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

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

## Message from the President



To my Compatriots and friends,

I would like to take this moment to tell you how greatly honored I am to be a part of the Sons of the American Revolution. To be one of you and to have gained a greater understanding of our nation's history is a joy for me. That being said, I do so terribly hope each of you had a wonderful Holiday season. I pray Christmas was a time of enjoying God's gifts in your and your family's lives.

We are now entering into another year, another measurement in the passage of time on this earth, another step in our species journey through space and time. The actions we take this year will add to the rich history of our lives and our nation. We are truly making history my friends, every day. We watch children being born, we see people grow and fall, and we send our friends and families on their way spiritually when the time comes.

The history we strive to honor and remember is diverse. Our nation and people have had ups and downs, times of justice and times of vengeance, times we displayed honor and greatness as well as times we failed and were petty and selfish. We don't like to acknowledge the negatives of our society, nor those in the past, but it the failures and pain in this world that makes us able to appreciate the successes and great beauty which is also present.

As I write this, there is present within our society a great cancer which eats away at us. Look to the newscast any day of the week and you will find atrocities and tragedies to go around. It can be overwhelming in truth and "It does not require a majority to prevail, but rather an irate, tireless minority keen to set brush fires in people's minds. We cannot make events. Our business is wisely to improve them."

While we, as the Sons of the American Revolution, are a non-political organization, we would not be men if we did not have personal feelings on each and every matter of governance which affects our nation. In fact, I encourage you to be active in both the civic aspects of our community and to support your political opinions. An active group of fire-

breathers is exactly what our nation needs. The only thing which we must remember is to leave our political differences at the door when we are on the business of our society.

Our duty, to the memory of our ancestors and to the spirit of this great nation, is to work diligently to enflame the minds of the people in our lives, to set fires of patriotism and national pride in their hearts and souls. We must put our differences aside while we do this work in order to further the greater goals of our society.

The principals of our Constitution, our forefathers dreams, and the course we help to chart for our culture and country are more important than minor differences of opinion.

May the actions and events of this next year become a part of the proud history we work to keep alive.

Yours in all hope,

*Geoff Pittard*

The January meeting will be held on **Wed., January 14**, at the Halifax Baptist Church on **131 Prussia Street in Halifax at 6:30 pm.**

On the agenda: Albemarle Chapter President Chris Grimes will give a talk on "Michael Quinn, NC's Benedict Arnold"

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

### *In this Issue...*

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The meeting was called to order by President Geoff Pittard and the Invocation was given by Chaplain Duncan Jones. The Pledge of Allegiance and the SAR Pledge was led by Marcus Pittard. Guests were recognized by President Pittard and SAR Foundation President Dr. Samuel C. Powell spoke briefly concerning the new headquarters building in Louisville, the plans for the new museum and fund raising activities.

President Pittard reported on chapter activities since the last meeting to include a Flag Retirement with VFW Post 3702, the Joseph Shearin grave marking and the Veterans Day luncheon and parade. In addition, he had attended the Washington, NC grave markings, and the John Ashe grave marking in Clinton, NC.

NCSSAR President Ken Wilson reported on activities across the state. He updated the chapter on their ranking in the 2013 National Americanism contest and the state society's ranking. From the chapter viewpoint, he reported that we currently had 92 U.S. flags waiting retirement. He also reported that for the first time in seven years the chapter has no participants in the Knight Essay contest or the JROTC Scholarship contest.

Under new Business:

Compatriot Wilson proposed changing the funding of the Poster and Brochure contests to reflect the NCSSAR contest by providing the teacher of the winning poster or brochure with a monetary reward. Two motions were proposed and approved.

Motion #1 – Compatriot Wilson moved to amend the current Poster contest funding that provides the student with a \$100.00 scholarship adding a \$50.00 award to the student's teacher. The motion was seconded by E.C. Bobbitt and unanimously approved.

Motion #2 – Compatriot Wilson moved that the chapter fund the Brochure contest with \$100.00 for the winning student and \$50.00 for the winning student's teacher. The motion was seconded by Steve Pittard and unanimously approved.

Compatriots were reminded of upcoming events, i.e. the Emerald Isle Parade Nov. 29th, the Battle of Great Bridge on Dec. 6th, and the Roanoke Rapids Christmas Parade December 7th.

President Pittard presented a program entitled "German Soldiers from both sides of the Revolution".

Following his closing comments, President Pittard entertained a motion to adjourn from Compatriot Steve Pittard which was seconded by Rev. Duncan Jones; Marcus Pittard led the SAR Recessional followed by the Benediction given by Chaplain Jones.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

*Highlights of Recent Chapter Activities*



Above (l-r): NCSSAR President Ken Wilson presenting the SAR Molly Pitcher Medal to Stephanie Ann Brahin, wife of Chapter Color Guard Commander Allen Brahin; Ken presenting a Certificate of Appreciation to Logan's Roadhouse Restaurant, which has hosted our pre-parade luncheons for several years. Accepting on behalf of the restaurant is manager Mike Stettler. Both presentations took place before the Roanoke Rapids March of Patriots parade on 11/9/2014.



Above (l-r, clockwise: The combined NCSSAR Color Guard at the 11/9 March of Patriots parade in Roanoke Rapids; The combined NCSSAR Color Guard at the 12/7 Christmas parade in Roanoke Rapids; Halifax Resolves Chapter President Geoff Pittard and children Marcus and Ehlana, who escorted the chapter banner. The NCSSAR Color guard had the honor of leading both parades.

*Upcoming SAR Activities*

January 2015

**January 17, 2015:** The 234th anniversary of the Battle of Cowpens, Chesnee, SC

**January 24, 2015:** The Lower Cape Fear Chapter is sponsoring a Patriot grave marking for Lt. David Williams beginning at 2:00pm at Wallace, NC.

**January 31, 2015:** The 234th anniversary of the Battle of Cowan's Ford begins at 10:00am at Hopewell Presbyterian Church,, Huntersville, NC

**January 31, 2015:** NCSSAR Winter BOM held immediately following the Battle of Cowan's Ford beginning approximately 11:45am.

February 2015

**February 14, 2015:** The 234th anniversary of The Crossing of the Dan begins at 10:00am at S. Boston, VA.

**February 19, 2015:** The Mecklenburg chapter, NCSSAR, presents the Marquis de Lafayette on February 19, 2015 beginning at 6:00pm at the Hilton Executive Park Hotel in Charlotte, NC.

**February 21, 2015:** The 239th anniversary of the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge begins at 10:00am at Moores Creek National Battlefield, Currie, NC

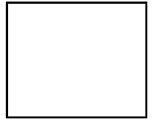
March 2015

**March 14, 2015:** The 234th Anniversary of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse is presented by the NCSSAR and begins at 10:00am at the Visitor's Center at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse National Battleground Park.



# The Halifax Dispatch

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Steve Avent, Editor



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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.org](http://www.ncssar.org), "NC Chapters"

Click on our chapter name on the NC map.