

Volume X
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The Halifax Dispatch

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

2010 winner – Honorable Mention—Carl F. Bessent Newsletter Award

Message from the President



Compatriots,

We received some encouraging news from the National Congress. Along with being awarded the Partners in Patriotism Certificate, the chapter came in 8th in the nation in the Americanism competition with 4814 points for chapters with 1-49 members. Only three chapters from our state society entered. Lower Cape Fear was ranked 16th with 2670 points and the Salisbury chapter came in 30th with 1220 points.

We placed 2nd in the President General's Cup with 287.03 points. This recognizes the top chapter in the nation based on the overall programs of the chapter. Lower Cape Fear was ranked 19th with a score of 76.08 points.

Our state society was 3rd in the Liberty Bell Americanism competition that recognizes the best outreach programs supporting SAR programs. If more of our chapters had participated, the state society would have had an excellent chance of winning the competition.

Unfortunately, not all chapters want to take the trouble to participate, they are satisfied just to attend the meetings, eat a meal, listen to a program, then, go home and look at their membership certificate hanging on the wall thinking they have done their part. While this is now the exception, it is fast becoming the rule.

In the next few of months we have several events planned. First, the Board of Managers meeting will be held in Raleigh on October 13th. Currently, plans are in the works for marking the grave of Patriot Pvt. Frederick K. Shearin in Warren Co. on October 20th. The chapter will

be participating with AMVETS and the American Legion in a Veterans Day Ceremony on Nov. 4th at Enterprise Baptist Church in Littleton. The March of Patriots Veterans Day parade will be held at 2:00 on November 11th in Roanoke Rapids. I have also received word that NSSAR Sec.-Gen. Joseph W. Dooley plans to attend and march in this event. Due to an absence of volunteers to organize the Christmas Parade in Roanoke Rapids, at this time there will not be a Christmas Parade. We will be participating in the Wreaths Across America ceremony on Dec. 15 at Cedarwood Cemetery in Roanoke Rapids. Color Guard events will be the March of Patriots and the Wreaths Across America.

Fraternally,

Ken Wilson

The September meeting will be held on **Wed., September 12**, 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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 - 3 **Recent Chapter Activities**
- Upcoming NCSSAR Events

President Wilson first made his report:

- The next NCSSAR Board of Managers meeting will be held 10/13, in Raleigh.
- We will be leading the Veteran's Parade in Roanoke Rapids on 11/11.
- He is working on a grave marking ceremony for Patriot Frederick K. Shearin, who fought in the Battle of Guilford Courthouse and is buried in Warren Co..

Chaplain Duncan Jones next gave his report:

- He represented the Chapter at the Wall-to-Wall Bicycle tour, raising awareness for veteran's affairs.
- He represented the Chapter at the Rolling Thunder Flames of Freedom ceremony.
- He awarded the JROTC Medal to Cadet Austin Fennell at Southern Nash High School.
- He represented the Chapter at the Memorial Day ceremony held at Cedarwood Cemetery in Roanoke Rapids on 5/28.

Allen Brahin, Chapter Color Guard Commander and Registrar made his report:

- He represented the Chapter at the joint SAR/Society of 1812 plaque dedication ceremony held in Fincastle, VA, where he presented the Chapter wreath and participated in the Color Guard.
- He participated in the Color Guard for the SAR President General's wreath laying ceremony held at Monticello.

President Wilson next brought up the issue of youth program awards. In the past we have been awarding a \$100 Savings Bond, which cost the Chapter \$50, but as these are now unavailable he felt that if we instead awarded \$50 cash awards to the program winners that would not be a sufficient amount. He recommended the following increases:

Knight Essay Contest: current amount \$50, increased to \$100

Enhanced JROTC contest: current amount \$50, increased to \$100

Americanism Poster contest: current amount \$50, increased to \$100

We do not currently make a cash award to the Chapter's winner of the Eagle Scout Scholarship contest, and he recommended an award of \$100. We also have not been making a cash award to the winner of the American History Teacher's award, and he proposed an award of \$150. This proposal was discussed by the Chapter members present, and Duncan Jones moved that we increase the amounts as suggested for the Knight Essay, Enhanced JROTC, Americanism Poster and Eagle Scout contests only. This motion was seconded by Carl Witt and was approved after a show of hands.

President Wilson announced that he has been appointed NCSSAR State Flag Chairman, and also reported that for the first time NC was awarded the Furlong Award by the NSSAR. This award recognizes states which have over 1/2 of their Chapters presenting at least one Flag Certificate. He then gave a most interesting and informative presentation on the history of the 21-gun salute.

Upcoming NCSSAR Events

- * 20 Sep 2012: Historical Marker dedication sponsored by Alamance Battleground Chapter.
- * 22 Sep 2012: Lt. Col. John Phifer Chapter is sponsoring a cemetery dedication and wreath laying beginning at 11:00 am at the Phifer graveyard in Concord, NC.
- * 23 Sep 2012: Grave marking ceremony sponsored by the Salisbury and Mecklenburg Chapters in Rowan Co, near Salisbury.
- * 29 Sep 2012: The Captain George Dickey Chapter is sponsoring a grave marking honoring Patriot David Dickey, in Rutherfordton.
- * 7 Oct 2012: 232nd Anniversary of the Battle of Kings Mountain, King's Mountain, SC
- * 13 Oct 2012 - Fall 2012 NCSSAR Board of Managers meeting, Raleigh
- * 20 Oct 2012: the Halifax Resolves Chapter will be marking the grave of Patriot Pvt. Frederick K. Shearin at the Shearin-Harris Cemetery in Warren Co., at 2:00 pm.



July 25th presentation of the SAR Flag Certificate to Iluka Resources of Roanoke Rapids



Jul 25th presentation of the SAR Flag Certificate to the Halifax Library



Aug 7 presentation of the SAR Flag Certificate to Hockaday Funeral & Cremation Service



Jul 31 presentation of the SAR Flag Certificate to the Rufus S. Rose Family

Did you know?

* By 1779, there were more Americans fighting with the British than with Washington. There were no less than 21 regiments (estimated at 6,500 to 8,000 men) of Loyalists in the British army. Washington reported a field army of 3,468. About a third of Americans opposed the Revolution.

* The Americans of 1776 had the highest standard of living and the lowest taxes in the Western World.



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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.