

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

## Message from the President



Compatriots,

In early February I was privileged to attend, for the third straight year, the annual conference of the North Carolina Council of the Social Studies, held in Greensboro. Attendees

included teachers of social studies at grades K-college. It was gratifying to see teachers excited about teaching history and social studies. The Sons of the American Revolution had a table at the conference, and as there were several members of the Color Guard at the table in full colonial attire, we aroused much curiosity and interest! Lots of teachers stopped by to ask who we were, what we represented, and I eventually lost track of the number of pictures I was asked to take of the teachers with the members of the Color Guard. (since I was wearing a blazer, I wasn't nearly as interesting as my table-mates!)

Many teachers gave us their contact information and asked if a representative from a local SAR chapter could come visit their classroom. Most had never heard of the SAR, and had no idea if there was even a chapter close by. Our compatriot Ken Wilson has already contacted several teachers in the area to arrange presentations. Ken is already a favorite speaker in local schools, but is always looking to add to his list.

Attending this conference reminded me that our teachers have a thirst for knowledge, and that includes learning about the Revolutionary War era. As a former teacher at the middle school, high

school, and college levels for a number of years, I know how isolated a teacher can feel, and how anxious teachers are to find extra resources. The SAR can be such a resource.

Attending this conference also reminded me that the SAR is still not well known across our state. We really can't grow as an organization until more people are familiar with us. The simplest way to do this is to tell people about us. Brag a little! Tell others about our functions and about the things you have learned at presentations. Invite friends to our meetings. These small gestures may bring great rewards.

Fraternally,

*David*

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The March meeting will be Wed., March 14, at Halifax United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 150 S. King St. in Halifax at 6:30 pm.

On the agenda: we will be judging the entries in the Poster and Brochure contests.

The cost of the meal will be \$10. **Reservations are required.** Please contact David or Steve **by Friday, 3/9/18**, by email or telephone if you're coming (contact info on back page).

The Halifax Resolves Chapter of the NCSSAR met on Wednesday, January 10, 2018, at the Halifax United Methodist Church in Halifax, NC. President David Gammon 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. President Gammon led the members in the SAR Pledge. Special guests Frank McMahon, Ken Odom, and Leonhardt Anderson and his wife Susan were introduced to the group.

In the absence of Secretary/Treasurer Steve Avent, President Gammon briefly discussed the minutes from the previous meeting, which were approved. The Treasurer's report indicated a total balance of \$2354.54, of which the subcategories include the Youth Fund with a balance of \$885.00 and the General Fund with a balance of \$1469.54. The Treasurer's report was approved.

Under unfinished business, the following topics were discussed:

President Gammon described a workshop held at the Braswell Library in Rocky Mount to assist researchers with military records. We were not able to attend the meeting, but there was a sign-up sheet for anyone interested in obtaining more information about the SAR. We got one good lead from the event.

Compatriot Ken Wilson discussed the Veteran's Day ceremonies we attended.

Vice-President Geoff Pittard discussed the Roanoke Rapids Christmas parade, in which some of our members marched.

Compatriot Wilson described some upcoming compatriot grave markings. The grave of Compatriot James Carlos Harris will be marked on June 16 at 10AM, at the Harris family cemetery near Inez. Other similar grave markings are in the planning stage.

Under new business, the following topics were discussed:

President Gammon discussed the need to move up the RSVP date for meeting attendance, in order to help our cooks prepare the food in sufficient time. All members are asked to RSVP to President Gammon or Secretary/Treasurer Steve Avent no later than noon on the Friday before the meeting.

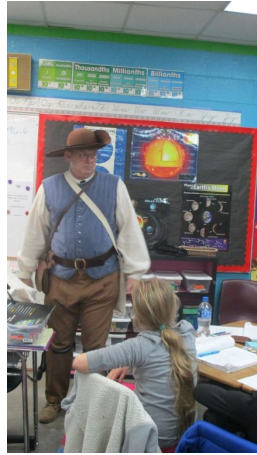
Compatriot Wilson described procedures for the upcoming poster and brochure contests. The judging of these posters and brochures will take the place of our usual program at the March 2018 meeting.

Compatriot Wilson reminded everyone of the upcoming Halifax Day, scheduled for April 12, 2018.

At the request of President Gammon, Compatriot Wilson presented a proposed procedure for the marking of compatriot graves. This was not put up to a vote; rather, President Gammon asked everyone to read the proposal and suggested that the vote be held in March.

After the discussion of new business, Frank McMahon of Historic Halifax gave a brief program entitled "Revolutionary Halifax."

President Gammon then led the members in the SAR Recessional, Compatriot Rev. Duncan Jones gave the benediction, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:00.



Top-bottom, l-r: (1/20) Ken presenting the Eagle Scout certificate to Peyton Anderson of Troop 144; (1/20) Ken speaking to 5th graders at Halifax Academy about the Poster Contest; (1/24) the NCSSAR Color Guard at the Moore's Creek battlefield ceremony; (1/27) Ken presenting the Flag Certificate to Halifax Academy, accepted by Headmaster Amy Poole; (1/27) Ken speaking on Kings MT to 6th and 8th grade classes at Halifax Academy; (2/3) Ken speaking at Manning Elementary and Belmont Elementary on the Poster Contest and general Am. Rev. info; (2/3) Ken speaking to 8th grade SS students at Chaloner MS on Halifax in the Rev War; (2/17) NCSSAR Color Guard at the Crossing of the Dan ceremony, S Boston, VA




# *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 PRESIDENTS 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*

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