



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

Greetings Patriots. Catawba Valley ended 2022 with the Wreaths Across America Commemoration at Western Carolina State Veterans Cemetery in Black Mountain NC on 17 December 2022. It was a bit crisp that Saturday morning, but the weather and the participants were fabulous. I have been a disabled veteran for 50 years, so Veterans Commemorations of all types are important to me, and should be to all Americans.

In years past, I have performed this service alone or with one, sometimes 2 other people from our Chapter. This year, there were five Chapter members in uniform, along with members of Col Alexander Erwin Chapter from Morganton. We in fact had enough people to march out as an Honor Guard and fire a Musket Volley. As always, I am proud of our Members and Color Guard. These fine Patriots reflect our Chapter and Society in fine fashion. Please enjoy the photos below.



The end of the year paperwork, as always, is overwhelming, but at last, finished. Our Chapter's documents, like many others being so large, are examined for corrections and exclusions. The state President and I looked it over, eliminated a few things, moved a few things to the proper locations in the form, and added a few things that had been missed. The Americanism Report is turned in in 3 parts. A PDF and an Excel form which contains the Stark Report, which reflects in the Americanism Report, which is a smaller Excel form than last year, but is still 13 tabs and as much as 300 lines in some tabs. In 2021, our Chapter total Americanism was 8720 and 5535 for President's Streamer. We ended 2022, after moving a few things around, with total Americanism at 17708 and 5457 for President's Streamer. Thank you everyone for a great year. Now, let's tackle 2023!

Our next regular meeting is, Saturday, January 21st 2023, at Palermo's Family Italian & Greek Restaurant, 924 Conover Blvd W, Conover NC. This is our first regular meeting of the year. Come be with us if you can. A meal may be ordered at 11:00, the meeting begins at Noon. Hope to see you there.

Find us at

https://www.facebook.com/catawbavalleyncssar/?epa=SEARCH_BOX
<https://www.ncssar.org/chapters/catawba-valley/>

Ben Setser
Chapter President



10 January 2023

Volume 4 Issue 1

Chapter Officers

President
Ben Setser

Vice President
John Jay Cline

Secretary
Roy C Lightfoot

Treasurer
Dan Beal

Historian
Rhod Reep

Past President & Registrar
Jack Bowman





**Contributing
Editor**

**Roy
C.
Lightfoot**

“General Daniel Morgan: The Genius of The Battle of Cowpens”

About a year ago, in another article, we looked at the Battle of Cowpens, and its significance to the Patriots’ victory in the American Revolution. It is only short drive down I-85 into South Carolina, and if you have never been there, it is well worth the visit. To review, there were two major events which transpired at this location of importance. The first, the Patriot forces gathered here prior to the Battle of Kings Mountain in October 1780. The second was the Battle of Cowpens itself on 17 January 1781. Under the command of General Daniel Morgan, the Patriot force numbering approximately 2000, met and routed the British force numbering approximately 1150, under the command of LtCol Banastre Tarleton. Morgan devised tactics which are still taught today, and we will look at his accomplishments.

Brigadier General Daniel Morgan (1736-1802) was born in New Jersey to a Welsh family, and at the age of seventeen, after a disagreement with his father, moved to the Shenandoah Valley, eventually settling on the frontier near present-day Winchester, Virginia. Morgan was a prosperous Virginia farmer, pioneer, soldier, and politician.

While on the frontier, Morgan worked at clearing land, running a sawmill, and worked as a teamster, and after a little less than two years, had saved enough money to buy his own team. With extra wagons, this business thrived, and he went onto serve as a civilian teamster attached to the British army during the French and Indian War, 1754-63. He worked with Daniel Boone, who was sometimes said to be a cousin, and it can be speculated, this was when he gained his nickname “The Old Wagoner”. During the retreat from Fort Duquesne, he was punished with five hundred lashes, which was usually fatal, for attacking a British officer, and thusly, gained his disdain for British authorities, and their treatment of provincials. Later, when he led troops, he banned flogging. He met and married Abigail Curry, who taught him to read and write, and they had two daughters.

Morgan joined the provincial forces and served as a rifleman assigned to protect the western settlements from French-backed Indian raids. He led a force in relief of Fort Edwards, and directed its defense afterwards. After the end of the war, he purchased farmland between Winchester, and Battletown, and by 1774, was so prosperous that he owned ten slaves. In the same year, he served in Dunmore’s War, taking part in the raids of Shawnee villages in the Ohio Country.

In April 1775, the Continental Congress created the army, and called on the middle colonies to form ten rifle companies. In late June, Virginia agreed to send two in support of the Siege of Boston, and Morgan was chosen unanimously to form and command one of those. He recruited ninety-six men in ten days, which was larger than authorized strength, and his company of marksmen were known as “Morgan’s Riflemen”. He marched the company to Boston, and covered the distance of six hundred miles in twenty-one days, arriving five days ahead of a rival company. Morgan’s men were used as snipers after completing training, and were positioned to dispatch mainly British officers. This caused great outrage with the British army, and even General George Washington disapproved of this way of war.

Captain Morgan’s rifle company served at the Siege of Boston, 1775, and under the command of General Benedict Arnold, they participated in the failed invasion of Canada in 1776, where he was captured, and later paroled in January 1777. Upon his release, he was informed he had been promoted to colonel for his bravery during the invasion of Quebec. He was ordered to raise a new infantry regiment, which became known as the 11th Virginia Regiment. In June

Continued on Page 3



Southern Homes
of The Carolinas
Experienced. Professional. Realtors

John Jay Cline
Realtor®/Broker
828-466-1000 Office
828-234-6418 Cell
cline@charter.net

"Cline Sold Mine"
2322 Hwy 16
Denver, NC 28037




BENNETT
FUNERAL SERVICE

ESTABLISHED IN 2013
502 1st Ave S
P.O. Box 232
Conover, NC 28613
(828) 465-2025

7878 NC Hwy 16
P.O. Box 234
Newton, NC 28658
(828) 465-2111

Robbie Bennett
President
www.bennettfuneralservice.com

The Catawba Valley Chapter
of the
Sons of the American Revolution

he was given command of the Provisional Rifle Corps, a force of five hundred riflemen chosen from Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia regiments. Many of those from Virginia were from Morgan's own 11th Regiment. In August, under orders from Washington, who had complete confidence in him, Morgan took his troops with the mission to harass General William Howe's rearguard, which they did during their entire withdrawal across New Jersey.

Morgan continued his service, and was instrumental at the Battle of Saratoga, September – October 1777 still under the command of Arnold. During this time, he saw action at the Freeman's Farm engagement, 19 September, where his riflemen, even though it appeared the day had been lost, were able to keep the British from reforming with the use of accurate rifle fire. Morgan's next action came on 7 October at Bemis Heights, when he was assigned to the western flank where the British planned to turn it. Morgan's troops held their own, and forced the British to retreat. After Saratoga, he returned to Philadelphia to rejoin Washington's main army.

Throughout 1778, Morgan's unit was responsible for the harassment of the British army, and supply lines. Although he was not involved in the Battle of Monmouth, he actively pursued the British column, and captured many prisoners, and supplies. In September, the Virginia Continental Line was reorganized, and Morgan was made the colonel of the 7th Virginia Regiment. During this time, he became increasingly dissatisfied with Congress because he had constantly been passed over for promotion to brigadier in favor of men with less combat experience but better political connections, which he had not cultivated. While still a colonel, he had temporarily commanded a brigade without the promotion. In addition, his health, most likely sciatica and rheumatism, continued to nag him from the abuse taken during the attempted invasion of Canada. He resigned in June 1779 and returned home.

In June 1780, he was urged to re-enter the service by General Horatio Gates, however, he declined the offer, citing he felt his usefulness would be limited as he would be outranked by several militia officers. After Gates' disaster at the Battle of Camden in August 1780, he pushed all aside to join the Southern command at Hillsborough, North Carolina. Meeting Gates there, he was given the command of the light infantry corps, and promoted to brigadier general on 13 October. In December, Gates was replaced by General Nathanael Greene. Greene did not change Morgan's assignment but did give him new orders when they met in Charlotte, North Carolina. Greene sent Morgan with six hundred men into South Carolina's back country to forage and harass the enemy while avoiding direct battle in order to buy time while he rebuilt the force. When the plan became apparent, Lord Cornwallis sent Tarleton to track him down, and after discussion with militia, who had already fought Tarleton, Morgan decided to disobey orders, and provoke a battle.

Morgan chose the Cowpens as the place to make this stand, along with militia under Andrew Pickens, and William Washington's dragoons, on the morning of 17 January 1781. His plan was to take advantage of Tarleton's tendency for quick action, and his disdain for the militia. Forming three lines comprised of marksmen, militia, and the Continental Line respectively, Morgan's plan was put into play. The first line would fire two volleys, and retire to the second line, who would do the same, and retire to behind the regulars. No one had ever initiated this tactic before. Only once they felt truly threatened would they retreat behind the Continentals, thus, inviting a premature charge by the British. Once they had accomplished this, the militia would circle behind the regulars, and close in on Tarleton's flank creating the double envelopment. Tarleton fell into the trap, and his force was decimated. For his actions, Morgan received land and an estate which had belonged to a Tory. The damp and cold of the campaign had aggravated his back and legs, and in early February, he returned to Virginia. He made only one more brief campaign during the Revolution where he joined Lafayette in Virginia in July in pursuit of Tarleton, although they were unsuccessful.

Morgan resigned his commission after serving for over six and a half years, and at 46 years of age, he returned to his home. He turned his life to investing, and eventually built an estate of 250, 000 acres where he built a new home naming it "Saratoga" in 1782, using Hessian prisoner of war labor. Congress awarded him a gold medal in 1790 commemorating his victory at the Cowpens. He returned one last time to service in 1794 to help suppress the Whiskey Rebellion, and was promoted to major general. Serving under General Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee, he led one wing of the militia into Western Pennsylvania, which because of such a show of force, quashed the rebellion without a shot being fired. He continued to command the force of some 1,200 men that remained until 1795.

Morgan ran for election to the United States House of Representatives as a Federalist losing in 1794, however, he won election in 1796 by seventy per cent and served from 1797 to 1799.

Morgan died in 1802 at his daughter's home in Winchester and was buried in the Old Stone Presbyterian Church cemetery. His body was moved to the Mt. Hebron Cemetery in Winchester after the Civil War. His wife, Abigail died in 1816, and was buried in Logan County, Kentucky.

Counties in Virginia, Alabama, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, Ohio, and Tennessee are all named for Daniel Morgan. In addition, the city of Morganfield, Kentucky, and Morganton, North Carolina bear his name.

Roy C. Lightfoot



The Sons of the American Revolution Catawba Coalition



A monthly Newsletter for
The Catawba Valley Chapter of
The Sons of the American Revolution

LOGISTICS

SAR-DAR Happenings

- ***Battle of Cowpens**, Saturday, 14 January 2023, 10:30 am, Chapter Wreath Laying Ceremony at General Daniel Morgan's statue, Daniel Morgan Square, Spartanburg, SC.
- ***Battle of Cowpens**, Tuesday, 17 January 2023, 10:00 am, National SAR Wreath Laying Ceremony at the National Monument in front of the Visitors Center. Cowpens National Battlefield, 4001 Chesnee Hwy, Chesnee, SC.
- ***Chapter Executive Board Meeting**, Wednesday, 18 January 2023, 6:30 pm, Village Inn Pizza 2316 East Main St, Lincolnton, NC 28092.
- ***Chapter Regular Meeting**, Saturday, 21 January 2023, 12:00 Noon, Palermo's Family Italian & Greek Restaurant, 924 Conover Blvd W, Conover NC 28613.
- ***Battle of Cowan's Ford, Winter BOM**, Saturday, 28 January 2023, 8:00 am. Hopewell Presbyterian Church, 10500 Beatties Ford Rd, Huntersville NC. Breakfast 8:00 – 9:00, Indoor Program 9:00 – 10:00, Wreath Laying Ceremony 10:00 – 11:00, Winter BOM 11:00 onward.
- ***Second Annual George Washington Birthday Tea**, Sunday, 19 February 2023, 2:00 pm at the Lincoln Cultural Center 403 East Main Street Lincolnton, N.C. 28092.
- ***Battle of Moore's Creek**, Saturday, 25 February 2023, 10:00 am. 200 Moore's Creek Dr, Currie, NC 28435.
- ***The 253rd Anniversary of The Boston Massacre**, Saturday, 4 March 2023, 11:00 am at Historic Lincoln County Courthouse, 1 Court Square, Lincolnton NC 28092.
- ***Patriot's Day**, Monday, 17 April 2023.

The Catawba Coalition welcomes submissions, comments and/or suggestions.

Please send them to

lennon_0102@yahoo.com

Family Healthcare Practice, PLLC
"Healthcare Where The Patient Matters Most"

KIMBERLY H. CLINE, FNP-PC

Sick ? Get Treatment Today!
Accepting Most Insurances. No insurance? No Problem
130 1st Street West Conover, NC 28613
Phone: (828) 466-3000 Fax: (828) 464-3281

130 1st St. West, Conover
NC 28613, 828-466-3000

Did you Know?

There was a total of seven tribes that were actively involved in the Revolutionary War. Most of them favored the British and chose to side with them but there were still tribes that remained neutral.

This was in the hope that the British would stop pushing into the Native American territories if they won the war. There were some that did fight alongside the Continental Army.

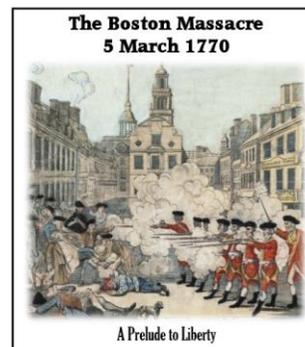
No representatives from Native tribes were present at all during the peace talks and so the Americans were granted land in a region that was inhabited mostly by the Native Americans.

After the war, a rapid expansion by the Americans saw them brutally take the land and inhabit it themselves.



Catawba Valley Chapter is pleased to announce we are again joining with Jacob Forney DAR for the Second Annual George Washington Tea, Sunday, 19 February 2023, 2:00 pm at the Lincoln Cultural Center 403 East Main Street Lincolnton, N.C. 28092.

Catawba Valley Chapter's, 250th Anniversary Celebrations will begin again on Saturday, 4 March 2023 at 11:00 am, with The 253rd Anniversary of The Boston Massacre at Historic Lincoln County Courthouse, 1 Court Square, Lincolnton NC 28092.



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 supply tax, providing food for troops, serving as a juror, or being a local public servant.

Join Today