



Message from the President



Compatriots,

The spring and early summer have been busy for our chapter. We recently learned the sad news that our own chapter member Cleveland Hawkins passed away on June 19.

Cleveland was a former president of the chapter and friend to all, and we will miss him.

Since our May meeting, Ken Wilson, Geoff Pittard, and Rives Manning all attended various high school ceremonies days to present awards to area students in the ROTC. Ken has also been very busy awarding flag certificates. It is always gratifying to see businesses in the area who are anxious to display our beautiful American flag, and to recognize them for their efforts. Thanks to everyone who helped!

On Saturday, May 16, we met at the E.B. Harris farm, located between Centerville and Inez, to mark the grave of deceased Compatriot James Carlos Harris, an early member of the Harrison-Macon Chapter in Louisburg. To get to the family cemetery, we had to pass through the yard of Mr. Harris' historic home, Buxton Hall, which is now on the National Register of Historic Sites. The cemetery, located beside an older cemetery for the original owners of the farm, sits on a small hill in a peaceful pasture a distance from the highway. More than twenty people attended the ceremony, including representatives from the State Color Guard, and Compatriot Harris' two sons E.B. Harris and Jimmy Harris. The morning was warm and beautiful, and the family members seemed especially pleased with the ceremony.

We had previously planned to conduct another grave marking that same afternoon for Compatriot Nicholas Bunn Boddie at Rose Hill Plantation near Nashville, but family scheduling conflicts have caused us to re-

schedule this event for Saturday, September 15 at 10:00. Everyone please plan to attend. More information will be forthcoming.

In years past there were three active SAR chapters in our area – in Tarboro, Rocky Mount, and Louisburg. These chapters have now closed, but they were organized in the 1920s and remained open for many years. We are always anxious to mark the graves of any of their deceased members, when requested by the family. These ceremonies are usually brief (approximately twenty minutes in length) but very meaningful to the family and those who knew the member.

Meanwhile, never forget that our ears are some of our best tools. If you hear of neighbors and friends who have an interest in history, mention the SAR to them! A little enthusiasm and a friendly invitation go a long way. Never hesitate to invite others to our meetings. I hope to see you at the July meeting.

David

The July meeting will be Wed., July 11, at Halifax United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 150 S. King St. in Halifax at 6:30 pm.

On the agenda: Miss Daisy Dolicker, President of the North Carolina Society of the Children of the American Revolution will be discussing her project for the coming year.

The cost of the meal will be \$10. **Reservations are required.** Please contact David or Steve by noon Friday, 7/6/18 by email or telephone if you're coming (contact info on back page).

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Cleveland Melvin Hawkins



We are sad to report that Past Chapter President Cleveland Hawkins passed away 6/19/2018. Cleveland served as President 2006 & 2007, and as the NE District VP in 2008.

He was a charter member of the Chapter and his Patriot Ancestor was George Green, of Halifax County, an ancestry he shared with many members of the Chapter.

Cleveland was reared on a small farm in Halifax County, North Carolina. In the summer following his junior and senior years in high school, he rented land and raised his own crop of tobacco to earn money for a college savings account. He graduated as valedictorian of his Aurelian Springs High School class. He enrolled at East Carolina College to pursue a degree in business education with only two pairs of pants and four shirts. Cleveland returned to his rented farm to raise his own tuition money during the summer months of college. While achieving a B. S. degree, he was inducted into Phi Sigma Pi an honorary fraternity and Pi Omega Pi the business honorary fraternity.

He became a teacher at Elizabeth City HS and in 1977 received a MA in Education degree from ECU. In 1993 he became the Superintendent of Gates County Schools and the following year achieved his Doctor of Education degree from Campbell University. In 2003, Cleveland was inducted into the Educator's Hall of Fame at East Carolina University. In 2008, he was presented The Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina's highest citizen recognition.

Cleveland's family includes his sons Mike and Melvin, who are both members of the Halifax Resolves Chapter, and his wife Doris, who was always fully supportive of Cleveland's work for the SAR and who participated with him in most SAR events he attended. Cleveland will be missed, both as a loyal member of the Chapter and as a good friend to many throughout the NCSSAR.

Minutes of May, 2018, Meeting

The Chapter met on Wednesday, May 9, 2018, at the Halifax United Methodist Church in Halifax, NC. President David Gammon called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Rev. Duncan Jones gave an invocation, and then all present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the US Flag. President Gammon led the members in the SAR Pledge.

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 \$2,139.54, of which the subcategories include the Youth Fund with a balance of \$540 and the General Fund with a balance of \$1,599.54. The Treasurer's report was approved.

Under old business, the following topics were discussed:

- Compatriot Wilson reminded everyone of two 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. That afternoon at 2PM, the grave of Compatriot Nicholas Bunn Boddie will be marked at Rose Hill Plantation near Nashville.
- President Gammon thanked everyone who helped with or attended the Halifax Day celebration on April 12, 2018. The event was well attended.
- Compatriot Wilson briefly discussed his concern about the future of the Youth Fund. If it continues to shrink without additional deposits, we will not be able to give all the awards we have previously given. No decision was made.

Under new business, the following topics were discussed:

- President Gammon describe the upcoming grave marking ceremony for former President Eisenhower.
- President Gammon presented a dual membership certificate to Compatriot Donald Oakes, who is now a member in both the Massachusetts and North Carolina Societies.

The speaker tonight was Compatriot Don Malcolm, whose presentation was "The American Longrifle (aka the Pennsylvania/Kentucky Rifle): an American Art Form,"

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: (5/10) Ken presenting the Outstanding JROTC Cadet Award to Michael Joyner at SW Edgecombe HS; (5/10) Ken giving a presentation on the War in Vietnam to a class at RRHS; (5/18) Cadet Joseph White, recipient of the JROTC Award for RRHS; (5/20) a group photo from the Patriot's Day ceremony, held at Alamance Battleground; Ken receiving the Baron von Steuben Color Guard Medal at Patriot's Day; (5/29) Ken giving a presentation on the Battle of Kings MT at RRHS and Ken presenting their teacher with some SAR educational DVDs; (5/29) Ken with Avery Boone, who placed 3rd in the NCSSAR poster contest; (5/30) (l-r) EC Bobbitt, Geoff Pittard, Ken and J. Rives Manning at the Memorial Day ceremony at Cedarwood Cemetery in RR; Ken with Madison Elias, winner of the NCSSAR Brochure contest, and her teacher Jamie Rook; (5/30) Ken showing children at Calvary Baptist Church how to properly fold the US Flag; (6/6) Ken presenting the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal to Halifax Co. Deputy Corey L Dixon Sr; (6/15) EC Bobbitt and Ken presenting the SAR Medal for Heroism to Officers Joe DeSare and Matt Hunsucker of the RRPD; EC Bobbit and Ken awarding the SAR Fire Safety Commendation Medal to EMTs Hollowell, Long Sloan and Jarret of the RRFD; EC Bobbit and Ken awarding the SAR Fire Safety Commendation Medal to Deputy Chief Michael Clements of the RRFD; (6/15) Ken presenting the Eagle Scout Award to new Eagle Scout Haziq Valliani of BSA Troop 144; (6/17) attendees of the grave marking ceremony for Com-patriot James Carlos Harris, at their family cemetery in Inez, NC.



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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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