Halifax Resolves Chapter – 2017

There was a busy start to the year of 2017 with President Wilson promoting the Brochure and Poster Contests in local schools. Programs were presented to Belmont Elementary, Cornerstone Christian, Manning Elementary, Northeast Academy, and Halifax Academy pertaining to the poster subject matter. Brochure contest subject matter and rules were presented to the eighth grade classes at Chaloner Middle School along with a three presentations of "From Mecklenburg to Halifax" to over 120 students.

At the January 11th Chapter Meeting, Sec./Treas. Steve Avent was presented with a Certificate of appreciation for his assistance during the previous year. Chaplain Rev. Duncan Jones was awarded a Chapter Meritorious Service Medal to recognize his many years of service to the chapter.

Historic Halifax Site Manager Bob Bemis addressed the chapter at the January 11th meeting about upcoming events at the site to include "The Occupation of Halifax", a two day event to be held in June. The chapter will co-sponsor the event. Mr. Bemis was also presented with a Certificate of Appreciation by Pres. Wilson.

Historic Halifax Site manager Bob Bemis and Chapter Pres. Ken Wilson

Compatriot David Gammon represented the chapter at the Battle of Cowan's Ford and the winter Board of Managers meeting on January 28th. Simultaneously, Compatriot J. Rives manning was awarding an Eagle Scout Recognition certificate to Aaron Boone of Troop 605 in Henderson while Pres. Wilson was calling in to the BOM to demonstrate the Free Conference Call program to the Board.

Compatriot J. Rives Manning and Eagle Scout Aaron Boone of Troop 605 in Henderson, NC

President Wilson presented a program about the SAR to the Roanoke Rapids Optimist Club on January 30th.

The Crossing of the Dan Ceremony on February 18th was attended by President Wilson along with eight other NC SAR Compatriots.

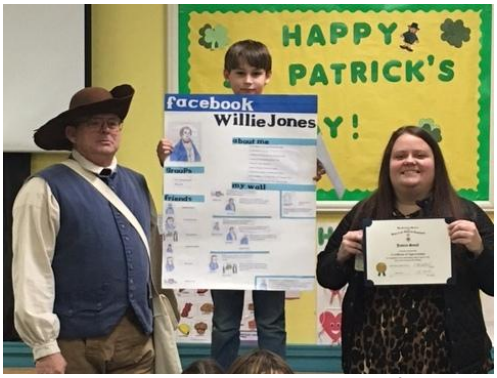
During the month of February, Chapter VP R.J. Myrick awarded SAR Flag Certificates to the Summerwood Subdivision and Camp Willow Springs on Lake Gaston, the Sunbrella Corp. in Norlina, Halifax Community College, USCG Aux. Flotilla #93 on Lake Gaston and Mr. David Cook of Roanoke Rapids. In addition he presented certificates to Englewood Baptist Church, NC Wesleyan College and Sheetz Store #447 in Rocky Mount. A Flag Certificate was also presented to Northeast Academy in Lasker, NC by Pres. Wilson.

President Wilson represented the chapter at the 241st Anniversary of the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge on February 25th. President-General J. Michael Tomme was the keynote speaker.

Chapter VP R. J. Myrick presents an SAR Flag Certificate to Tasha Bryant of Sheetz #447 in Rocky Mount, NC

Prior to the March 8th chapter meeting, the chapter received 49 poster entries and 61 brochure entries. During the final round of judging at the chapter meeting, Manning Elementary School 4th grade student was declared the poster winner with his entry about Willie Jones. The brochure winner was Sierra Lynn Gibbs, an eighth grade student, from Chaloner Middle School. These were the largest number of entries the chapter has ever received for either of the contest. The brochure entries were the only entries in the North Carolina Society.

(L-R) Chapter President Ken Wilson, Brochure winner Sierra Lynn Gibbs, Social Studies Teacher James Rook, and Principal Jeffery White.



(L-R) Ken Wilson, Poster winner Elliott Sass and 4th grade teacher Jessica Small

On March 14th, President Wilson travelled to Northeast Academy in Lasker, NC to present a program on the U.S. Flag to the 4th & 5th grade classes and the "From Mecklenburg to Halifax" program to the 8th & 12th grade History classes.

President Wilson represented the chapter at the 236th Anniversary of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. President-General J. Michael Tomme was the keynote speaker.

At the invitation of Ms. Charman Pearson of the Tar River Academy in Rocky Mount, NC, President Wilson presented the Program "From Mecklenburg to Halifax" to two classes. Ms. Pearson received several SAR CDs/DVDs relating to the Revolutionary War.

President Wilson went before the Halifax board of Commissioners on April 3rd requesting a proclamation from the board in support of the SAR ceremony commemorating the Halifax Resolves. The request was granted by a unanimous vote. While at the meeting President Wilson awarded the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal to Halifax County Sheriff's Department Major Neil Aycock.

Halifax County Sheriff's Office Major Neil Aycock receives the SAR Law enforcement Commendation Medal from Halifax Resolves Chapter President Ken Wilson

An April 5th joint flag retirement was held at Roanoke Rapids HS with the Social Studies department, the Jacket Battalion AJROTC and the Halifax Resolves Chapter NC SAR. The ceremony, written by the students, was attended by over 200 students and faculty members. Fifty six flags were retired and the ashes buried by the Burn Master.

Participants in the Joint Flag Retirement at Roanoke Rapids High School

On April 6th Pres. Wilson travelled to Halifax Academy and talked with the students about U.S. Flag History, Etiquette, and Proper Folding of the Flag.

Halifax Academy 5th grade students learned to properly fold a U. S. flag during a presentation made by HRC Pres, Ken Wilson

A reception was held for NSSAR Sec.-Gen. Larry T. Guzy on April 11th at the Hilton Garden Inn in Roanoke Rapids followed by a dinner at Ralph's BBQ. The Secretary-General was representing the President-General at the 241st Anniversary of the Halifax Resolves on April 12th.

The April 12th ceremony celebrating the 241st Anniversary of the Halifax Resolves was held on the site of the Colonial Courthouse in Historic Halifax, NC. Secretary-General Larry T. Guzy was the keynote speaker. Representatives from the North Carolina, Virginia and South Carolina societies were present as well as the DAR, CAR, NC SR, AMVETS, American Legion Post 98, Halifax County officials and the 5th grade from Halifax Academy all of whom rendered honors. A post event luncheon was held at the Halifax United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

Participants in the 241st Anniversary Celebration of the Halifax Resolves

On April 13th, President Wilson spoke to a class at Roanoke Rapids HS about the road to independence "From Mecklenburg to Halifax". History Teacher Edward Gardner received SAR CD's/DVD's about the Revolutionary War.

The Law Enforcement Commendation Medal was presented to Roanoke Rapids Deputy Chief of Police E.A. "Andy" Jackson at the April 18th City Council meeting by Pres. Wilson.

The NC SAR Annual Meeting was held in Greenville, NC April 21-22. Chapter President Ken Wilson and Compatriot David Gammon represented the chapter. At the awards banquet, Compatriot Gammon received a Certificate of Appreciation for his work as the State Genealogist. Pres. Wilson received the State Distinguished Service Medal. The chapter received several awards. We received streamers for Flag Certificates in 2016, 95% Retention in 2016, 1st place Electronic Scrapbook, Honorable Mention Hard Copy Scrapbook, 1st place Small Chapter Americanism and winner of the Thomas N. "Nat" Clark Outstanding Small Chapter.

Davis Gammon and Ken Wilson with the awards received at the NC SAR Annual Meeting

A Patriot Grave marking Ceremony was held by the chapter on April 29th honoring Patriot William Battle of Nash Co. Pres. Wilson was the Master of Ceremonies and NC SAR President George K. Strunk was in attendance. Colors were posted by the Combined NC SAR Color Guard. Representatives from several chapters were in attendance as well as members of the DAR and SR. Luke Riggan of Roanoke Rapids HS played "Taps".

Participants at the Patriot William Battle Grave Marking

JROTC Outstanding Cadet awards were presented by Pres. Wilson to Cadet Kristen Cronkhite of Nash Central HS on May 3rd and Cadet David Lynn of Southern Nash HS on May 4th. On May 16th he traveled to Warren Co. HS to present the award to Cadet Caleb Evans.

Nash Central HS Outstanding JROTC Cadet Kristen Cronkhite and HRC Pres. Ken Wilson

At the May 10th chapter meeting David Gammon presented a program entitled "Interpreting Court Minutes" that illustrated some of the interesting "gossip" that could be gleaned from these records.

Compatriot David Gammon presented a program to the Halifax County Genealogical Society entitled "Ten Reasons to Read Court Minutes" on May 13th.

Also on May 16th, Pres. Wilson attended the Roanoke Rapids Graded School District Board meeting to present Certificates of Recognition on behalf of the board to Chapter Poster winner Elliott Sass and Chapter Brochure winner Sierra Lynn Gibbs.

The chapter co-sponsored a Flag Retirement Ceremony with the Alamance Battleground Chapter preceding the Patriots Day ceremony at Alamance Battleground on May 20th. Alamance BG Past President Dr. Samuel C. Powell and HRC President Ken Wilson conducted the ceremony. Eighty-six flags were retired with honor and the ashes buried by the Burn Master.

President Wilson represented the chapter at the 21st Annual Patriots' Day Ceremony at Alamance Battleground. He presented the chapter Wreath and participated in the Color Guard.

Following the ceremony, the judging for the NC SAR Poster and Brochure contests was conducted with the chapter winning both contests.

NC SAR Contingent at Patriots' Day Ceremony
Alamance Battleground
May 20, 2017

Roanoke Rapids HS Social Studies teacher Mr. Seth Warren was awarded the Silver Good Citizenship Medal for his work in and out of the classroom on May 25th. Pres Wilson made the presentation.

President Wilson took part in the Memorial Day Ceremony at Cedarwood Cemetery in Roanoke Rapids on May 29th by reading the meaning of the 13 folds of the U.S. flag as Boy Scouts from Troop 146 folded the flag for presentation. The chapter wreath

was presented by the president at the conclusion of the ceremony.

HRC Pres. Ken Wilson presents the SAR Silver Good Citizenship Medal to Roanoke Rapids HS Social Studies teacher Seth Warren for his work with the students both inside and outside of the classroom.

HRC Contingent at the Memorial Day Ceremony; (L-R) Wes Tripp, Rev. Duncan Jones, E.C. Bobbitt, Ken Wilson and J. Rives Manning

The NC SAR Poster and Brochure winner's awards were made by Pres. Wilson on June 2nd. Poster winner Elliott Sass and teacher Ms. Jessica Small received their checks at Manning Elementary School. Brochure winner Sierra Lynn Gibbs and teacher Mr. James Rook received their checks at Chaloner Middle School.

Eagle Scout Kyler Rogerson, Troop 146, received his Eagle Scout Recognition Certificate at his Court of Honor on June 3rd.

HRC Pres. Ken Wilson and Eagle Scout Kyler Rogerson

On June 7th Pres. Wilson spoke to over 120 5th grade students at Belmont Elementary School concerning U.S. Flag History, Flag Etiquette and Proper Folding of the Flag. Some of the students were given the opportunity to fold a flag.

HRC Pres. Ken Wilson speaks to 5th grade students at Belmont Elementary School.

At the invitation of the Halifax County Genealogical Society Ken Wilson presented a program about the Battle of Kings Mountain at their June 10th meeting.

Eagle Scout Michael Ketoff was recognized with the Eagle Scout Recognition Certificate at his June 27th Court of Honor.

Regional VP Chris Grimes presented a program on Edward Buncombe and the 5th NC Regiment of the Continental Line to the chapter at the July 12th chapter meeting.

President Wilson awarded the Eagle Scout Recognition Certificate to Dillon McCoy Rowell of Troop 146 on July 25th.

Compatriot David Gammon represented the chapter at the Summer Board of Managers meeting on August 19th in Winston-Salem. David accepted the awards the chapter received at the National Congress. We received the Small Chapter (1-49 mbrs.) Liberty Bell Award in recognition of the chapter's participation in outreach education efforts and acknowledgement of community leaders for their efforts to perpetuate the efforts of the SAR. This is the first time we have received this prestigious award for Americanism. The next award was the President-General's Cup for Small Chapters (1-49 mbrs.). This award recognizes the chapter that best achieves the goals of both the President-General's and Americanism Awards. This is the second time we have received this award (2013) for the best overall program in the nation for small chapters. The chapter received its 9th Partners in Patriotism certificate for joining with veterans groups in sponsoring events such as Memorial Day and Veterans Day ceremonies. The last award was a star for our Patriot Biographies Streamer.

The Halifax Resolves Chapter NC SAR and the Halifax Resolves NC DAR Chapter so-sponsored a Constitution Day display at the Scotland Neck Library on September 9th.

Ken Wilson and David Gammon with chapter awards from the National Congress during the Sept. 12th chapter meeting

President Wilson, along with Compatriots Wes Tripp and E.C. Bobbitt attended the 9-11 ceremony in Roanoke Rapids.

The September 12th chapter meeting held in Halifax was a business meeting in which there was a discussion of the chapter youth activities and the new slate of officers was approved with the installation to be conducted at the November 8th meeting by NC SAR President George K. Strunk.

A Compatriot Grave Marking Ceremony for NC SAR Past President Timothy W. Berly was held in Raleigh on September 23rd. HRC President Wilson attended and presented the chapter wreath.

On Sept. 25th Pres. Wilson presented a program on Revolutionary War attire and weapons to students at Roanoke Rapids HS.

A Joint Flag Retirement was held Roanoke Rapids HS on September 27th. The Social Studies Department, American Legion Post 98 and the chapter joined together, supported by the Roanoke Rapids Fire Dept. and Historic Halifax, to retire 27 U. S. flags

Participants in Joint Flag Retirement at Roanoke Rapids HS on September 27th

Nash Central HS Social Studies teacher Mr. Renny Taylor invited Pres. Wilson to speak to his AP History class about the SAR Knight Essay and the Battle of Kings Mountain on October 3rd.

The chapter conducted a Compatriot Grave Marking Ceremony for NC SAR Past President Dr. Ralph Hardee Rives on October 14th at Elmwood Cemetery in Enfield. Dr. Rives was a member of the now defunct Rocky Mount Chapter and served as the

NC SAR President from 1972-1974. NC SAR Senior VP Mr. James Becker was in attendance and brought greetings from the State Society. The Combined NC SAR Color Guard presented the colors. Master of Ceremonies Ken Wilson was the keynote speaker. Wreaths were presented by several chapters along with the DAR.

Participants in the Dr. Ralph Hardee Rives Grave Marking

Pres. Wilson and Compatriot J. Rives Manning partnered with the Warren DAR Chapter, AmVets Post 101 and the AmVets Dept. of NC Commander to conduct a Veterans Day ceremony at Macon United Methodist Church on November 5th.

(L-R) HRC Pres. Ken Wilson, AmVets Post 101 Commander Nina Hutchins, Jewel Renwick, AmVets Post 101 Ladies Aux. President Marsha Fenwick, AmVets Dept. of NC Commander Keith Hutchins and Compatriot J. Rives Manning. Not Shown Rev Betty Willis, Warren DAR Registrar

The Halifax Resolves Chapter Annual Meeting was held on November 8th in Halifax, NC. NC SAR President George K. Strunk was in attendance and assisted with the chapter awards before installing the new officers. Halifax UMC Ladies President Ms. Linda Presley and Compatriot Geoff Pittard received a Certificate of Appreciation. Compatriots J. Rives manning and E.C. Bobbitt received the Bronze Good Citizenship medal. Compatriots Steve Avent, Rev. Duncan Jones and David Gammon received oak leaf clusters for their Bronze Roger Sherman Medal. Roanoke Rapids Fire Chief Stacy Coggins was awarded the Fire Safety Commendation Medal. Roanoke Rapids Chief of Police Chuck Hasty and Halifax County Sheriff Wes Tripp were awarded the Law Enforcement Commendation Medal. Chapter President Ken Wilson was awarded his Delegates Pin for his support of the SAR Foundation.

NC SAR Pres. George K. Strunk and RRPD Chief Chuck Hasty

2018-2019 Chapter Officers (L-R) President David Gammon, VP Geoff Pittard, and Chaplain Rev. Duncan Jones. Not Shown Sec.-Treas. Steve Avent

The November 11th Veterans Day Ceremony in Veterans Park in Roanoke Rapids was co-sponsored by the chapter. Past Pres. Ken Wilson delivered the President-General's Proclamation to the gathering. Also in attendance were Compatriots J. Rives manning, E.C. Bobbitt and Rev. Duncan Jones.

A Joint Flag retirement ceremony was held on November 18th at Veterans Park. The chapter, American Legion Post 98, along with BSA Troops 144 and 411 retired 167 flags honorably and the ashes buried by the Burn Master. The Roanoke Rapids Fire Dept. supervised the event.

The Chapter held its annual Knight Essay contest and had a record number of entries. Of the 40 entries, 30 were from the Roanoke Rapids HS AP History class and 10 from the Nash Central HS AP History class. There were 3 tied scores in the top 10 entries. Morgan Davis of Roanoke Rapids HS was the winner. Chapter Knight Chairman Ken Wilson presented Morgan with the Chapter Level winner's medal and certificate accompanied by a check for $100.00. Due to the tight competition in the top 10 scores, it was decided to give Honorable Mention Certificates to these entries.

Knight Essay winner Morgan Davis and Knight Essay Chairman Ken Wilson

The chapter hosted the Combined NC SAR Color Guard along with the NC SR Color Guard at a pre-parade luncheon at Ralph's BBQ in Weldon before marching in the Roanoke Rapids Christmas Parade. This was the 9th consecutive year the SAR has led the parade.

The Combined NC SAR and NC SR Color Guards lead the Roanoke Rapids Christmas Parade for the 9th consecutive year