



# The Halifax Dispatch

*The Newsletter of the Halifax Resolves Chapter,  
North Carolina Sons of the American Revolution*

Volume XIX, Number 4 - July 31, 2020

2014 & 2016 winner Carl S. Bissent Newsletter Award

The Halifax Resolves Chapter meets at 6:30 pm the second Wednesday night of January, March, May, July, September and November at the Fellowship Hall of the Halifax United Methodist Church, 150 S. King St., Halifax, NC . The ladies of the UMC prepare a delicious meal prior to the meeting at the cost of \$10.00/person.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, September 9 (hopefully). In order for the ladies to properly plan the meal we need to know how many are attending. If you plan to attend, it is imperative that you contact Chapter President Pittard NLT noon on Friday, September 4th with the number of individuals in your party. Compatriot Pittard can be contacted at: 252-532-0664 or [geospittard@gmail.com](mailto:geospittard@gmail.com).

Compatriots, new members and prospective members;

I hope everyone is coping well with the current situation. If you are like me, you are tired of looking at the walls, watching TV and playing on the computer. Your only alternative activities may consist of doctor appointments and visits to the local drugstore.

Most of you are probably wondering why I'm doing this newsletter. Well the long and short of it is we needed some communication throughout the chapter and President Pittard was overloaded. So here I am, for what it's worth.

I will try to bring everyone up to date on what little activities in which the chapter has participated since the March meeting. Our Poster winner Emerson Boerner did not place at the state winner. That was the first time we have not placed at least 3rd. Most of the time we have been 1st or 2nd. Emerson attends Halifax Academy.

There was better news for our Brochure winner, Jacey Carlisle, who won the state contest. Jacey received a check for \$250.00 and her teacher, Mr. James Rook, received a check for \$100.00. Jacey attended Chaloner Middle School in Roanoke Rapids. As of this writing, we do not know how she fared at National since the Congress was cancelled and the winner have not been announced.

On Memorial Day, there was an impromptu ceremony at Cedarwood Cemetery in Roanoke Rapids to honor our fallen heroes. I participated with the detail folding the flag and presented the chapter wreath. This ceremony has been a mainstay in our veterans outreach for over ten years. Even though it was not publicized, we had above 50 people in attendance.

BSA Troop 144, who assume our role as the primary for flag retirements held a flag retirement at Veterans Park in Roanoke Rapids in late June. I attended as a spectator, rejoicing that I did not have to stand over the fire and dispose of over 500 flags when it was over 90 degrees in the shade.. Scoutmaster Dan Harris and the members of the troop did a fantastic job. *(cont'd page 3)*

*(The following story was extracted from the book "History of Halifax County" by W. C. Allen, copyright 1918 by the Cornhill Company, Boston, MA. It pertains to the occupation of Halifax by Lord Cornwallis during his retreat to Virginia in May, 1781)*

**Excerpt from Chapter XIV. The British Occupation of Halifax**

In one case, after the soldiers had pillaged a farm, a young girl, Miss Bishop, found that her favorite pony had been taken. Despite her young age, she went on foot, at night and unarmed to the British camp. By means unknown, she managed to get an audience with Tarleton.

Raising herself erect, she said "I have come to you, sir, to demand restoration of my property, which your knavish fellows stole from my father's yard."

Tarleton, taken completely by surprise, answered saying, "Let me understand you."

Accordingly, Miss Bishop stated her case. "Well sir, your roguish men in red coats came to my father's yard about sundown, and stole my pony, and I have walked here alone and unprotected to claim him and demand him; and sir, I must and will have him. I fear not your men; they are base and unprincipled enough to dare to offer insult to any unprotected female; but their cowardly hearts will prevent them from doing her bodily injury."

When the light of a camp fire in the distance revealed her pet pony she continued. "There sir, is my horse. I shall mount him and ride peaceably home; and if you have any of the gentlemanly feeling within you of which your men are totally destitute, or if you have any regard for their safety, you will see, sir, that I am not interrupted. But before I go I wish to say to you, that he who can, and will not prevent this base and cowardly stealing from hen roost, stables, and barnyards, is no better, in my estimation, than the mean, good-for-nothing, guilty wretches who do the dirty work with their own hands! Good night, sir." With nothing left to say, she took her pony and galloped safely home. Tarleton was so surprised that he ordered that she be permitted to do as she pleased. Little did Tarleton realize that his first defeat by a female would be followed a couple of days later by a second, more cutting, incident.

"The Grove", home of Mrs. Willie Jones, daughter of Joseph Montford, and her sister Mrs. John B. Ashe, was the scene of a confrontation between the ladies and Colonel Tarleton. In the presence of the ladies, Tarleton referred to Colonel William Washington, who had inflicted him with a wound to the hand at the Battle of Cowpens, as an illiterate, ignorant boor, hardly able to write his name. Mrs. Jones quickly resented the language used by Tarleton and replied saying "Colonel Tarleton, you know very well that Colonel Washington, if he can't write as well as some men, knows how to make his mark." While making the statement she was looking at the scar on Tarleton's hand made by Washington's sabre. The Colonel turned a deep shade of red, but continued the conversation stating sarcastically "I would be happy to see Colonel Washington," to which Mrs. Ashe replied "If you had looked behind you at the Battle of Cowpens, Colonel Tarleton, you would have enjoyed that pleasure." That comment struck a nerve and Tarleton involuntarily reached for his sword just as General Leslie, his commander entered the room. Seeing the situation, Leslie quickly rebuked Tarleton and closed the incident

*(cont'd from page 1)*

The chapter held a virtual chapter meeting in July. This was more of an informational meeting and it allowed members to make visual contact with each other.

The North Carolina SAR will be holding it's Board of Managers meeting on August 22nd at the 1776 Sporting Club in Burlington, NC. The meeting room has a capacity of 250. Since the Board meeting attendance is between 40 and 50 members, there will be plenty of room for social distancing. There will be a box lunch for \$15.00. RSVP NLT August 17th. Compatriot Dr. Sam Powell has offered the membership the opportunity to use the onsite firing ranges for pistol and rifle (to include black powder) after the meeting. Details can be found on the NC SAR website under the Calendar tab.

Fraternally,

Ken Wilson

Past President NC SAR 2014-2015

### Memorial Day — Cedarwood Cemetery



#### Chapter Officers

**President: Geoff Pittard**

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**Vice President: currently vacant**

**Secretary: Michael Cooper**

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**Treasurer/Registrar: Steve Avent**

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Southern Shores, NC 27949

(252) 715-3902 savent917@gmail.com

**Chaplain: Rev. Duncan Jones**

**Chapter website:**

Go to: [www.ncssar.org](http://www.ncssar.org), click  
"Chapters"

**Jacey Carlisle**



**James Rook**



**Upcoming Events**

(some events may be cancelled due to Covid  
-19 concerns)

**Aug. 15: Signing of the Tryon Resolves**

**Aug. 22 : NC SAR BOM**

**Sep. 5: Battle of Eutaw Springs**

**Sept. 11: 9-11 Commemorations; various  
locations**

**Oct. 7: Battle of Kings Mtn.**

**Oct. 10: Battle of Shallow Ford**



**Welcome New Members**

James Robertson Rook, Jr.  
James Robert Rook  
Robert Franklin Hall



**Awaiting Approval**

James Hinton Qualls  
Ian Davis Qualls

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