC Society
Sons of the American Revolution*

2014 & 2016 winner – 1st Place Nationally (single sheet)—Carl F. Bessent Newsletter Award

Message from the President



Compatriots,

This will be my final comments to the chapter as your president and I wish to thank you for your support and the honor of allowing me to serve as your president.

Those of you who attended the September meeting are aware that I am stepping down from all offices, both chapter and state, until or if I can find some medication that will relieve some of the current pain problems. Things have recently been looking up, so I hope the trend continues.

This small chapter has come a long ways in the past ten years. We have been recognized at the national level in some respect every year since 2008. I believe we can continue down the path we are currently travelling. Our youth programs participation has exploded this year and we have had an increase in requests for presentations. All that is needed is a little dedication by a few more members. I have tried throughout my time as chapter president, regional vice president and state president to lead by example. To show the “fence sitters” that it can be done with a little work, by a few individuals, who can find their niche in the chapter and help shoulder some of the load. A piece of advice I received from our esteemed chaplain was “Don’t believe your own publicity”. I have done my best to heed that advice and I hope I have succeeded.

Incoming President Gammon has asked for my assistance with some items of responsibility like our

Americanism Report, Eagle Scout Recognitions and Flag Certificates and I have agreed to help. I will also continue with the classroom presentations as requested.

Our meeting on Wednesday evening, November 8th, will be our Chapter Annual Meeting and I am requesting all members be attired in Colonial attire, business suit or blazer and tie. NC SAR President SMS George K. Strunk, USAF (ret.) will be in attendance to install our new chapter officers and assist with awards. We will also be honoring three community leaders; Halifax County Sheriff Wes Tripp, Roanoke Rapids Police Chief Chuck Hasty and Roanoke Rapids Fire Chief Stacy Coggins. Additional awards will be presented to various chapter members for their service over the past year.

The SAR is a fantastic organization that needs our support in any manner possible. Some will support by attending and assisting with events, some by monetary contribution, some by promoting our youth programs and speaker’s bureau and some by all of these stated areas.

Regardless of the manner in which you support the society, it is greatly appreciated. Again, I wish to thank everyone for the support I have received from the chapter, but most of all I want to thank my wife Jan, for all her support over the years while I have been in the SAR.

Fraternally, *Ken*

C. Kenith Wilson

See the back page for details about the November meeting.

The Halifax Resolves Chapter of the NCSSAR met on Wednesday, September 13, 2017, at the Halifax United Methodist Church in Halifax, NC. President Ken Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. An invocation was given by Chaplain Rev. Duncan Jones, and then all present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the US Flag. Compatriot David Gammon led the members in the SAR Pledge. He introduced Historic Halifax employee and potential SAR member Frank McMahon to the group.

In the absence of Secretary/Treasurer Steve Avent, President Wilson briefly discussed the minutes from the previous meeting, which were approved. The Treasurer's report indicated a total balance of \$2,053.51, of which the subcategories include the Youth Fund with a balance of \$1070.00 and the General Fund with a balance of \$983.51. The Treasurer's report was approved.

Under unfinished business:

President Wilson indicated there had been no action on the replacement of the chapter banner or the SAR flag.

Under new business:

The slate of new officers was approved. They are:

- President: David Gammon
- Vice-President: Geoff Pittard
- Chaplain: Rev. Duncan Jones
- Secretary/Treasurer: Steve Avent

President Wilson and Compatriot David Gammon will have a special table at the Braswell Library in Rocky Mount on Saturday, September 16. They will be on hand to discuss the SAR with any potential members. The local DAR chapter has been advised of the table, and we are hopeful some spouses and children of those DAR members will come by the table to meet with us.

- The Grave Marking for Dr. Ralph Hardee Rives will be Saturday, October 14, at 2:00 in Elmwood Cemetery in Enfield. He was a past president of the NCSSAR.
- The Region One Vice President's Meeting will be held November 4 at Parker's Barbecue Restaurant on Memorial Boulevard in Greenville.
- The Roanoke Rapids Christmas Parade will be December 3.
- There will be a veterans' ceremony at the Veterans' Park in Roanoke Rapids, November 11 at 11:30.
- Halifax Day 2018 is scheduled for April 12, 2018, which is a Thursday. President General Larry Guzy will be on hand as our guest speaker.

After the discussion of new business, President Wilson gave a program entitled "The Americanism Award / President-General's Streamer Report: An Outline for Success."

Compatriot David Gammon then led the members in the SAR Recessional, Compatriot Rev. Duncan Jones gave the benediction, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:45.



Top—bottom, l—r: The Chapter was recently recognized at the National level, at the National SAR Congress. We received the small chapter Liberty Bell award for our Americanism activities, the President General’s Cup for small chapters for supporting the President General’s goals, and our 9th Partners in Patriotism certificate. Pictured top left: Ken and incoming President David Gammon with the awards.

Ken presenting a program on uniforms of the American Revolution to a Roanoke Rapids HS history class on 9/28/2017.

Ken presenting a program to a Nash Central HS AP history class on the Battle of Kings MT, on 10/5/2017.

Harry J. Crawford, Jr. was awarded the rank of Eagle Scout during a Court of Honor held by Troop 144 of Roanoke Rapids on 10/20/2017. Pictured are Harry J. Crawford, Jr, and behind him (l-r) are Scoutmaster Dan Harris, Ken, Ass’t Scoutmasters Lee Bone, Josh Clark and Jeff McKee.



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Steve Avent, Editor



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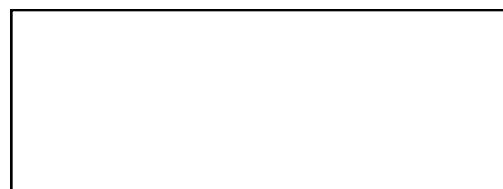
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November Meeting

The November meeting will be Wed., November 8 at Halifax United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 150 S. King St. in Halifax at 6:30 pm.

On the agenda: NCSSAR President George Strunk will be installing the slate of chapter officers for 2018. Chapter members and community leaders will be recognized with awards.

The cost of the meal will be \$10. Reservations are required. Please contact Ken by email or telephone (252-537-5406) if you're coming.



Chapter Officers

President: Ken Wilson

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Secretary/Treasurer: Steve Avent

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Registrar: R. Allen Brahin, Waynesboro, VA
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Chaplain: Rev. Duncan Jones

our website:

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