



The Sons of the American Revolution Catawba Coalition



A monthly Newsletter for
The Catawba Valley Chapter of
The Sons of the American Revolution

President's Report

Compatriots and Friends

Catawba Valley Chapter and NC SAR enjoyed the Commemoration of the 240th Anniversary of the Battle of King's Mountain on 7 October 2020 via ZOOM. The Daniel Morgan Chapter SC SAR and the Battle of King's Mountain Chapter NC SAR presented a wonderful event. The deadline for this newsletter coincided with the event, and although printing is a few days ahead of the fact, the information is the scheduled programming. As of this writing, there are 272 participants registered to attend which includes 14 State SAR Societies and one International Society. The keynote speaker was Representative Ralph Norman, 5th Congressional District of South Carolina. I hope to have some photos by our next newsletter issue.

Our upcoming Chapter meeting will be 14 November 2020 at **Palermo's Family Italian & Greek Restaurant**, 924 Conover Blvd West, Conover NC 28613. One may order food after 11.00 am, meeting begins at Noon. We will also use ZOOM for those who are unable to attend for whatever reason at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4611213429>. We have new members to be inducted at that time as well as approving changes to the Chapter By-Laws. I will be sending all members the proposed changes to the By-Laws this week.

Our State Society Officers and Board of Managers have voted to convene a special meeting of the General Membership for the purpose of voting on the 2020/2021 budget and 10 amendments to the State By-Laws on Saturday 17 October 2020 at 10:00 am. Any member can attend and vote. To do so, one must pre-register by going to the state website at https://www.ncssar.org/ecwd_calendar/calendar/, finding October 17, clicking on the link and follow the instructions. The meeting and voting will be all online at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4611213429>

It is that time of year once again when we receive our JROTC medals and certificates for our local High Schools. There has been an additional called the **Enhanced JROTC Program**. In order to enter this recognition program, the Senior Military Instructor must nominate an outstanding JROTC Cadet who is a rising Junior, is in the top 10% of his JROTC class and the top 25% of his High School class and has completed an original essay of 500 to 700 words on the topic of **How The JROTC Has Prepared Me To Be A Better Citizen Of The United States Of America**, using the advanced JROTC nomination form. I trust that I can count on the same people as last year and some new Compatriots this year to help with these school programs.

Finally, Please keep **Wreaths Across America National Remembrance Day** on your list of "To Do's" list. We need people to go to <https://wreathscrossamerica.org/NC0385P> and purchase wreaths at \$15.00 each for us to place on veterans graves on December 19 and do it **Before 30 November 2020** please.

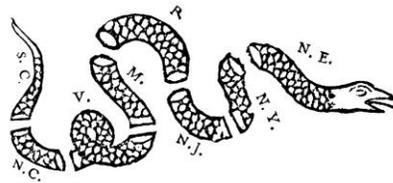
Ben Setser

Chapter President



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JOIN, or DIE.

Volume 1 Issue 6

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The Catawba Coalition

A Monthly Newsletter of the Catawba Valley
Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution



Color Guardsmen

What are some of the things to do after you have joined the Sons of the American Revolution? The very first thing that I did was to get a Militia Uniform and join the Color Guard. Luckily, I knew someone who had some of the basics of the uniform and I was able to purchase the rest at one of several reliable period clothing manufacturers (we have the names and contact information for many). One of the great things today is that if you buy a uniform, you can be reimbursed by the state for up to \$100 after you have participated in your first event.

Some of the events I have participated in as a color guardsman: National Battlefield Commemorations (like Ramsour's Mill and King's Mountain), Patriot Grave Markings, Compatriot Grave Markings, State and Chapter Events, Parades. Actually, we are very lucky in North Carolina because we have many National Events within a short driving distance. Also our Chapter is very active participating in many of the other events I just mentioned.

But why do this? For one thing it is fun. The comradery of all the color guardsmen is infectious. The first parade I attended I was in the Fourth of July Parade in Faith, NC (the oldest 4th of July parade in NC). Now this parade is well attended. The audience in most places were over 10 people deep. As we rounded the first corner, I thought we would hardly be noticed when I heard an older gentleman yell out something like "Look there. Those guys are from the Revolution!!! They are what this parade is all about!!!" We were mobbed, literally. People running up, wanting to shake our hands, have their picture taken with us. It was a feeling and an event I will never forget.

After one DAR event I went to dinner with three or four of the men who were in the color guard along with their wives. As usual in the Cracker Barrel it was crowded, and we were at a large table in a corner. After being there 3-4 minutes it was noticeably quiet. Soon people started coming up to ask why we were dressed in these uniforms. I always take this as an opportunity to tell people about the Sons of the American Revolution and why we do this. Pretty soon word got around and we had several parents asking if they could take our pictures with their children. So it is also educational to our younger generations. Join our Color Guard.



Hello again from your Vice President. Hope you are all staying safe and healthy. Today, I will spotlight another Patriot of the American Revolution. That Patriot is John Hancock of Massachusetts. It will take several newsletters to really explain his beginnings and service to the struggles for early Independence.

John Hancock-The Early Years

John Hancock was born on January 23 (or January 12, according to the calendar in use at the time), 1737, in Braintree (present-day Quincy), Massachusetts. After his clergyman father died when Hancock was a boy, he was raised by his aunt and uncle, Thomas Hancock (1703-1764), a wealthy merchant, in their elegant Boston mansion.

After graduating from Harvard College in 1754, Hancock went to work for his uncle. When Thomas Hancock, who was childless, died in 1764, his nephew inherited his lucrative import-export business and became one of the richest men in New England. Hancock would later earn a reputation for being generous and using his personal wealth for public projects; however, he also received criticism from some people, including fellow Revolutionary leader Samuel Adams (1722-1803), for his conspicuously lavish lifestyle.

In 1775, Hancock married Dorothy Quincy (1747-1830), the daughter of a Boston merchant and magistrate. The couple had two children, a boy and a girl, neither of whom survived to adulthood.

John Jay Cline



The Catawba Valley Chapter
of the
Sons of the American Revolution

Help us Honor our Veterans

Wreaths Across America – Western Carolina State Veterans Cemetery

Wreaths Across America National Remembrance Ceremony

Catawba Valley Chapter is pleased to sponsor Western Carolina State Veterans Cemetery for this great event. Each December on National Wreaths Across America Day, WAA's mission to Remember, Honor and Teach is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as at more than 2,100 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea and abroad. Our Wreaths Across America committee members are working very hard to ensure that we Remember our fallen U.S. veterans, Honor those who serve and Teach your children the value of freedom. There are 7,562 graves at Western Carolina State Veterans' Cemetery, we have set our initial goal at 200 wreaths, a goal I feel sure we will exceed. It is with the help of 4 DAR Chapters, 2 Wings of Civil Air Patrol, one Boy Scout troop and several others, and we intend to lay wreaths at as many graves as we can. We need your help to ensure success! It is easy to purchase wreaths or become an event sponsor: Wreaths are just \$15 each.

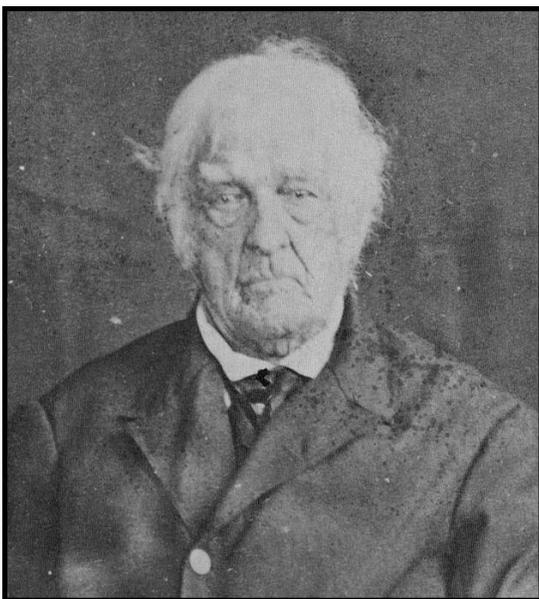
Our website dedicated to ordering wreaths to be use at Western Carolina State Veterans Cemetery is <https://wreathscrossamerica.org/NC0385P> . The deadline for ordering wreaths for this year is **November 30**. One may also order by mail by sending a check to Wreaths Across America, Po Box 249, Columbia Falls, ME 04624 and be sure to place **NC0385P NCWCBM** on the memo line so that the wreath will go to Western Carolina Veterans Cemetery..

If you have any questions concerning ordering or sponsorship opportunities, please feel free to contact me personally at 828-466-2418 or via e-mail at lennon_0102@yahoo.com .

The Wreaths Across America National Remembrance Ceremony will be on **December 19, 2020 at 12:00 noon** at Carolina State Veterans Cemetery in Black Mountain NC. If you intend to assist in placing the wreaths, please be there at 10:30. We encourage everyone to attend the ceremony and help place wreaths on veterans' graves. It is important to remember these Americans and their families who have made a tremendous sacrifice for our nation and the freedom we enjoy today.

Thank you so very much for your support

Patriot Lemuel Cook



Lemuel Cook, 10 September 1759 – 20 May 1866, enlisted into the Continental Army in 1775 at age 16. Lemuel was reassigned to Capt. William Staunton's 6th Troop, 2nd Continental Light Dragoons in 1777 and was given a 3-year enlistment with Staunton's Troop which had 6 members at the time, 4 mounted and 2 afoot. He said concerning his enlistment, "When I applied to enlist, Captain Hallibud told me I was so small he couldn't take me unless I would enlist for the war. The first time I smelt gunpowder was at Valentine's Hill (West Chester, New York). A troop of British horse were coming. 'Mount your horses in a minute,' cried the colonel. I was on mine as quick as a squirrel. There were two fires – crash! Up came Darrow, good old soul! and said, 'Lem, what do you think of gunpowder? Smell good to you?'" Lemuel fought at Brandywine in 1777 and was present at Cornwallis' surrender in October 1781. He received an honorable discharge signed by George Washington on 12 June 1784. Patriot Cook was an active Mason in his home of Plymouth, CT and was one the last surviving Veteran of the American Revolution on his death in 1866. Lemuel was one of only about 10 Veterans of the Revolution to live long enough to be photographed.

LOGISTICS



Our last meeting was conducted at our new location, **Palermo's Family Italian & Greek Restaurant** in Conover NC and we had a great time. The fellowship and food were great. Pictured above are our speaker, Belmont Abbie History professor Dr Clark Summers who spoke on the Battle of King's Mountain, our newest member, Mr. Anthony D Charles who received the National Rosette from his mother, and The Liberty Award & Medal presented to one of the hardest working members of our Chapter, Mr. Keith Black, our Registrar/Genealogist.

Upcoming SAR events

- Oct 10** 240th Anniversary of the Battle of Shallow Ford
- Nov 11. . . .** Veteran's Day
- Dec 19. . . .** Wreaths Across America
- Feb 1.** Cowan's Ford
- Feb 22. . . .** George Washington's Birthday

Our next meeting is 14 November 2020 and will convene at **Palermo's Family Italian & Greek Restaurant** at 12:00 Noon. One may order a meal at 11'00 am.. This meeting will be live in person and on ZOOM. The link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4611213429>

Please allow be to thank all those who have graciously donated to advertised with us since the inception of this newsletter. It is because of you that we are able to print and function. We thank you one and all. We are a very small non-profit organization and rely strictly on donations from supporters like you. Please contact Chapter President for donations advertisement space.

We are a 501-C-3 entity, and all donations are tax deductible.

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The Catawba Coalition welcomes submissions, comments and/or suggestions. Please send them to

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Did You Know?
While Americans today drink a modest 2.3 gallons of alcohol per capita annually, the average American in 1790 drank 34 gal of beer and cider, 5 gal of distilled spirits, and 1 gal of wine per capita. Of course, many believed that water was unhealthy because before purification it often made them sick, whereas alcohol did not, leading to the belief that it was healthy.