



The Halifax Dispatch

HALIFAX RESOLVES CHAPTER, NCSSAR

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HALIFAX, NORTH CAROLINA

August, 2005

Chapter Members

Comp. Steven F. Avent*

Comp. James Becker*

Comp. C. R. Casey*

Comp. Christopher Edwards

Comp. Lonnie Edwards

Comp. C. Edwin Garner

Comp. Carlton Garner

Comp. Harry K. Goodman*

Comp. F. Grady Hall, III*

Comp. Joe E. Harris, Jr.*

Comp. Cleveland Hawkins*

Comp. Franklin N. Horton*

Comp. Wallace G. Johnson*

Comp. Duncan Jones

Comp. Kenneth Odum*

Comp. Bert Perdue

Comp. G. Steven Pittard*

Comp. Tom W. Skinner

Comp. James F. Stone

Comp. Rhoderick Williams*

Comp. Clark Wisner*

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Next Meeting Scheduled for August 16, 2005

The August, 2005 meeting of the Halifax Resolves Chapter will be held at Ralph's BBQ in Weldon, on Tuesday, 8/16/2005. It will begin at 6:00 p.m. and is expected to end around 7:30 pm. Our speaker for the evening will be Max Williams, who is the playwright who created the outdoor drama "First for Freedom", which was performed in Halifax for many years, and is also the author of several other novels and books of poetry. Mr. Williams will speak on the Halifax Resolves and other topics relating to Halifax history. He is noted for his knowledge of local history, so this talk is sure to be an interesting one.

The cost of the meal is \$12.00 per person, payable by cash or check only. Please RSVP to Steve Avent by 8/9/2005 at 252-459-9427, by email at savent@mindspring.com or by the US mail at P.O. Box 221, Red Oak, NC 27868. If you forget to RSVP, come out anyway. As always, guests and interested parties are cordially invited.

Welcome to our new members!

Since our last meeting we have gained two new members: **Lonnie Edwards** and his son **Christopher Edwards**. We are planning to induct them at this meeting so come on out and welcome them to the Society.

Upcoming Events

- * **8/20-21/05:** The 225th Anniversary Celebration of the Battle of Camden, Camden, SC
- * **10/1/05:** National Trustees Meeting, Louisville, KY
- * **10/7/05:** 225th Anniversary Celebration of the Battle of Kings Mountain, Kings Mountain, SC
- * **10/8-10/05:** Reinterment of Gen. Pulaski's Remains, Savannah, GA (GASSAR)
- * **10/15/05:** Fall NCSSAR Board of Manager's Mtg., Salisbury Visitors Center, Salisbury, NC
- * **3/18-19/06:** 225th Anniversary Celebration of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, Greensboro, NC
- * **4/7-9/06:** NCSSAR Annual Convention, Raleigh, NC
- * **5/13/06:** Alamance Battleground Patriot's Day Celebration, Alamance Co., NC

Chapter Projects and Goals

As a newly-chartered chapter, our main goal up to this point has been to build up our membership, particularly the development of a solid core of local members. We've been very successful at this, as shown by the fact that we have gained 5 new members so far this year, as well as one previously unaffiliated SAR member who joined our chapter at our May meeting. So now that we have the foundation in place, it's time that we began to work on erecting a structure that we can be proud of, and that can have a positive impact on our community.

The first thing we need to do is to improve chapter participation in NCSSAR activities. This includes: the **Battle of Guilford Courthouse celebration**, held in March in Greensboro; **Halifax Day**, held on April 12th in Halifax; the **Patriot's Day Celebration**, held at the Alamance Battleground in Alamance Co. in May; the **Battle of Ramsour's Mill celebration**, held in June in Lincoln; and the **Battle of King's Mountain celebration**, held Oct. 7th at the battlefield near the North/South Carolina border. These events usually involve SAR color guards, Revolutionary War re-enactors and SAR wreath-laying ceremonies, and when combined with the fellowship of other SAR members they are a lot of fun and always worthwhile. The upcoming 225th anniversary celebration of the battle of King's Mountain on Oct. 7th is expected to be a very big deal, with participation from SAR chapters from across the country, and will be an excellent opportunity to see the SAR at its best. For more details, see the NCSSAR website – www.ncssar.com – or see Steve Avent, who is definitely planning to be there.

There are also many ways in which our chapter can contribute to the local community, particularly in encouraging patriotism in young people and educating them in the importance of American history and the ideals that our Revolutionary War ancestors struggled and died to preserve. Here are just a few SAR programs in which we can participate:

-**recognition of outstanding JROTC/SROTC cadets** in local high schools and colleges. Our chapter awarded eight of these awards last year to cadets at local schools, and we expect to present at least as many this year. It is always very rewarding to recognize these fine young men and women, and it is also a good way to announce our presence to the local community.

-**Eagle Scout Scholarship Competition**: this is open to all Eagle Scouts who are currently registered in an active unit and have not reached their 19th birthday. Three cash scholarship awards are given: National First Place winner - \$8,000.00; Runner-up - \$4,000.00; 2nd runner-up - \$2,000.00.

-the **Knight Essay Contest**: This contest is open to all high school students who are United States citizens or legal aliens. The contest is for an original researched essay written in English that deals with an event, person, philosophy, or ideal associated with the American Revolution, the Declaration of Independence, or the framing of the United States Constitution. The National Association of Secondary School Principals has placed this program on the NASSP National Advisory List of Contests and Activities. First place: \$3,000; a winning recognition certificate; airfare and one night hotel for two at the SAR 116th Annual Congress in Dallas, Texas. Second Place: \$2,000. Third Place: \$1,000

-**4th-5th Grade Poster Contest**: directed at students in the 4th or 5th grades, depending on which grade year the American Revolution is taught in their educational system. The topic for this year's contest is: "George Washington Crossing the Delaware". The winner from each local school will compete at Chapter level and the then the Chapter winner will compete at State level. Once the State Society has selected a winner, it will represent the State Society at the National Level. The top National winners will receive a Rosette Ribbon and a monetary award that will be funded from the Americanism Trust Fund.

There are also programs that are not limited to young people:

-**USS Stark Memorial Award**: chapters are awarded points for activities of their members in support of veterans. These activities include: visiting veterans in VA hospitals, donations of various items to VA hospitals, holding patriotic observances in cooperation with veterans groups and so on.

There are awards for public servants and other individuals whose actions have gone above and beyond the call of duty:

-**Fire Service, Law Enforcement, Heroism, Flag** (given by the chapter to individuals or companies that fly the US flag for patriotic – not purely business - reasons). Also: **Good Citizenship medals**, which recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to their community, **War Service Medals**, and the **Martha Washington Award**, which is awarded to women in recognition of outstanding service to the SAR. Steve Avent was involved in awarding Law Enforcement commendations at another SAR chapter and can vouch for the fact that this is a very rewarding and worthwhile activity. We tend to take the contributions of our law enforcement personnel for granted, and they are extremely appreciative of this recognition.

Any chapter member who would like to be involved in these activities is encouraged to step forward – you'll be glad you did and it will help our chapter make a positive impact on our community.

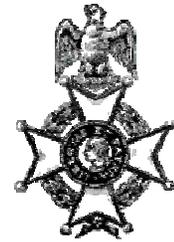
Welcome to our new members

We had the great pleasure of inducting three new members at our May meeting – **Ed Garner, Carlton Garner and Bert Perdue**. Chapter President Steve Avent conducted the induction ceremony and NCSSAR President Joe Harris presented them with their member rosettes.

(left to right) Ed Garner, Carlton Garner, and Bert Perdue receive their membership certificate from Chapter President Steve Avent.



(left to right) Ed Garner, Carlton Garner, and Bert Perdue receive their membership Rosette from NCSSAR President Joe Harris.



Battle of Ramsour's Mill Celebration

The celebration of the Battle of Ramsour's Mill was held June 11th at the site of the battle at Lincolnton. Several hundred participants and spectators enjoyed the beautiful weather and the free BBQ lunch. The event featured an encampment of Revolutionary War re-enactors and demonstrations of musket and cannon firings. The memorial wreath laying ceremony involved SAR and DAR chapters from across the state, as well as descendants of the Ramsour family and other patriotic organizations. The NCSSAR color guard added a touch of pageantry and several musket volleys were fired by the re-enactors as a salute to the Patriots who fought there, many of whom were buried in the mass grave at the site.



Steve Avent presents the Halifax Resolves Chapter wreath.



The NCSSAR color guard and the wreaths.



A volley salute is fired in memory of the heroes of the battle of Ramsour's Mill.

**HALIFAX RESOLVES CHAPTER,
NCSSAR**

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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 116-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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