



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

The Bethabara Bugler

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Re-Organized 08 November 2014



Winston Salem SAR Chapter

The Bethabara Bugler is the Newsletter of the Bethabara Chapter of Winston-Salem. It is, under normal circumstances, 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.

The Official Pledge to The S.A.R.

We the descendants of the heroes of the American Revolution who, by their sacrifice, establish the United States of America, reaffirm our faith in the principles of liberty and our Constitutional Republic, and solemnly pledge ourselves to defend them against every foe.



Pre-Meeting Social

Bethabara Chapter March Meeting

The Bethabara Chapter NCSSAR meeting was called to order on March 12, 2020 at Sixty Six Grill Pizzeria in Winston-Salem by President Ed Hosmer at 12:30 PM. In attendance were 12 Bethabara Chapter Compatriots, one associate member, and 2 guests.

Following the Invocation by Fred Learned, Pledge of Allegiance by Harlan Hawks, the American Creed by Allen Mollere, and Pledge to the SAR by Bill Ewalt, Chapter President Hosmer welcomed members and guests.

Meeting Minutes

(Submitted by Allen Mollere for Secretary Andy Kelly)

Officers reported as follows:

- President Ed Hosmer reported that he has continued to work on Convention planning and details over the past month. (Details appear in the Convention Committee Report below.)
- Compatriot Allen Mollere has another approved Supplemental enroute that will be presented at the May meeting.

- Vice President Bill Ewalt spoke of the Lexington Civil War Roundtable group and the recent trip that he and Compatriot Andy Kelly made to the Fort York Confederate Civil War Battlefield. The Fort is on a hilltop overlooking the Yadkin River at the junction of Interstate 85 and U.S. 29.
- Secretary's Report: Nothing new to report.
- Registrar Larry McRae report:
 - Jeremy Hauser update (contact date 9-3-19)
 - David Koehler transfer and membership for his son update (contact date 10-11-19)
 - Benjamin Rich update (contact date 1-2-2020)
 - Matthew Jolley update (contact date 1-4-2020)
 - Recent contact Frank Leonard, Jr.

President Ed Hosmer asked if anyone was interested in assisting Larry with contacting and following up with the pending individuals? Compatriot Allen Mollere offered to help. Compatriot Orin Sadler also offered to help if needed.

- Treasurer Gary Fraysier provided an update on Bethabara Chapter financials.

State Senior Vice President Fred Learned provided NCSSAR updates. He mentioned that retention is an issue that continues to require focus. Roughly 40% of the individuals sworn in come and go within a year and provide no support to the NCSSAR. Among the other items of interest mentioned by Fred was that the NSSAR, in the scheduled July 2020 meeting in Virginia, would probably approve raising the fee for new applicants from \$60-\$80 and for Supplementals from \$60-\$100. New and Supplemental Applicants are currently costing the NSSAR over \$106 to process each.

- President Ed Hosmer swore in new member Harlan Hawks.
- President Ed Hosmer presented Compatriot Daniel Parsons with his SAR certificate in recognition of his Military Service during Operation Desert Storm.
- Patriot Presentations:
 - Harlan Hawks provided a presentation on his patriot Henry Jones.
 - Bill Ewalt provided a presentation on his supplemental patriot Isaac Weaver, Jr.
- Ed Hosmer provided an update on the upcoming NCSSAR 2020 Convention and its Committees.
 - We have received numerous Registration Forms. Current counts to date: 46 Delegates and Guests; 29 for President's Reception; 44 for Youth Luncheon; and 36 for Banquet.
 - Ed, Fred, Bill, and Kathy Ewalt met with the hotel staff to finalize the event space details on March 5th. Updated hotel on changes and plans. (rooms reversed, AV details, and meal tickets).
 - Nine Compatriot members met at Ed Hosmer's house on Tuesday, February 25th at 10 a.m. and brainstormed ideas for the Chapter's hospitality suite, delegate and guest credentials, and welcome packets.

- Compatriots were invited, immediately following this Chapter meeting, to stay and help with final decisions. Ed is specifically looking for Compatriots to be on site in the hospitality room and at the registration desk.
- Kathy Ewalt provided an update on the Ladies Auxiliary participation.

- New Business:

- A motion was made by Ed Hosmer to cancel the regularly scheduled April Bethabara Chapter meeting was made in an effort to have our Compatriots attend the convention instead. The motion was approved, so there will be **no Chapter meeting in April**.
- Ed Hosmer read an email from the wife of Compatriot Garry Crist as to why he was dropping his membership. The motion was made, and accepted, to pay his SAR dues this year.

- Old Business:

- Take from the table the following motion:

To add the following words to the Constitution and By-Laws, Article 3: **or provided services or goods to the American cause**

to read, **Article III - Eligibility of Membership**

Any man shall be eligible to membership in this Chapter who, being of the age eighteen (18) or over, and citizen of good repute in his community, is the lineal descendant of an ancestor who was at all times unfailing in loyalty to, and rendered active service in the cause of American Independence either as an officer, soldier, seaman, marine, militiaman, or minuteman, in the Continental Congress, or of any one of several, Colonies or states; or as a signer of the Declaration of Independence, or as a, recognized patriot who performed actual service by overt acts of resistance to the authority of Great Britain, **or provided services or goods to the American cause**; provided, however that no person advocating the overthrow of the Government of the United States by use of force or violence shall be eligible for membership in the Society.

The motion was made to **NOT** add the words: : or provided services or goods to the American cause.

- SAR Recessional provided by Orin Sadler
- Benediction provided by Fred Learned
- Motion to Adjourn was made and seconded from the floor

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM

Allen Mollere for Recording Secretary *Andy Kelly*

Swearing In



New Compatriot Harlan Jay Hawks is formally sworn in and inducted as a SAR member by Chapter President Ed Hosmer. (L to R) Fred Learned, Harlan Hawks, and Ed Hosmer.

Feature Presentations



Compatriot Harlan Jay Hawks talked about his patriot Henry Jones

Patriot Henry Jones

By Harlan Hawks

Henry Jones was born 1745 in Augusta Parish, Augusta, Virginia, British colonial America. His Parents were Robert Jones and Maria J Van Meter.

Henry Married Frances Bohannon in 1770. She was the daughter of William and Ruth Frances Roach. Henry and "Frankie" was the parents of ten children, the youngest daughter Naomi married my fourth great-grandfather Zachariah Stanley, Jr.

Henry served in the Revolutionary war as a Private under Capt. Peter Hairston and Col. Henry Lyne. Capt. Hairston's company of the Henry County Militia took part in the 1776 raid against the Cherokees in the first battle of The Shallow Ford, and as a Captain in the battle of Guilford Courthouse. Whether my fourth grand-father Henry was with them I don't know but he was credited with several tours in the Henry country militia.

Henry Jones died 9th day of October 1831, in present day Floyd County, Va.



Compatriot Bill Ewalt gave a presentation on his Supplemental Patriot Issac Weaver, Jr.

Supplemental Patriot Issac Weaver, Jr.

By **Bill Ewalt**

Isaac Weaver, Jr. was born in Nether Providence Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania (now Delaware County as of 1789) on March 1, 1756 to the Quaker family of Isaac Weaver and his wife, Sarah Dell. His earliest family line in America traces back to the early settlement of Pennsylvania in 1682 and his other family lines in America came to Pennsylvania in the 1690s. As a young man, he served in the American Revolution in Captain Jonathan Vernon's Company of the Chester County Militia, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Caleb Davis.

His marriage to Abigail Price caused an uproar in the Chester County Quaker Meeting on July 28, 1783 because the marriage had been performed by a minister outside of the meeting. He wrote an apology to the assembly asking them to forgive his "Deviations and continue me under their care as my future conduct may deserve." After his entreaty he was allowed to remain with the meeting; when he later moved his family to western Pennsylvania, they transferred to the Westland Monthly Meeting.

After the close of the Revolutionary war, he purchased property in Washington (now Greene) County, Pennsylvania which was located at Castile Run, Morgan Township. He served his community in both houses of the Pennsylvania State legislature. Initially he served in the State House as a member and in 1800 he became Speaker of the House. In 1802 Isaac Weaver was appointed by the Legislature to serve as Treasurer of the State of Pennsylvania; at a time when it was not an elective office. Four times he was elected to the State Senate to represent Greene County in 1806, 1812, 1816 and 1820. In 1817 he became the Speaker of the Senate.

Isaac Weaver wrote two letters to Thomas Jefferson, the first on February 25, 1801 and the second on March 30, 1807. Thomas Jefferson replied to both letters, to the first on March 21, 1801 and to the second on June 7, 1807. There is a tract in Library of Congress entitled: Experience the Test of Government: In Eighteen Essays; subtitled: Written During the Years 1805 and 1806, To Aid the Investigation of Principals, And Operations Of The Existing Constitution and Laws of the State Of Pennsylvania. This tract was published by William Duane in 1807. In old catalogs the names of Isaac Weaver and John Bailey have been found as "supposed authors."

Ten of his eleven children lived to adulthood. His wife Abigail Price died at age 47 on September 10, 1813. On May 22, 1830 Isaac Weaver died and his Will directed burial in the family plot on his Castle Run farm next to his first wife and their son Joshua.

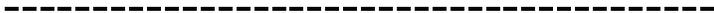
Special Presentation



Compatriot Dan Parsons (left) received his Military Service Recognition Certificate from Ed Hosmer. The first such certificate received in the Chapter.



The Compatriots Military Service Record Form can be found on the SAR website.



Battle of Fort Charlotte

(compilation by Allen Mollere)



Spanish General Bernardo de Gálvez

It may be surprising to some to learn that a Revolutionary War battle took place in the heart of what is now downtown Mobile, Alabama. Remembered today as the Battle of Fort Charlotte, the engagement was an important part of General Bernardo de Gálvez' Gulf Coast campaign.

The original fort had been built by the French for Louis XV, to defend the strategic location of Mobile and its Bay against British or Spanish attack. The strategic importance of Mobile and its fort was significant: the fort protected access into the strategic region between the Mississippi River and the Atlantic colonies. It was also the stronghold that kept the residents of the isolated settlements safe.

After the Mobile River flooded and damaged the fort it was relocated in 1711 to its current site. A temporary wooden stockade fort was constructed, also named Fort Louis after the old fort up-river. A later fort was built in 1717 by the French and named Fort Condé, in honor of Louis Henri de Bourbon, duc de Bourbon and prince de Condé, when Mobile was part of the French province of Louisiana (New France). The fort and its surrounding buildings covered about 11 acres of land, was constructed of local brick and stone, with earthen dirt walls and Cedar wood. In 1723, construction of a new brick fort with a stone foundation began. That fort was shaped in the form of a seven-pointed star, with guard towers raised at the points with significant surrounding earth works.

By 1763, when the British took possession of the fort following the French and Indian War, it was in ruins. It was repaired, but by the time hostilities with Spain neared in 1779, it was again in disrepair. When news of Gálvez' successes had reached British commander Durnford at the fort in Mobile, he started improvements to its defenses. (Between 1763 and 1780 the garrison's British regulars were primarily from the 60th regiment, and were augmented by Loyalists from Maryland and Pennsylvania, as well as local volunteers, an estimated 300 men in total. (Britain, now in possession of the region, renamed the fort in honor of Queen Charlotte, calling it Fort Charlotte.))

When Spain entered the American Revolutionary War in 1779, Bernardo de Gálvez, the energetic governor of Spanish Louisiana, immediately began offensive operations. In September 1779 he gained complete control over the lower Mississippi River by capturing Fort Bute in current Louisiana and then shortly thereafter obtaining the surrender of the remaining British forces on the river following the Battle of Baton Rouge in Louisiana. Following these successes, he began planning operations against Mobile and Pensacola, the remaining British presence in the province of West Florida and assembled a mixed force of Spanish regulars and militia in New Orleans. While he had requested additional troops from Havana for operations against Mobile and Pensacola in 1779, his requests had been rejected.

In early 1780 General Gálvez embarked on an expedition to capture Mobile, which was one of only two major British military establishments left in West Florida, the other being the capital, Pensacola. Assembling about 750 men and a fleet of ships at New Orleans, he sailed from New Orleans for Mobile on January 11, 1780. For his attack on the British at Mobile in February 1780, he took his Acadian militia with him from Louisiana. He reached the mouth of the Mississippi on January 18 after being delayed by storms that scattered the fleet. An authority on the campaign writes: "In his account to the court of the campaigns on the lower Mississippi in 1779, Gálvez demonstrated great pleasure in the zeal displayed by the Louisiana militia in all of their engagements. He singled out the Acadian companies, in whom burned the memory of English cruelty in the Seven Years' War, which forced them to abandon their homes in Canada."

On January 20, Gálvez was joined by a supporting force of about 450 men from Havana. On February 25 the Spanish landed their army of more than 1,000 men about 10 miles from Fort Charlotte but did not begin siege operations until March 1. On March 1, Gálvez sent a letter to British commander Durnford offering to accept his surrender, which was politely rejected. The next day Gálvez began setting up gun batteries around the fort. The outnumbered British ragtag garrison of an estimated 300 men, including armed slaves and volunteers from the town, resisted stubbornly, but after 14 days of bombardment the 18th-century Fort Charlotte's walls were breached. Commander Durnford, surrendered the fort on March 3, 1780. His losses included 3 killed, 8 wounded, and the remainder surrendered. Durnford had waited in vain for relief from Pensacola that never arrived. Again, the Louisiana Acadians tasted sweet revenge against their former oppressors.

Documented Service Lists of the Louisiana Militia Units that fought in this engagement include at least four of my patriot ancestors who were officers:

1. Lieutenant **Louis Bethancourt** of the Louisiana Regiment. He was a Spanish soldier on the first ship from the Spanish Canary Islands, arriving Louisiana on November 1, 1778. Upon arrival he was assigned to the 2nd Company, 1st Battalion, Louisiana Regiment. This regiment became the backbone of the Gálvez campaigns and called, in English, "the Fixed Infantry Regiment of Louisiana".
2. Sub-Lieutenant **Geronimo Blanchard** of the Royal Mixed Legion of the Mississippi, Company of Iberville. Veteran of previous military engagements with Gálvez at Ft. Bute and Baton Rouge.
3. Sub-Lieutenant of Infantry, **Anselmo Blanchard**. Veteran of previous military engagements with Gálvez at Ft. Bute and Baton Rouge.
4. Sub-Lieutenant of the Acadian Militia, **Joseph Mollere**. Veteran of previous military engagements with Gálvez at Ft. Bute and Baton Rouge.

Fort Charlotte was the last remaining British frontier post capable of threatening New Orleans in Spanish Louisiana. Its fall drove the British from the western reaches of West Florida and reduced the British military presence in West Florida to its capital, Pensacola. Its fall secured the western shore of Mobile Bay and opened the way for Spanish operations against Pensacola.

By 1823, most of the above-ground traces of Mobile's fort had disappeared. As a matter of record, it was built and survived under four flags in the following order: French (Fort Louis and Fort Conde), British (Fort Charlotte), Spanish (Fort Carlota), and the United States (Fort Charlotte). The fort was razed in the 19th century due to the expansion of downtown Mobile. In the late 20th century its foundations were re-discovered, and a reduced 4/5-scale replica of the fort was constructed on its site. The fort was listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places on May 21, 1969.

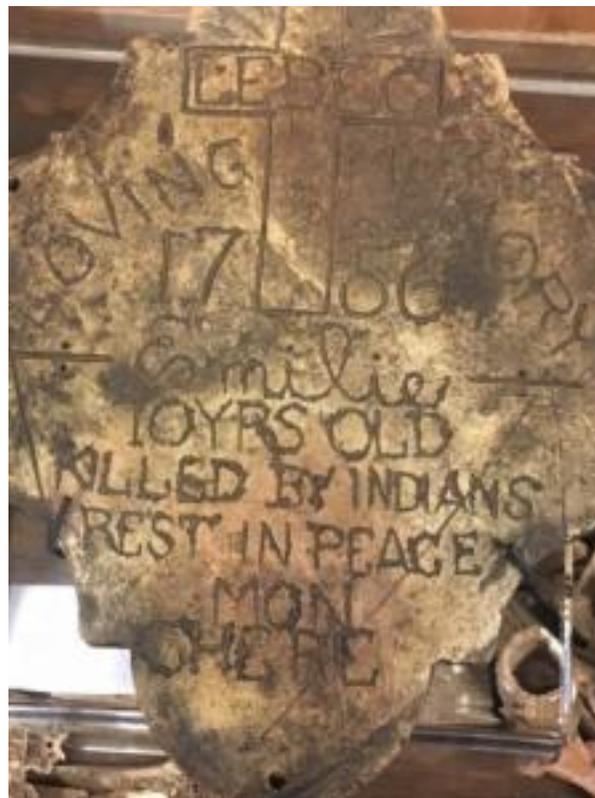


Bastion of the reconstructed fort in downtown Mobile, Alabama





Portion of interior courtyard



1756 gravestone found at Ft. Charlotte

Upcoming 2020 SAR Activities

- Apr 3-4th 92nd Annual NC State SAR Convention, Winston-Salem, NC (**CANCELED – rescheduled for 1st weekend in April 2021 in Winston-Salem, NC**)
- Apr 18 * Halifax Resolves, Halifax, NC
- May 14** Bethabara Chapter meeting, Pizza 66, social at noon, meeting starts 12:00 PM
- May 30th Bethabara Chapter's 5th Annual Toast to President George Washington's visit to Salem, 1:30 PM (site to be determined)
- June 6 Battle of Ramsour's Mill, Lincolnton, NC, a national event with National President Jack Manning attending Friday evening Social (5pm). Food and beverages will be provided by Catawba Chapter.
- July 4 Independence Day
- July 18 Battle of Colson's Mill, Norwood, NC
- Aug 15 Tyron Resolves, Bessemer City, NC
- * Pending virus situation
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Bethabara Chapter's Website

<http://winstonsalemsar.org/>

Give the “GIFT” that keeps on giving.
Make a “Tax Deductible” gift or contribution to the “Bethabara Chapter Trust Fund”. This Fund provides monies that helps support worthy projects of the Bethabara Chapter, NCSSAR.