



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

August has been a fabulous month with many great things going on with Catawba Valley Chapter. Our first adventure since our last Newsletter was assisting The Battle of Kings Mountain Chapter on the 13th of August with their commemoration of the 247th anniversary of the Tryon Resolves. As always, it was warm, but it was a marvelous commemoration, and there were SAR members from 4 chapters and DAR members from 4 Chapters, one of those DAR ladies came from Florida for the event. Photos above.

Our Chapter once again participated in the 133 annual Old Soldiers Reunion Parade in Newton NC. We marched the first half, served as Color Guard while American Legion Post 544 fired a 21-gun salute. Then the mad shuttle back to the float to ride the second half of the parade. We presented our float driver, Bobby Allison, with a Certificate of Appreciation for hauling us around. Bobby has done this for us two year running now, and we greatly appreciate him. Photos below.



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Ben Setser
Chapter President



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10 September
2022

Volume 3 Issue 9

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President's Report, part 2

The North Carolina State Society, Sons of the American Revolution, Summer 2022, Board of Managers meeting took place on the 22nd of August in Raleigh. Everyone should get an opportunity to go and see how much of the work gets done. This being the BOM just after the National Congress, there were many awards that came from National through the State Society to the local Chapter, and we were one of those chapters. Catawba Valley received the President General's Activities Award, to the Chapter based on size, which shows evidence of the most complete practice of Implementing SAR Programs and Resolutions. The President General's Education Outreach Streamer for surpassing the required number of new Colonial Era Historic or Educational programs presented annually. And we won The Ohanesian History Presentation Award, to the Chapter based on membership size, whose members collectively, orally make the most presentations on any aspect of the American Revolution to classes or groups in schools (K-12) in their respective geographic service area. That particular award came with a \$500.00 check! Photos below. Please forgive seeing me so much, but I was the only person from our chapter to attend.



Other business at the Summer BOM consisted of a Change of Command for our State Color Guard. Commander George Strunk past the Command to Stephen McKee, past President of Mecklenburg Chapter. George will be moving on to a National position. Several Compatriots received the Patriot Grave Marking Medal. If you would like to be one of those to receive this medal, there will be the opportunity to gain 8 grave markings locally before the end of the year. See SAR-DAR Happenings on page 4 for more information. Our last function of the day was to commission a new SAR Chapter, The Daniel Boone Chapter, Boone NC, is our newest Chapter. See photos below. HAZZAH



Our chapter has two grave markings planed in November for 5 Patriots. I hope as many members and Compatriots as possible attend these two events.

Grave marking number One, 5 November 2022, for Patriot Edwin Brown, at Watts-Bumgarner Cemetery, 339 Boone Gap Ln, Taylorsville NC, 28681.

Grave marking number Two, 19 November 2022, for Patriots William Fullwood Jr, John Gibbs, Abraham Renshaw and Lawrence Unger, at Obeth Cemetery, Lake James State Park Paddy's Creek Area, 7321 NC HWY 126 Nebo NC 28761.

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The Catawba Valley Chapter
of the
Sons of the American Revolution

“The Battle of Harlem Heights”

Most of the previous articles which have appeared in our Chapter Newsletter have dealt with events in and around our area in the Southern Campaign on the American Revolution. In this month’s installment, we will look at the Battle of Harlem Heights (New York) 16 September 1776. Although this was a costly one, it was General George Washington’s first victory.

On the morning of the battle, General Washington was composing a letter to the President of the Continental Congress. He was very pleased with where the Army had encamped as it was a strategic area, and would be easily defended from any British attack. The Army had retreated there after a terrible defeat at the Battle of Long Island, 17 March. Their encampment at the Heights of Harlem was located on the northern end of Manhattan.

Before Washington could complete his letter, an alarm went up in the camp, which alerted him that British soldiers had been seen heading north towards their position. Washington immediately dispatched Lieutenant Thomas Knowlton, and his Adjutant General Joseph Reed, along with 150 Rangers to intercept, and investigate this force. Washington rode two miles from the northern end of the encampment its southernmost point to see for himself the situation.

Upon arrival, Washington was met by Reed who had returned to tell him the Rangers had already made contact with the British regulars and were engaged in a skirmish. Reed encouraged Washington to call for reinforcements, however, before an order could be issued, the Rangers were retreating towards the American camp with the enemy troops close behind. The British were so close, Washington could hear the calls of their bugles. The Brits were not directing the troops to advance or deploy. Instead, they were playing “Gone Away”, which is the tune sounded when a fox has been killed, and the chase is over. It is unknown if this call was meant to mock the retreating troops or to insult Washington, as he had many foxhunts near Mount Vernon. No matter the reason, Reed stated this was a crown to their disgrace. (Author’s note: If you are not familiar with this tune, look it up. It is VERY annoying!)

Washington, not willing to acknowledge any humiliation, counterattacked with a 1000-man brigade straight into the British line. He then ordered the Rangers along with three companies of Virginia Continentals to work their way south around the right flank the attacking force. The plan was for them to move and not open fire until they were directly behind the British lines. Unfortunately, this force turned west too soon, and attacked the flank directly in the center of the line.

Seeing what Washington was attempting to accomplish, the British retreated. Casualties were high on both sides with a loss of 150 men, including Lieutenant Knowlton, who was mortally wounded. With the skirmish completed, Washington could complete his letter to the Congress. Even though he was disappointed that his men had failed to follow orders, this was still considered to be his first victory on the battlefield. The soldiers were equally pleased, as they had forced the British force from the field. Reed wrote his wife, “You can hardly conceive the change it has made in our Army.”

Side note: Come join the river crossing of the Overmountain Men at Sycamore Shoals State Park in Elizabethton, Tennessee on the weekend of 24-25 September. The actual reenactment crossing will be held on 25 September at 2 pm. This commemorates the beginning of the road the Battle of Kings Mountain.

Roy C Lightfoot

Please allow me 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.

lennon_0102@yahoo.com

Keep in mind, our next regular meeting is our annual meeting, Saturday, September 10th, 2022 at Palermo’s Family Italian & Greek Restaurant, 924 Conover Blvd W, Conover NC. Come be with us if you can. A meal may be ordered at 11:00, the meeting begins at Noon. Annual awards will be presented then.

Hope to see you there.

Find us at

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LOGISTICS

SAR-DAR Happenings

- ***Chapter Annual Meeting**, Saturday, 10 September 2022, 12:00 noon, Palermo's Family Italian & Greek Restaurant, 924 Conover Blvd W, Conover NC. This is our annual meeting and awards will be presented.
- ***Patriots Day Parade**, Friday, 16 September 2022, 9:00 am, South Newton Elementary School.
- ***Constitution Week**, Saturday, 17 September through Friday, 32 September 2022 we will be joining DAR n several events that week.
- ***Albert Keiser Memorial**, Sunday, 18 September 2022, 1:00 – 4:00 pm, Keiser Room, Hickory Salt Block
- ***Greenlee Crossing**, after a 2-year hiatus, this event returns on Saturday, 1 October 2022, 10:00 am, at 128 Greenlee Ford Rd. Morganton NC 28655. Please keep in mind that Judge's BBQ no longer exist so there will be no access to food there. There will also be a dedication that morning for an SAR Monument to commemorate the event.
- ***Battle of Kings Mountain**, Friday, 7 October 2022, at 10:00 am, 2625 Park Rd, Blacksburg, SC 29702.
- ***Battle of Shallow Ford**, Saturday, 8 October 2022, at 11:00 am, Historic Huntsville Methodist Church, 4214 Mt. Sinai Dr, Huntsville NC, Grave marking for 3 patriots after the service.
- ***Patriot Grave Marking**, Saturday, 5 November 2022, at 10:00 am, for Edwin Brown, Watts-Bumgarner Cemetery, 339 Boone Gap Ln, Taylorsville NC, 28681.
- ***Chapter Meeting**, Saturday, 12 November 2022, at 12:00 noon, Palermo's Family Italian & Greek Restaurant, 924 Conover Blvd W, Conover NC, 28613.
- ***Patriot Grave Marking**, Saturday, 19 November 2022, at 10:00 am, for William Fullwood Jr, John Gibbs, Abraham Renshaw and Lawrence Unger, at Obeth Cemetery, Lake James State Park Paddy's Creek Area, 7321 NC HWY 126 Nebo NC 28761
- ***Wreaths Across America**, Saturday, 17 December 2022, at 10:00 am, Western Carolina State Veterans Cemetery, 962 Old US 70 W, Black Mountain, NC 28711.

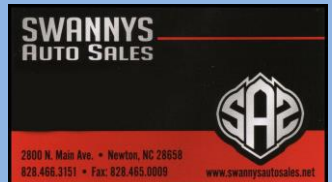
The Sons of the American Revolution

Is a nonpolitical, patriotic, educational 501c3 organization of men who have ancestors who fought for, or otherwise supported the War for independence from Great Britain that established the United States of America.

- Working to preserve our nation's past
- Assisting schools, teachers and the public
- Sustaining and preserving our history and constitutional principles

Membership is open to any male (no age limit) who can direct descent from a man or woman who contributed to our country's Independence. A patriot did not necessarily have to serve in the military, but might have supported the Revolution by paying a supplu tax, providing food for troops, serving as a juror, or being a local public servant.

The Catawba Coalition welcomes submissions, comments and/or suggestions. Please send them to lennon_0102@yahoo.com



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Did you Know?

General Nathanael Greene was born a Quaker, raised a pacifist and afflicted with asthma. Green was denied election as an officer in the Kentish Guard militia he helped to form in 1774 because of his limp. Greene taught himself to be a great soldier by reading books on military tactics, leadership and fortifications that he purchased from Knox on trips to Boston. He had never been in a battle in his life, yet Washington saw his talent. Greene was appointed the youngest brigadier general in the Continental Army in 1775 and was promoted to major general under Washington the following year.