



**Bethabara Chapter**  
of Winston-Salem  
**North Carolina State Society**  
**Sons of the American Revolution**



## ***The Bethabara Bugler***

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Winston Salem SAR Chapter

The Bethabara Bugler is the Newsletter of the Bethabara Chapter of Winston-Salem. It is published monthly (except during the months of June, July, and August when there will only be one summer edition). It will be distributed by email, usually at the first of the month. Articles, suggestions, and ideas are welcome – please send them to: Allen Mollere, 3721 Stancliff Road, Clemmons, NC 27012, or email: [amollere@msn.com](mailto:amollere@msn.com).

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### **Bethabara Chapter September Meeting**

**(Meeting minutes submitted by Recording Secretary Andy Kelly)**

The Bethabara Chapter, NCSSAR met September 12, 2019 at Pizza 66. 13 members and 3 guests were present. Chapter President Ed Hosmer called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM and reported/acted upon the following:

- Toast to George Washington was well attended
- Past President Fred Learned was presented a certificate of appreciation
- Compatriots Nathaniel Eliason and Daniel Parsons were sworn in as new members
- Nathaniel Eliason gave a presentation on his Patriot Samuel Kinsey JR
- Daniel Parsons gave a presentation on his Patriot Benjamin Grier
- A report was given on the National BOM meeting

- Orin Sadler volunteered to be a liaison for the JROTC programs
- Chapter Officers made their reports

New Business:

- Orin Sadler agreed to Chair a committee to update the Chapter Constitution and By-Laws. The goal is to have the updates complete by January 2020
- It was agreed to hold an evening holiday party at Ed's house December 12, 2019
- Plans were reviewed for the 92<sup>nd</sup> State Convention to be held in Winston-Salem April 3-5, 2020. The Bethabara Chapter will be responsible for logistics and the State for everything else
- Suggestions for guest speakers and patriot presentations were requested
- Bill Ewalt made a motion which was seconded by Larry McRae to procure a banner to commemorate The Battle of Shallowford. It passed unanimously. Fred will procure the banner

Old Business: None

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 PM.

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## Swearing in



**Compatriots Daniel Parsons (left) and Nathaniel Eliason (center) are sworn in and formally inducted as SAR members by Chapter President Ed Hosner.**

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## **Patriot Captain Benjamin Grier**

(9 February 1746 – 23 October 1816)

### **Presentation and submission by Compatriot Daniel Parsons on September 12, 2019 for his Patriot: Captain Benjamin Grier**

My Patriot CPT Benjamin Greer was born in Albemarle County, Virginia and was a revolutionary war soldier of some renown. He was married to his first wife Nancy Wilcoxon, the daughter of John Wilcoxon and Sarah Boone the eldest sister of the frontiersman Daniel Boone. Benjamin was raised in Franklin County, Virginia and shortly after obtaining majority settled in the areas that is now southwest Wilkes County until 1777. Although no marriage bond survives here, it is presumed that Benjamin married just before or soon after arriving North Carolina to first his wife who had moved with her family including the Boone relatives from Burks County, Pennsylvania. It is believed that Benjamin moved to Wilkes County about 1770 along with other Greer's and began clearing land, building cabins, and starting farming, all in the region around Cub Creek in the southwest part of what is now modern Wilkes County. The first known appearance of Benjamin on a tax list was in Surry County in 1771 along with his brother Aquilla and by 1772 his brothers John Jr. and Joshua also appear along with their father John Sr.

At the first meeting of the Wilkes County NC Court in March of 1778, Benjamin was appointed as a constable in CPT Hargraves district which is said to have been in the area of Moravian Creek. During the Revolutionary War Benjamin saw various services in the Wilkes County Militia. Serving under the command of Col Benjamin Cleveland, it was during this time that the famous "Greer Hint" was coined. One of his fellow soldiers stole Benjamin's tobacco from him. When Greer threatened to whip him for it, Col Cleveland remonstrated with him and urged strong reason against it saying his men should fight the enemy and not each other. "I'll give him a hint of it anyway," and when he met the tobacco thief, he knocked him down. "Greer's Hint" was long a byword in all that region. You don't have to knock me down with a hint, is still a byword with the family. His most famous exploit was the rescue of his commander, Col Benjamin Cleveland from the Tories in April of 1781 near Meat Camp Creek in Wilkes County which is now part of Ashe County.

The Battle of Kings Mountain was a famous Revolutionary war battle fought in the Wilkes, Ashe, and Surry areas of North Carolina. An occurrence that could have made a significant impact to Colonel Cleveland's Kings Mountain Campaign was his capture. Had it not been for the Callaway men and the swift action taken to mount a rescue effort the outcome could have been very different. Early one Sunday morning, Joseph Callaway and his brother-in-law Berry Toney, wishing to see Colonel Cleveland on a business matter learned that Cleveland's horses had gone missing and of a planned ambush. They met up with two other men whom were in rapid flight, and they told them that Richard Callaway had fallen, and Cleveland was either killed or taken. Joseph Callaway went to his father's house and mounted a horse and hastened to tell Cleveland's brother Captain Robert Cleveland. William Callaway quickly moved up the river and soon joined Samuel McQueen and Benjamin Greer. Following the trail until night fall, they

were now about 10 miles from the Old Fields. William Callaway suggested that McQueen remain there, while Greer gathered up more men to pursue the Tories. By nightfall, Cleveland's brother and friends, and those who had served under him, had gathered at Old Fields determined to rescue their commander at every hazard. A little after sunrise, they came upon Riddles Camp where Cleveland was being held. In the next moment guns were fired, and the Whigs rushed up. Colonel Cleveland rolled off a log and to the ground to protect himself. The Tories being overwhelmed and defeated fled the encampment with Callaway's men in hot pursuit and Colonel Cleveland being rescued.

A tradition preserved in the Greer family, is that it was Ben Greer who fired the shot that killed Col. Ferguson at King's Mountain. Lyman Draper unfortunately does not cite his sources for his account which, although probably factual, was likely based on hearsay evidence and perhaps, papers of Col. Cleveland. Wilkes County Militia rosters do not survive, nor are any original pay vouchers issued to Benjamin Greer extant. However; proof that he did receive payment for militia service is contained in the books of the North Carolina Treasurer and Comptroller, Revolutionary Army Accounts.

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**Compatriots Daniel Parsons (left) and Nathaniel Eliason (right) are presented with their SAR Certificates and stars by Chapter President Ed Hosner**



**Bethabara Chapter President Ed Hosner (L) presenting Certificate of Appreciation to outgoing Chapter President Fred Learned for his untiring efforts to further SAR and Bethabara Chapter exposure.**

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## **Visit to NSSAR Headquarters**

**Submitted by Compatriot Fred Learned**

On September 18, 2019, Compatriot Fred Learned drove to SAR National Headquarters located in Louisville, Kentucky to attend his first Fall Leadership Conference. Fred wanted to share his experience while there for those Compatriots who haven't had the opportunity to visit the NSSAR National Headquarters. This beautiful facility has needed funding and has been a work in progress ever since I joined the SAR in 2000.





**NSSAR Headquarters, Louisville KY**



**Entrance to the SAR Library, notice the baseball bat reflection in the window**

The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution National Headquarters building is located at 809 W. Main Street in the historic old town section of Louisville, Kentucky. The two-story brick, frame and steel construction building is a grand and dignified structure, befitting of a quality museum and is perfect for the national headquarters of the NSSAR.



**NSSAR Headquarters, Louisville KY**



**Louisville Slugger Museum is directly across the street from NSSAR Headquarters**



**NSSAR Main Lobby**

As you enter the NSSAR Headquarters building, you first come to the main lobby area with its large reception desk. You can look upwards from the lobby and see the second-floor level of the SAR Genealogical Research Library.



**NSSAR Headquarters Office Lobby (2<sup>nd</sup> floor)**





**NSSAR's future museum room, you can see the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor staff offices above**

The main NSSAR Headquarters offices and the Genealogy Department are also located on the second floor of the large SAR building. From the lobby area of the NSSAR Headquarters offices on the second floor, you can view, through the large picture panel glass windows, the large 1<sup>st</sup> floor area currently being used as a conference area.



**NSSAR Genealogical Research Library**

The SAR Genealogical Research Library is located behind the main NSSAR Headquarters entrance lobby. The SAR Genealogical Research Library is located on both the first and second floors and contains a large collection of genealogical, historical reference materials and exhibits. The library is open to both SAR members and the general public.



**NSSAR Merchandise Store entrance**



**NSSAR Merchandise Store stock**

The NSSAR Merchandise Store is in the basement of the building. The store is large and well stocked. You can shop in person at the store and you can also shop at the NSSAR Online Merchandise Store, available at <http://store.sar.org/>

If you have the opportunity, you should visit our NSSAR Headquarters in Louisville, Kentucky, as the trip is well worth your time and effort. The staff are extremely friendly and helpful; there are interesting exhibits, paintings and artifacts to see; and you could easily spend multiple days researching in the SAR Genealogical Research Library. The NSSAR has more building improvements planned in the future as more funds become available.

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## **Upcoming 2019 Bethabara Chapter Activities**

- Oct 7      239<sup>th</sup> Annual Commemoration of Battle of King's Mountain – King's Mountain, SC
- Oct 10     **Bethabara Chapter meeting, Pizza 66, social at noon, meeting starts 12:30 PM**
- Oct 12     239<sup>th</sup> Annual Commemoration of Battle of Shallow Ford – Huntsville, NC
- Nov 11     Veterans Day
- Dec 7      Battle of Great Bridge
- Dec 14     Wreaths Across America
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## **Commemoration of the Battle of Shallow Ford**

The Battle occurred on October 14, 1780, one week after the Battle of Kings Mountain, when four companies of militia from Montgomery County, Virginia (about 160 men) marching south met three companies of North Carolina Militia from Charlotte and Salisbury (about 110 men) marching north. They met the local Surry County Militia (about 80 men) and this combined force of about 350 Patriots engaged and defeated a much larger band of Tories who had just crossed the Shallow Ford of the Yadkin who were headed south to reinforce the British army commanded by General Cornwallis.

Combined, these two Patriot victories over the Tories helped turn the hearts and minds of the War for America's Independence in North Carolina to the Patriots' advantage.

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## **Supplemental Patriots**

Many SAR members have additional ancestors who also were patriots. The SAR refers to them as supplemental ancestors (or Patriots). Once you become a member you can then submit a Supplemental Membership Application in much the same way you filed your original membership application. It is to be submitted to Bethabara Chapter Registrar Larry McRae for verification and processing and if the Application is complete, he will forward it to the NC State Registrar. For more information, or if you need help preparing an online application for your Supplemental Patriot, please contact Larry.

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## Bethabara Chapter Officers and Contacts for 2019

### President

Ed Hosmer  
100 Creekstone Ct.  
Winston-Salem, NC 27104  
(734) 776-6521  
[ejhosmer@earthlink.net](mailto:ejhosmer@earthlink.net)

### Vice-President

Bill Ewalt  
135 Cramerton Ct.  
Lewisville, NC 27023  
(763) 229-9493  
[Wiewalt35@yahoo.com](mailto:Wiewalt35@yahoo.com)

### Secretary

Andy Kelly  
308 Springwater Court  
Winston-Salem, NC 27106  
(336) 442-7490  
[akelly1@triad.rr.com](mailto:akelly1@triad.rr.com)

### Registrar & Historian

Larry McRae  
5108 Huntcliff Trail  
Winston-Salem, NC 27104  
(336) 245-8969  
[mcraelt@gmail.com](mailto:mcraelt@gmail.com)

### Treasurer

Gary Fraysier  
145 Ashton Place Circle  
Winston-Salem, NC 27106  
(336) 815-1159  
[garyfraysier@gmail.com](mailto:garyfraysier@gmail.com)

### Newsletter

Allen Mollere, III  
3721 Stancliff Road  
Clemmons, NC 27012  
(336) 766-4868  
[amollere@msn.com](mailto:amollere@msn.com)

### Webmaster

Sam McCormick, III  
4133 Allister St.  
Winston-Salem, NC 27104  
(336) 749-2149  
[Sam@must-innov8.com](mailto:Sam@must-innov8.com)

### Sargent-At-Arms

George Sage

### Immediate Past-President

Fred Learned  
4030 Dresden Drive  
Winston-Salem, NC 27104  
(239) 849-0814  
[fdlearned@gmail.com](mailto:fdlearned@gmail.com)

