

# The Old North State



Newsletter of the North Carolina Society of the Sons of the American Revolution • Vol. 26 No. 1 • January 2023

## President's Message

Jay A. DeLoach, RDML, USN, Ret.  
President NCSSAR



NC Compatriots,

Happy New Year and welcome to 2023! We have weathered another year in the Old North State. The Corona

virus continues to linger and hamper some chapter meetings and commemorations. But, like our forefathers, we are battling back against health challenges. George Washington battled smallpox among the troops during the winter at Valley Forge. He had them inoculated with cowpox that helped build an immunity to the deadly disease. When morale was low and the Continental Army had dwindled to its lowest level, Washington devised and executed a bold plan that successfully attacked the Hessians in Trenton after crossing the icy Delaware River at night without losing a soul.

In the past year, we have seen an extraordinary number of grave markings honoring our Patriot Ancestors. In conjunction, at the 2022 National Congress in Savannah, we captured over 60 awards and recognitions at the State, chapter, and individual levels. We capped off 2022 with the chartering of the Col. Daniel Boone Chapter in Boone under the leadership of Chapter President Robert Crum, a direct descendent of the legendary frontiersman himself.

In 2026, we will host the National Congress. This will be an unusually special honor, in that our nation will observe the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Signing of the Declaration of Inde-

pendence in 2026 as well. The Sheraton Greensboro Hotel at Four Seasons/Koury Convention Center has been selected as the site for our Congress. The Sheraton is one of the largest hotels in NC that is centrally located and home of the site of Battle of Guilford Courthouse. We will definitely have to roll out the red carpet



and put on a grand show for all guests coming from around the country and the world. Our fundraising efforts are coming along splendidly and will aptly support the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary gifts to the National SAR and the State SAR that are traditionally provided for this special occasion.

In preparation for our 2026 Congress, we are asking NC Compatriots to consider volunteering at upcoming Congresses to gain experience in handling various key tasks. The next Congress will be held in Orlando, FL on July 13-20, 2023. The Florida Congress Planning Committee has posted volunteer positions at their 2023 Florida Congress website at <https://bit.ly/3hUCITG>. Click on the "Volunteer" link in the upper right of the page. Next, click on "SignUpGenius," then "Create a Sign Up." Once

done, select the day and volunteer job of your choice. If you plan to attend, reserve your hotel room now by accessing hotel reservations on the same website. Registration for Congress activities will open May 2023.

Finally, we are only 15 shy of our goal of enlisting 76 in the *NCSSAR Minutemen Company*, a fundraising initiative for the 2026 National Congress in North Carolina. Consider participating by making a tax-deductible donation of \$1,000 lump sum or four annual installments of \$250. Mail checks payable to NCSSAR to Minutemen Co., c/o David Alls, 2936 S. Legacy Park Blvd., Fort Mill, SC 29707. Email [NCSSARMinutemen@gmail.com](mailto:NCSSARMinutemen@gmail.com) for more information.

Yours in Patriotism,  
Jay

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## Membership Update

### NCSSAR Welcomes 37 New Members (Oct. 1, 2022 through Dec. 2, 2022)

BAKER, Scott #224175  
CHAPMAN, Rodley #223943  
CORNWELL, Lamar #224128  
ELLIOTT, Stephen #224472  
EVANS III, Charles #224741  
FITZ, Kenneth #224312  
FORTENBERRY, Ken. #224018  
GARVIN, Jacob #223945  
GARVIN, Patrick #223946  
GELORME, Thomas #214390  
GOODWIN, Connor #214668  
GOODWIN, David #214669  
GWYN, Evans #214235  
HAMPTON, Curtis #214238  
HANZAKER, Chris. #215219  
HAWKS, Harlan #214664  
HELMER, Keith #224021  
HICKMAN, Danny #223946  
HINSON, Eddie #215216  
HOWARD, Thomas #215468  
HOYLE, Loy #221479  
KIMBALL, Kenneth #224473  
LINK, Andrew #224020  
PHILLIPS, Ricky #224250  
REECE, Frank #224480  
SHOWMAN, Ryan #224126  
SHOWMAN, Waylon #224127  
SKEEIS, Jason #224174  
SMITH, Benjamin #224476  
SMITH, Kirby #224475  
SMITH III, Kirby #224474  
STENSVAD, Bryan #224477  
TROY, Guy #224411  
WHITTAKER, Anderson #214232  
WHITTAKER, Russell #214231  
WILBER, John #214392  
WILBER, Joshua #214391

### NCSSAR Extends its Deepest Thoughts and Prayers to the Families of the Following Compatriots who Passed Away Since Sept. 9, 2022

BEAVER, Guy M. Jr.

## NCSSAR Membership Inquiries

Since October 1, NCSSAR has received 30 inquiries about SAR membership. Chapters and inquiry counts include the following: Alamance Battleground-0; Albemarle-2; Bethabara-2; Battle of King's Mtn.-1; Colson's Mill-0; Blue Ridge-1; Catawba Valley-0; Col. Alex. Erwin-2; Col. Alex. Lillington-0; Gen. Frances Nash-0; Gen. George Washington-2; Halifax Resolves-0; Isaac Carter-0; Lower Cape Fear-1; le Marquis de Lafayette-2; Lumber River-0; Lt. Col. John Phifer-0; Mecklenburg-8; Old North State-1; Nathanael Greene-1; New Bern-0; Raleigh-7; Salisbury-0; Sandhills-0; LTC Felix Walker-0; Western Waters-0; and Yadkin Valley-0.

Some of these individual inquiries have the potential for extended family members that would allow for multiple new SAR members. Compatriots should ask about others when assisting inquiries. Remember that the National Family Plan covers a broad range of family members—sons, fathers, grandsons, and even nephews.

Potential member inquiries are automatically forwarded to the chapter President and Registrar for action. Note DAR assistance on a Finders Form and attach to the SAR application.

Some of the current contact information at the NCSSAR is outdated, and some chapters are not getting the inquiries. So, chapter leaders need to inform the Membership Chair of contact information ([Thornhill@embarqmail.com](mailto:Thornhill@embarqmail.com)). Let's all work together to increase membership across the State. Our goal is 250 new members a year, not an impossible number if everyone pitches in and doesn't expect others to do all the work.

**JOHN O. THORNHILL, Chair**  
**Membership Committee NCSSAR**



# Chapter News

## Bethabara Chapter

The Bethabara Chapter commemorated the 242nd anniversary of the 1780 American Revolution Battle of Shallow Ford on October 8, 2022. The ceremony was held at the historic Huntsville Methodist Church in Yadkin County. Compatriot Fred Learned, Past President of the Chapter and Immediate Past President NCSSAR, led the observance. Over sixty-five SAR Compatriots, including nearly a dozen SAR Color Guard members and at least ten DAR Chapter representatives and guests, were in attendance.



Following the ceremony, attendees traveled to the nearby Clingman Family Cemetery for a grave marking ceremony honoring Patriots Jane Johnstone Pattillo and her two husbands Lt. Col. Robert Lanier and Capt. Francis Poindexter. The ceremony included SAR Color Guards and musket volleys. Ms. Anne Clingman White (pictured below) and her family, descendants of the Patriots, participated in the ceremony and dedication of the grave markers.



On April 10, 2022, Chapter Compatriot Allen Mollere traveled to Edgard, LA to participate in the SAR grave marking ceremony for his sixth-generation ancestor Patriot Luis Bethancourt. The 75 attendees were treated to a SAR Color Guard and musket volleys. Allen spoke publicly about the life of his Patriot ancestor:

"On November 1, 1778, the first 264 Isleños from the Spanish Canary Islands arrived in New Orleans on the *S.S. Santísimo Sacramento*. One of the arriving passengers was Luis Bethancourt, an unmarried and armed Spanish soldier. Then a Private, he was assigned to the 2nd Company, 1st Battalion, Louisiana Regiment, which would become one of the backbones of Spanish Gen. Gálvez's campaigns against the British and the first line of defense in the Province. In May 1779, Spain officially declared war on England and Gen. Gálvez was now free to act openly against the British. Luis Bethancourt served under Gen. Gálvez as he led the attack against the British at both Fort Bute and Baton Rouge in Louisiana, then in Mobile, Alabama, and finally in Pensacola, Florida. Luis Bethancourt, who was promoted to Lieutenant, remained on the soldier roll through 1783. Spain would later return Louisiana to France, who then sold it to the United States in 1803 for \$15 million dollars."



Presiding over the ceremony was Dr. Derrick W. Spell, MD, FACP (picture, left). He is a reviewer-publisher, NSSAR Southern District and member of the NSSAR Patriot Records Committee, Special Projects Committee, and Patriot Research System, and is LASSAR Co-chair, American 250 Committee. At home, he is a member of the Gen. Philemon Thomas Chapter of the LSSAR and serves as State Registrar on the LSSAR Board of Directors. Also pictured are Jeffery Nolen and Allen (right).

**ALLEN MOLLERE**  
Bethabara Chapter NCSSAR



## Blue Ridge Chapter

Two members of the Blue Ridge Chapter Color Guard were honored to serve sentry duty at the tomb of President George Washington on September 17, 2022. The vigil, held at Mount Vernon, VA, is an annual event that gives tribute to the Patriot leader and first President of the United States of America.

Filling two of the honorary slots were Chapter President Craig Isaacson and Chapter Color Guard Commander Garry Linton. Besides North Carolina, representatives from Georgia, West Virginia, Connecticut, New York, and Virginia were also present.



Sentry duty consists of 15 minute segments at the gates to the late President and Mrs. Washington's tomb. The guard detail stands at attention in Continental uniforms or militia attire representative of the era of the American Revolution. Guards are not allowed to speak to the public during their time at the post. The annual event is sponsored by the Mount Vernon Ladies Association at Mount Vernon, VA.

Members of the Color Guard presented our nation's Colors at the recent Naturalization Ceremony held in Asheville on September 23rd. The event, held in the Court of Chief Judge Martin Reidinger, was the first held in Western North Carolina since the onset of the pandemic in 2020. Thirteen new citizens swore their oaths to the United States of America.

As the session opened, the Color Guard paraded the Colors, then stood at attention during the *Star-Spangled Banner*. Following administration of the *Oath of Citizenship*, the Guard again presented the Colors during the *Pledge of Allegiance* and the singing of *God Bless America*.

At the closing of the Court, the Color Guard paraded the Colors to the center of the courtroom to allow our newest citizens to pose for pictures. Several of the new citizens and family members as well as Court Officers made their way to the center of the chambers to be photographed with descendants of America's Patriot heroes.



The Color Guard contingent consisted of Lance Dickinson, Craig Isaacson, Garry Linton, and Tom Rightmyer. Bette Dickinson filled in for another Color Guard member who had to respond to a last minute absence. The Color Guard members extend profound thanks and appreciation to have been a part of such an impressive ceremony.

Four members of the Chapter Color Guard joined other compatriots and history buffs at the 242nd anniversary of the monumental Battle of Kings Mountain near Kings Mountain, NC on October 7, 2022. A brilliant, sunny sky illuminated the dozens of Revolutionary era flags while participants from states as far away as Texas, Kentucky, and





Connecticut paid honors to the Patriots who fought on the site in 1780.

The battle, which many deem as the "turning point of the War for American Independence" was fought almost entirely by Whig and Tory militias from the Carolinas. The Whig militia was not comprised of Continental forces but rather "Over the Mountain Men." Maj. Patrick Ferguson, the commander of the King's forces was fatally wounded in the battle.



Representatives from the twenty-eight color guardsmen featured in the honors at the Kings Mountain Battle Monument are pictured above. Included were John Boyd, Craig Isaacson, Garry Linton, and Lance Dickinson from the Blue Ridge Chapter. Also in attendance were State Society officers from North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia as well as national SAR officers from Louisville, KY.

The October 8, 2022 Chapter Meeting held in Asheville featured a packed agenda that included the swearing-in of two members and a presentation by guest speaker David Sullivan.

New to the chapter are Compatriots George Bond and John Gosnell. They marked two of the twenty-five most recent new members added to the Chapter since 2021. Pictured (L-R) are Chapter President Craig Isaacson, Chapter Color Guard Commander



Garry Linton, John Gosnell, George Bond, Sr., and Chapter Registrar Michael Burkhard.

George Bond's father, Norris Bragg Bond, and his son, George Bond, Jr., will be sworn in at the December Chapter meeting in Hendersonville. George's Patriot ancestor from the American Revolution is Soloman Pierce. John Gosnell's Patriot ancestor is John Sevier.

Guest Speaker David Sullivan, playwright, author, and documentary producer, presented a study on the leadership of Banastre Tarleton and Daniel Morgan in the Battle of Cowpens in 1781. Using scientific modes and analysis, the mindsets, styles, and personalities of Tarleton and Morgan were discussed. The discourse made it clear that Tarleton's overconfidence and ego led to his demise in that battle.



With the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence on the horizon, the Chapter has placed special emphasis on being involved in joint activities with area DAR chapters as one of its major objectives. Incoming Chapter President Steve Greene took advantage of the opportunity to spruce up the Bowman Rector Cemetery in Madison County, NC in conjunction with the Rebecca Sevier Waddell Chapter NSDAR.

Representing the Chapter, Steve was among eleven volunteers who were at the historic cemetery on October 12, 2022. The cemetery has over 100 American veterans interred on its grounds. Greene is conducting research for any American Revolution Patriots who rest on cemetery grounds and have not yet had their grave sites appropriately marked by NCSSAR.

**CRAIG ISAACSON, President**  
**Blue Ridge Chapter NCSSAR**



## Catawba Valley Chapter

In conjunction with the Hickory Tavern Chapter NSDAR, the Catawba Valley Chapter conducted a formal grave marking for Patriot Edwin Brown (1755-1830) on November 5, 2022 near Taylorsville NC. Despite the inclement rainy weather and remote location, about 25 people were in attendance, including members from four NCSSAR and four NCSDAR chapters.

Hickory Tavern Chapter Regent Ann Brown Jurney presented a biography of her fifth great-grandfather, Patriot Edwin Brown. This grave marking was the 15th that Catawba Valley Chapter conducted in 2022.



Pictured (L-R) are Kevin Allec, Color Guard Commander, Col. Alexander Erwin Chapter; Ben Setser, President, Catawba Valley Chapter; Regent Ann Brown Jurney; Larry Anderson, Col. Daniel Boone Chapter; Stephen McKee, District VP, NCSSAR; Julia Seitz, Chaplain, Hickory Tavern Chapter; Roy C. Lightfoot, Secretary, Catawba Valley Chapter; and Robert Crum, President, Col. Daniel Boone Chapter.

On November 19, 2022, a grave marking was held for four Patriots at Historic Obeth Cemetery inside Lake James State park in Nebo, NC. The service was conducted collaboratively as a "Partners in Patriotism" function with representatives from two NCSSAR chapters, one NCSDAR chapter, the Overmountain Victory Trail Association, and the North Carolina State Parks Commission. Representatives pictured (upper right, L-R) are Catawba Valley Chapter President Ben Setser; Rebecca Heacock, Andrea Kiser, Regent Janie Matthews, and Chaplain Jean Riggs of the Quaker Meadows Chapter NCSDAR; and Col. Alexander Erwin Chapter President Robert Patton.



The four patriots honored were Lawrence Unger, John Gibbs, William Fullwood and Abraham Renshaw. The service included unveiling of memorial stones, biographies of the Patriots' lives, a traditional NCSDAR ceremony, a presentation of the search for Ferguson to Kings Mountain by the Overmountain Victory Trail Association, wreath layings, and a musket volley. About 70 guests attended.

This event concluded the grave marking marathon of 2022 for Catawba Valley Chapter. Of the 17 grave markings held during the year, two were held in conjunction with the Col. Alexander Erwin Chapter.

**BEN SETSER, President**  
**Catawba Valley Chapter NCSSAR**



## Gen. Francis Nash Chapter

Regulator Rednap Howell (abt. 1745-1787) was brilliantly portrayed with appropriate revolutionary zeal by Dr. Ted Scott Henson of Burlington, himself a descendent of three Regulators. He





addressed the Chapter meeting at the Colonial Inn in Hillsborough on Constitution Day, September 17, 2022.

Rednap recounted the grievances of the residents of the North Carolina Colony against corrupt and inequitable government under British administration. Civilians took up arms against colonial officials from 1765-1771. This culminated in the Battle of Alamance on May 16, 1771.

An unstructured group of at least 2,000 Regulators were attacked by around 1,000 conscripted NC Militia under British command and were quickly defeated. Some of the Regulators left the colony and moved further west, as far away as Texas (under Spanish control then). Others, along with some of the militia they fought, went on to fight together against the British in the Revolution.



Also at the September meeting, Chapter President Albert Segars presented Ed McBride (pictured above, right) the SAR *Lafayette Volunteer Service Medal* and the U.S. Armed Forces *Meritorious Service Medal* for his long service to the Chapter in numerous positions, including ROTC Chairman, Eagle Scout Chair, Treasurer, and Registrar.

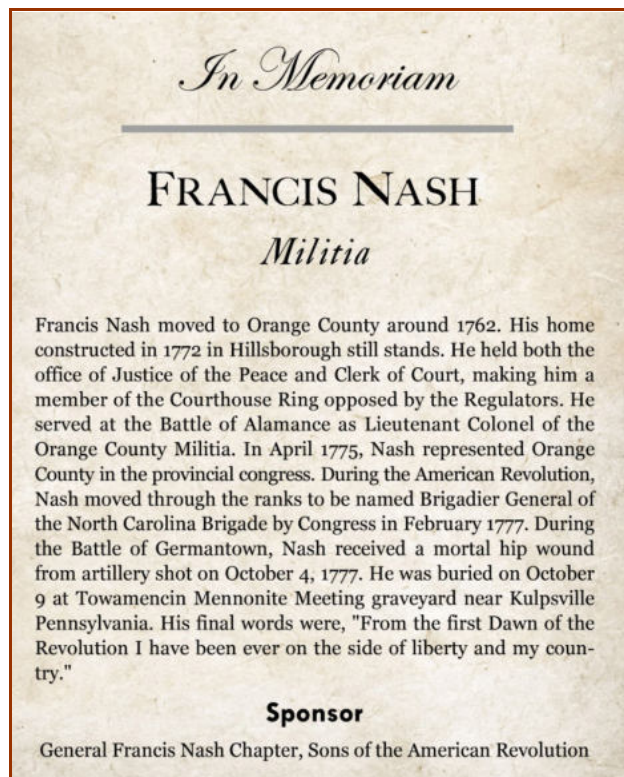
A nameplate honoring Francis Nash has been added to the Alamance Battleground Memorial Trail. The Nash memorial is the first to be sponsored by an SAR Chapter.



1771. At the head of the trail, a kiosk bears memorial nameplates for individuals who either supported

The trail officially opened on October 2, 2021, to honor those who participated in the War of Regulation between 1765 and

the Regulation or fought in the North Carolina Militia against the Regulators. The memorials on the kiosk are accompanied by a *Book of Remembrance* to provide additional information about each person who is memorialized there. The memorial for Gen. Nash is pictured below.



**DENNIS COLVIN**  
Gen. Francis Nash Chapter NCSSAR



## Gen. George Washington Chapter

Chapter members George Strunk and Gary Barefoot participated on the local Wreaths Across America float in the Goldsboro Christmas Parade on December 4, 2022. The parade was sponsored by the Wayne County Chamber of Commerce.





On December 17, 2022, Chapter members (pictured, L-R) Broughton Goodson, Gary Barefoot, Lynn Bull, George Strunk, and Kenny Smith assisted in the Wreaths Across America (WAA) ceremony at the Eastern Carolina State Veterans Cemetery in Goldsboro, NC.



The chief mission of WAA (<https://bit.ly/3R8F5b1>) is to "remember and honor our veterans through the laying of remembrance wreaths on the graves of our country's fallen heroes and saying their names out loud so they will never be forgotten." The photograph above and the photograph of the parade float (previous page) are courtesy of Cain Gallery (<http://www.caingallery.com/>).

In his role as the SAR South Atlantic District Vice President General (VPG), Chapter member George Strunk attended the GASSAR Board of Managers meeting on November 5, 2022. He presented *Department of Defense Vietnam Veteran* pins to eligible veterans and brought greetings on behalf of the SAR President General Pickett. He also presented a wreath at the Siege of Fort Morris Commemoration (pictured below) on November 19. The 17th Annual "Come and Take It!" commemoration was a SAR event sponsored by GASSAR.



## Halifax Resolves Chapter

Braswell Library Genealogist Traci Thompson, MILS, CG, presented a program titled, "The Adventures of Percival Clay: From England to the Revolutionary War and Beyond" at the September Chapter meeting. The program illustrated Percival's life from imprisonment in England to hard times in the colonies from Virginia to North Carolina and Georgia, including being wanted again by the law in Virginia.



Clay's service in the Revolutionary War, along with that of his sons, earned him land in Georgia. In recognition of her support of the Chapter, Ms. Thompson was presented with an SAR *Certificate of Appreciation* by Chapter President Ken Wilson.

At the same meeting, Mark A. Pace (pictured, left) was inducted as a new member. Compatriot Pace's Patriot Ancestor was James Holland. President Wilson performed the ceremony. Chapter Registrar Bill Riggan presented Compatriot Pace with an SAR rosette and an SAR challenge coin.







Bunn High School was the site of two SAR awards given by Halifax Resolves Chapter on September 20, 2022. An SAR *Flag Certificate* was awarded to Principal Tyler Morris (pictured above, right) on behalf of the school by Chapter President Ken Wilson, in recognition of exemplary patriotism in the display of the U.S. flag.



Patrick Warren, American History teacher at Bunn High School, was presented an SAR *Certificate of Appreciation* for his support of the Chapter's Speakers' Bureau. Mr. Warren invited President Wilson to speak to three of his classes about the U.S. flag and the Southern

Campaign of the Revolutionary War. Mr. Warren plans to participate in the SAR Knight Essay contest this year for the first time.

On September 22, President Wilson was invited to speak at Northern Nash High School to two of tea-

cher Brian Taylor's Civics classes about the history, etiquette and proper folding of the U.S. flag, and the history of the 21-gun salute. Wilson elicited the help of two students to demonstrate the proper way to fold a U.S. flag. He also explained the difference between a 21-gun salute and a 21-rifle salute.

During the same visit, President Wilson presented the school with an SAR *Flag Certificate*. Air Force Association JROTC Cadet Commander Major Makenzie Page (pictured below) accepted the certificate on behalf of the school.



The historical character of John Penn was portrayed by Compatriot Mark Pace in several presentations in September. At the Thomas Person Chapter NCSDAR meeting, his topic was "John Penn and the Signing of the Declaration of Independence." Pictured (L-R) are Thomas Person Chapter Regent Pamela Wood, Mark Pace, and Chapter Vice Regent Bonnie Meeler.







Compatriot Pace made another presentation at the Gen. James Moore Chapter NCSDAR meeting in Wake Forest. His address covered Penn's role in the signing of the Declara-

tion of Independence. Pictured with Pace is Chapter Regent Debby Butler.

Compatriot Pace's third presentation was at the Ringing of the Bells event on September 17, 2022 in Oxford, celebrating the adoption of the U.S. Constitution. The event was hosted by the John Penn Chapter NCSDAR (representatives pictured below):



Halifax Resolves Chapter conducted a grave marking ceremony at the Allen-Coley Cemetery in the Stem Community of Granville County on October 15, 2022. Patriots William Allen, Archer Johnson, and John C. Whitfield were honored for their contributions to the American Revolution.

Greetings were brought by South Atlantic Vice President General George K. Strunk and NCSSAR Secretary Robert Sigmon. The ceremony was facilitated by Chapter President Wilson. Descendant David Allen of Lexington, NC thanked the participants for their attendance and Chapter representatives for honoring his ancestors.

In addition to the Halifax Resolves Chapter, the Gen. George Washington, Mecklenburg, and Raleigh Chapters of the NCSSAR were in attendance. The NCSDAR was represented by the John Penn, Micajah Pettaway-Halifax Resolves, and Thomas Person Chapters. The Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence

organization was also represented. Pictured are representatives from the organizations and Allen family descendants.



The Halifax Resolves and Mecklenburg Chapters joined forces on October 15, 2022 to remember Dr. Frank Oliver Alford, a Mecklenburg Chapter member buried at Oakwood Cemetery. Compatriot Alford was born August 29, 1899 in Franklin County to Lawrence Sidney Alford and Susan Parker Arrington. He served in the United States Navy Pay Corp from 1918-1919. After his service commitment, he established a dental practice in Charlotte.

A member of the Mecklenburg Chapter, Compatriot Alford was inducted into the SAR on July 7, 1939 as a descendant of Arthur Arrington of Nash County. On October 25, 1947 he married Anne Pauline Smith in Raleigh. Dr. Alford was an active member of the American Dental Association and served for a time as President. He died in Raleigh on November 11, 1983 and was brought back to Louisburg for burial.

Halifax Resolves Chapter President Wilson and Mecklenburg Chapter Past President Jim Wood performed the marker dedication. Pictured (L-R) are Ken Wilson, South Atlantic Vice President General George Strunk, Chapter Vice President Geoff Pittard, Jim Wood, and Chapter Registrar Bill Riggan.





A ceremony to remember Dr. Cleveland M. Hawkins, PhD, was held at West Lawn Cemetery in Elizabeth City on November 5, 2022, jointly sponsored by the Halifax Resolves and Albemarle Chapters. Compatriot Hawkins was a charter member of the Halifax Resolves, its first Secretary and second President. He later served as the NCSSAR Region 1 Vice President. Dr. Hawkins was instrumental in the formation of the Albemarle Chapter in Edenton.

Chapter President Wilson facilitated the ceremony, assisted by NCSSAR Senior Vice President (VP) and Albemarle Chapter Chaplain Chris Grimes. Greetings were brought by VP Grimes and NCSSAR Region 1 VP Steve Avent. Memories of Compatriot Hawkins were shared by Compatriots Wilson, Chris Grimes, and Alamance Battleground Chapter Past President Dr. Sam Powell. The *Chapter Distinguished Service Medal* and *Silver Roger Sherman Medal* were awarded posthumously to Dr. Hawkins, and presented to his wife, Doris, by Senior VP Chris Grimes.

Wreaths were presented by Halifax Resolves Chapter VP Geoff Pittard, Chris Grimes, Steve Avent, Dr. Sam Powell, and le Marquis de Lafayette Chapter Past President Steve Pittard. Following the ceremony, a reception was held at the Albemarle Lanes in Elizabeth City. Pictured are NCSSAR representatives with Mrs. Doris Hawkins.



Chapter President Wilson attended a Veterans Day Commemoration Ceremony on November 11, 2022 sponsored by the American Legion Shaw-May Post 38 in Roanoke Rapids. Guest speakers were Chief Warrant Officer (CW5) James Herring, USA, Ret. and Captain William Robinson, USAF, Ret. Compatriot Wilson presented the Chapter wreath during the ceremony.

CW5 Herring was a member of the Special Forces and served tours of duty in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Among his many awards are the Silver Star, Bronze Star, Bronze Star with Valor, and the Purple Heart.

Capt. Robinson was an enlisted helicopter technician who served in Southeast Asia when his helicopter was shot down while on a rescue mission over enemy territory on September 20, 1965. Held captive in North Vietnam until his release on February 12, 1973, he spent 2,703 days as a Prisoner of War. He holds the distinction of being the longest held enlisted prisoner of war in U.S. History. He received a battlefield commission in 1969 from U.S. President Richard M. Nixon. He is a recipient of the Air Force Cross and the Purple Heart.



Chapter President Wilson was speaker at the Elizabeth Montfort-Ashe Chapter NCSDAR meeting on November 12, 2022. His presentation focused on pre-Revolution and Revolutionary War "Stories From Halifax," based on accounts he discovered in research on his family and for SAR programs. Pictured (above) with Ken are Elizabeth Montfort-Ashe Chapter Regent Carol Guidry (left) and Vice Regent Ruby Sharber.

On November 19, 2022, Chapter President Wilson presided over the grave marking ceremony honoring Compatriot Judge Joseph Powell Pippen. Judge Pippen was born on November 16, 1875 in Tarboro, Edgecombe County. The son of William Mayo Pippen and Mary Harrison Powell, he was educated at the prestigious Norwalk Military Academy in Sewanee, TN and later the University of North Carolina where he graduated with his law degree. A prominent attorney in Littleton for 40 years, Judge Pippen practiced law in Halifax and Warren Counties. He became a solicitor for Warren County and was elected judge in 1942.

Judge Pippen was inducted into the SAR in August, 1911 as a descendant of Revolutionary War



Patriot James Moore (P-251578), who served on board the schooner *Hannah* under the leadership of Captain Kit Gardnier. When the Harrison Macon Chapter NCSSAR was chartered in Louisburg on April 27, 1928 he became one of its ten charter members. Compatriot Pippen died on August 18, 1943 in Warrenton, NC.

Compatriot Pippen's granddaughter and great-granddaughter observed as honors were rendered by representatives of the NCSSAR, the Halifax Resolves Chapter, the Alamance Battleground Chapter, the Elizabeth Montfort-Ashe Chapter NCSDAR, and the Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence organization. Pictured are members of the Pippen family and other attendees.



The Halifax Resolves Chapter marked the grave of Clarence A. Wyche, Past National Trustee of the NCSSAR (1913-1915) on the morning of Saturday, November 19, 2022. Chapter President Wilson led the ceremony attended by representatives of the State SAR, the Alamance Battleground Chapter, the Halifax Resolves Chapter, and the Elizabeth Montfort-Ashe Chapter NCSDAR. Family members in attendance included Compatriot Wyche's grandson, a great-grandson, and a twice great-granddaughter. Pictured are Wyche family members and attendees.



Clarence A. Wyche was born March 14, 1878. in Granville County, son of Perry Wayne Wyche and

Rebecca Southall Wyche. He spent his early childhood in Granville County and came to Roanoke Rapids as a railroad telegrapher as a young man. At one time he was secretary and treasurer of the Rosemary Manufacturing Company, stepping from that position into the Presidency of the First National Bank of Roanoke Rapids. At the time of his death on July 19, 1947, he was general manager of the Halifax Farmer's Supply Company, a post which led to many contacts with people who lived outside the city.

Compatriot Wyche joined the NCSSAR on March 8, 1912 through his ancestor Lt. William Evans, who served with the 10th Virginia Regiment, later designated as the 6th Virginia Regiment of the Continental Line.

On November 17, 2022, Halifax Resolves Chapter Vice President (VP) Geoff Pittard presented a *Flag Certificate* for proper display and maintenance of the U.S. flag to Roanoke River Correctional Institution. Accepting was Associate Warden of Medium Custody James Durham (pictured, left). Also present was Warden Wendy Hardy.



VP Pittard presented a second SAR *Flag Certificate* to Roanoke River Correctional Institution the same day. Accepting was Associate Warden of Minimum Custody Claretha Edwards (pictured, second from right). Joining her were facility colleagues James Durham and Wendy Hardy.



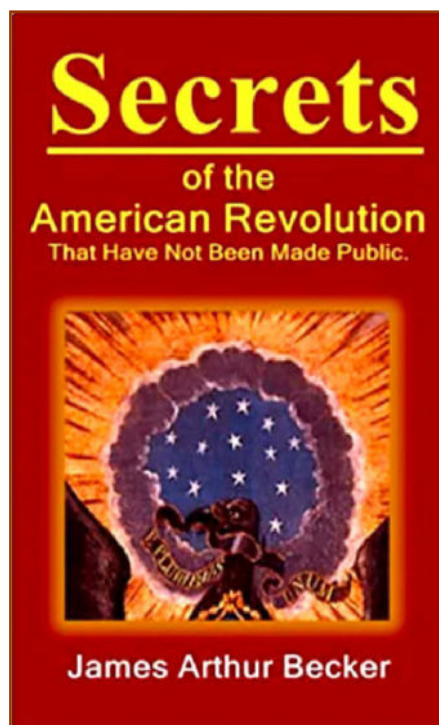


## New Bern Chapter

At the September 10, 2022 Chapter meeting, Compatriot Carlton Webster administered the SAR oath for the induction of his grandfather, Francis Webster. Pictured (L-R) are three generations of the Webster line: Robert Webster, Chapter Vice President; Francis Webster; and Carlton Webster.



Chapter member James A. Becker, a Past President of the NCSSAR, has written and published a book about his ancestor Patriot Silas Deane. The title of the book is *Secrets of the American Revolution That Have Not Been Made Public*. The book may be purchased on Amazon.com. See <https://bit.ly/3HSn1Sd>.



An article derived from his book, published in the fall 2021 issue of the *SAR Magazine* and entitled, "A New Discovery, A Rejected Declaration of Independence," focused on several secretive underpinnings that involved Patriot Deane and financing

of the American Revolution. Author Becker reveals the source of funding and military supplies that were made available for the Revolution and how the Revolution's success was based upon everyone taking these secrets to their graves.



During a December 9, 2022, visit to Nash Central High School, Halifax Resolves Chapter President Wilson presented the NJROTC with an SAR flag certificate in recognition of their commitment in the proper display and maintenance of the U.S. Flag. Pictured above with Wilson are Cadets Christian Zeferino (center) and Gabriel Villa (right) who accepted the certificate on behalf of the unit.

**KEN WILSON, PRESIDENT**  
Halifax Resolves Chapter NCSSAR

## Mecklenburg Chapter

At the awards ceremony at Independence High School in Charlotte on March 29, 2022, Air Force ROTC Cadet Maj. Andrew Whetstone received the SAR *JROTC Outstanding Cadet Award* and a *Bronze JROTC Medal*.

Both awards were presented by Mecklenburg Chapter President James Wood. Cadet Whetstone was the State winner of the Enhanced JROTC competition.



**MICHAEL AYCOCK**  
Mecklenburg Chapter NCSSAR



The New Bern Chapter partnered with the Boy Scouts of America, Southern District of the East Carolina Council, the Garber United Methodist Church, and Tom Pike, owner-operator of the Twin River Mall's Chick-Fil-A, New Bern, to conduct an America 250 SAR Patriot Merit Badge Workshop (PMBW, <https://america250sar.org/scouts/>) on September 24, 2022.

Thirty-two (32) scouts earned their American Heritage, Genealogy and Law merit badges at the conclusion of the workshop. Each scout was awarded an SAR *Certificate of Completion* for each merit badge. Three SAR *Certificates of Appreciation* were also awarded.

The PMBW event was directed by Ed "Rusty" Stinson and Ed Perkins. Chapter members who served as instructors were NCSSAR President Jay DeLoach (American Heritage), Gary Gillette (Genealogy), and Ken McCotter, Jr. and Kirby Hart Smith, III (Law). Other members who contributed and participated were Lee Purcell as steward, Billy Gordon, Bob Mull and Don Eglinton who helped with check-in and registration, and Rob Webster for certificate preparation.



**DR. BOB AINSLEY, PRESIDENT**  
New Bern Chapter NCSSAR

## Raleigh Chapter



The SAR was chartered by the U.S. Congress to promote the principles and ideals of the Revolution through patriotic service. One of those principles is the volunteer citizen-soldier, as represented by those who answered the call to service during the American Revolution.

On November 16, 2022, the Raleigh Chapter awarded Air Force ROTC Rebecca Daniels (pictured, right) of the N.C. State University Air Force ROTC Detachment 595 the SAR *Silver Outstanding Cadet Medal* for superior leadership qualities, military bearing, and excellence in volunteer service that exemplifies the high ideals and principles which motivated and sustained our patriot ancestors. The award was presented by NCSU Air Force ROTC Detachment Commander Lt. Col. Steven Jordan.



The Chapter recognized Compatriot Karl Feld (pictured, left) with the SAR *Roger Sherman Medal* at its recent November 12, 2022 meeting. The award was presented by Chapter President Richard Pena "in recognition of, and in appreciation of, outstanding services" during Karl's last two years of service on behalf of the Chapter.



Compatriot Feld has continuously served in volunteer roles for the chapter since his induction two years ago. In his first year, Karl served as Chair of the Chapter ROTC/JROTC Awards Committee. He continues to participate in presentations of the SAR *ROTC/JROTC Outstanding Cadet Medal* and *Color Guard Flag Certificate* awards to North Carolina State Air Force ROTC and Air Force JROTC units at South Johnston and Sanderson High Schools.

More recently, Karl accepted the role of Chapter Communications Director, producing and releasing news to members and press releases to the media and other outlets, and a new Chapter newsletter. He also ensures Chapter news is shared with State and national publications as well as the local Daughters of the American Revolution Chapter.

Throughout November and December, Chapter members participated in the Wreaths Across America wreath laying at Historic Oakwood Cemetery in Raleigh on December 17, 2022. Chapter volunteers solicited the donations of 127 wreaths for the ceremony.

In addition, they identified veteran graves in advance of wreath placement by marking them with flags. Pictured (upper right) with Chapter representatives are members of the Hinton family Patriots buried in the cemetery.



**KARL FELD, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR**  
**Raleigh Chapter NCSSAR**

## Sandhills Chapter

On November 19, 2022, Compatriots of the Sandhills SAR Chapter were joined by family descendants of the American Revolutionary War Patriot Nathan Stedman, III, Compatriot Bob Sigmon and Gary Spencer of the NCSSAR Color Guard, Compatriots and President Richard Pena of the Raleigh SAR Chapter, the Regents from the Daughters of the Alfred Moore Chapter NCSDAR of Southern Pines, the Deep River Chapter NCSDAR in Pittsboro, and public guests all met at the Pittsboro



United Methodist Church to dedicate the Patriot's grave.

Chapter President Bruce Fensley led the ceremony. Chapter Compatriot and family descendant of Nathan Stedman, III, Victor Burns (Carthage, NC), provided a life chronology and service record of Stedman's service

to the American Revolution. Chapter Compatriot and N.C. Sen. Tom McInnis, R-Moore, gave the benediction and invocation.

**Editor's Note:** This news item is reprinted in full with minor edits as published in *The Richmond Observer* on November 20, 2022. The press release was submitted by the Chapter President Bruce Fensley. This was the first Revolutionary War Patriot grave marking conducted by the Sandhills Chapter since recently being chartered as an NCSSAR chapter.





## MUSKET RAFFLE

to support the  
2026 SAR Congress in North Carolina



Don't miss your chance to add this beautiful and functional reproduction to your collection whether for display or to complete your trappings as a Colorguardsman. And not only that, but all proceeds will go to support the SAR's 2026 Congress which will be held in North Carolina

This reproduction 1748 Long Land (1st Model) Brown Bess, manufactured by Veteran Arms LLC, is faithful to the original in design and functionality. It features a .74 caliber barrel, brass hardware, and double bridle lock. The metal ramrod and cast brass nose cap distinguishes the musket as a later variation of the long-lived Long Land muskets. The weapon has proper lock markings, aprons, and brass furniture. It comes with a limited warranty. The musket's hammer has been adequately hardened and comes with a lifetime re-hardening guarantee.



Tickets are \$10 or 6 for \$50  
To purchase online, go to <https://go.eventgroovefundraising.com/ncssar2023>  
or text the word "Musket" to 406-302-5086.  
To purchase by mail, email [ncssar.fundraising@gmail.com](mailto:ncssar.fundraising@gmail.com) for instructions.

You must be at least 18 years of age to purchase raffle entries.

Tickets will be available until January 31, 2023 @ 12:55 PM.  
The drawing will be held on January 31, 2023 @ 1:00 PM.



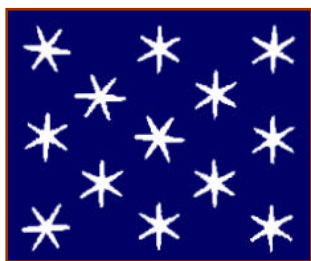


## George Washington Headquarters Flag

By Robert Webster

As Commander-in-Chief, George Washington would have followed European tradition by having a flag designed for himself as leader of the Continental Army. In those days it was common for monarchs, generals, commodores, and other leading officials to have their own personal standards. The flag would have been located anywhere Gen. Washington was present, whether on the battlefield, at headquarters, or on the march. It is sometimes referred to as the Washington's Headquarters Flag.

In 1910, Fannie B. Lovell and Ellen Lovell Crosby, who were descendants of Betty Washington Lewis (George Washington's sister), donated a silk flag (depicted in the accompanying picture) to Rev. W. Herbert Burk's Museum of American History at Valley Forge. According to the family, two of Lewis' sons served as private secretaries for General Washington, with a third son serving as an officer in Washington's "Lifeguard" during the Revolutionary War. Family tradition has it that this flag marked the presence of Gen. Washington throughout much of the war. Despite family legend, there are historians who doubt the authenticity of this flag.



Only a few sources place this flag with Washington, and all of them have the stars arranged differently. One of these is Peale's painting, *George Washington at Princeton*, which clearly depicts a flag in the upper right corner, but the stars are in a circular pattern which is different from the flag donated to Rev. Lewis's Museum. Further, many historians indicate there is no supporting evidence that the flag actually traveled with Gen. Washington.

It is uncertain what the flag actually looked like or if it was even flown by Washington at all. However, this flag is believed to be the earliest surviving thirteen-star American flag and may be the inspiration for future designs of the National Ensign.

**Editor's Note:** MSgt. Robert Webster, USMC, Retired, is the Vice President of the New Bern Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution. He can be contacted at [NewBernSAR@gmail.com](mailto:NewBernSAR@gmail.com).



## HISTORICAL SITES

### Battle of Elizabethtown

By David L. Mann, Consulting Editor ONS

Along the banks of the Cape Fear River in Elizabethtown is a park commemorating a conflict between British authorities in Bladen County and Patriot forces led by Philadelphia native, Col. Thomas Robeson and his brother-in-law Col. Thomas Brown.

The conflict has a storied history involving Sallie Salter, daughter of a prominent local family, who volunteered to infiltrate the Loyalist camp as a spy to gather information about Loyalists activity in the area. Patriot forces under the command of Robeson defeated the Loyalist forces in a surprise attack. The area along the Cape Fear became known as "Tory Hole" and is currently a park operated in Elizabethtown.



# Maligned Patriot Hero: Major General Horatio Gates (Part 3)

By Stephen P. McKee

**Preface:** Advancing his ongoing argument, "Many heroes are declared villains from half- and distorted truths or outright falsehoods," Mr. McKee addresses a third assertion about Gen. Gates in this Part 3 installment. To get the full context, readers may want to review the first (<https://bit.ly/3CgMrFG>, p. 15) and second assertions (<https://bit.ly/3G3bYnY>, p. 19) discussed by Mr. McKee.

Assertion Three: *He sure could ride a horse fast!*

This is another one of those "we all know" pop-culture assertions that describes General Gates' retreat from Camden to Charlottetowne (Charlotte) and on to Hillsborough with the singular intention of casting aspersion on his character as a military leader. The ultimate insinuation is, after his defeat, cowardice drove Gates from the field in a panicked flight, and he didn't stop until his horses were nearing death. This was a particular line of thought advanced by Alexander Hamilton, who was keen to maximize damage to Gates' reputation for the purpose of shielding Washington from further criticism.



Once again, though, as with the previous two baseless allegations discussed in Parts 1 and 2 of this article, Assertion Three rings hollow as well. A detailed examination of facts from period sources paints a wholly different picture of the aftermath of the Battle of Camden.

Camden was lost due to the misfortunes of war as much as it was lost by any bad generalship. Gates' plan was to occupy a fortified defensive position at Granny Creek, north of Camden, and to let Lord Rawdon defeat himself upon those fortifications while Marion and Sumter attacked the British supply lines and forced a withdrawal. This was the exact same strategy that Gates employed at Saratoga with great success, with or without Arnold's actions.

The vanguards of both units eventually bumped into each other in the middle of the night, on disadvantageous ground, with no reasonable line of retreat. This forced an open field battle that was never intended.

Admittedly, without a clear view of the enemy formation, Gates' initial order of battle placed troops who were inexperienced and untested against hardened veterans. This was nonetheless the standard order of battle, and all the commanders with Gates' affirmed that it was keeping with sound military principle.

But it was the flight without firing a shot from the militia of Virginia, and much of it from the North Carolina militia, who refused multiple times to be rallied by Gates, de Kalb, Howard, Anderson, and Kirkwood, that led to the calamity of that battle. Blame was too eagerly laid solely at Gates' feet by Washington and the young officers of his military family, who, at best, had fought the War to a stalemate in the north.

Much like the aftermath of Charlestowne, after Camden there was no Army to speak of between the British and North Carolina, or Virginia. Gates' retreat to Charlottetowne, then on to Hillsborough, was not a flight of cowardice, but it was one of necessity, to rebuild an American Army by which to resist Cornwallis. Finding no men, weapons, or supplies in Charlotte from which an Army could be reconstituted, he continued on to where the North Carolina Legislature was in session. Only they had the authority to call out the militia and levy troops. Here is where Gates' military talents were greatest, specifically, in the organization and administration of the Army.



The Army that Greene would use at Cowans Ford, Guilford Courthouse, and in the South Carolina Campaign afterwards, would not have existed without Gates. Much of his success after he relieved Gates in the Southern Department can be directly linked to the tireless efforts of Gates to reform an Army, and the efficiency with which he did so. Greene was in a much better position as a relieving Commander after Camden than Gates was after having taken over after Charlestowne. Had Gates been killed, captured, or not ridden to Hillsborough, the ultimate success of the war in the South, and indeed that of the War itself, cannot be assured.

The assertion, "He sure could ride a horse fast," and the insinuation of cowardice on Gates' part, are easily and demonstrably dismissed by an honest and objective study of period sources. Further, why Gates' defeat at Camden has been treated so differently must be legitimately questioned in light of Washington's defeats at Long Island and New York, or Lincoln's defeat at Charleston.

**Editor's Note:** Stephen P. McKee of the Mecklenburg Chapter is the NCSSAR Foothills Region Vice President and State SAR Color Guard Commander. Photograph of General Gates published January 2, 1778 by John Morris, London. No known restrictions on publication in the U.S. (see Library of Congress, <https://bit.ly/3GLZKjD>).

## Brown Bess Musket

By Karl Feld

The Brown Bess was one of the first standardized long arms in the world allowing efficiencies in ammunition supply and armorer work. The 1748 version was the first produced with a metal ramrod (as opposed to retrofitted metal rammers) and a cast brass nose cap. The musket served as the principal long arm of the British military until the introduction of the Enfield rifle musket much later in 1853, gaining it symbolic significance as the musket that made the British Empire.

By the time of the American Revolution, Britain's .75 calibre Land Pattern Musket had earned the unofficial nickname of "Brown Bess." The use was so widespread that the 18th century *Dictionary of the Vulgar Tongue* described the popular expression "to hug Brown Bess" as slang for enlisting in the British Army.

Not surprisingly, Continentals and Minutemen also carried the Brown Bess and used them against the British and Loyalists. The weapon was the standard arm of British forces fighting in the Americas in the French and Indian War. Prevalent in the colonies by 1775, many civilians on both sides possessed them privately and employed them during the Revolution. The Minutemen had access to them in their role as provincial militia units. The Patriots regularly seized British weapons and put them to use arming their own troops.

The NCSSAR is raffling off a beautiful reproduction of a 1748 Long Land (first model) Service (Brown Bess) musket. Proceeds from the raffle of this firearm will support the 2026 SAR National Congress to be held in North Carolina. The drawing will be held on January 31, 2023 at the North Carolina SAR Winter Board of Managers Meeting in Huntersville, NC. See the full page announcement in this issue of *ONS* (page 16) for more details.

### Sources:

Military History Now. (2022). [Search: Brown Bess]. <https://bit.ly/3vMowdq>

Veteran Arms, LLC. (2022). *Aren't Charleville muskets supposed to be 69 caliber? Are Brown Bess muskets 75 caliber? And other caliber related questions about 18th century muskets.*

<https://bit.ly/3jSLH2R>

**Editor's Note:** Contributing author Karl Feld is the Communications Director for the Raleigh Chapter NCSSAR.



# Admiral William R. Furlong Memorial Award

THE  
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NC Society Sons of the American Revolution



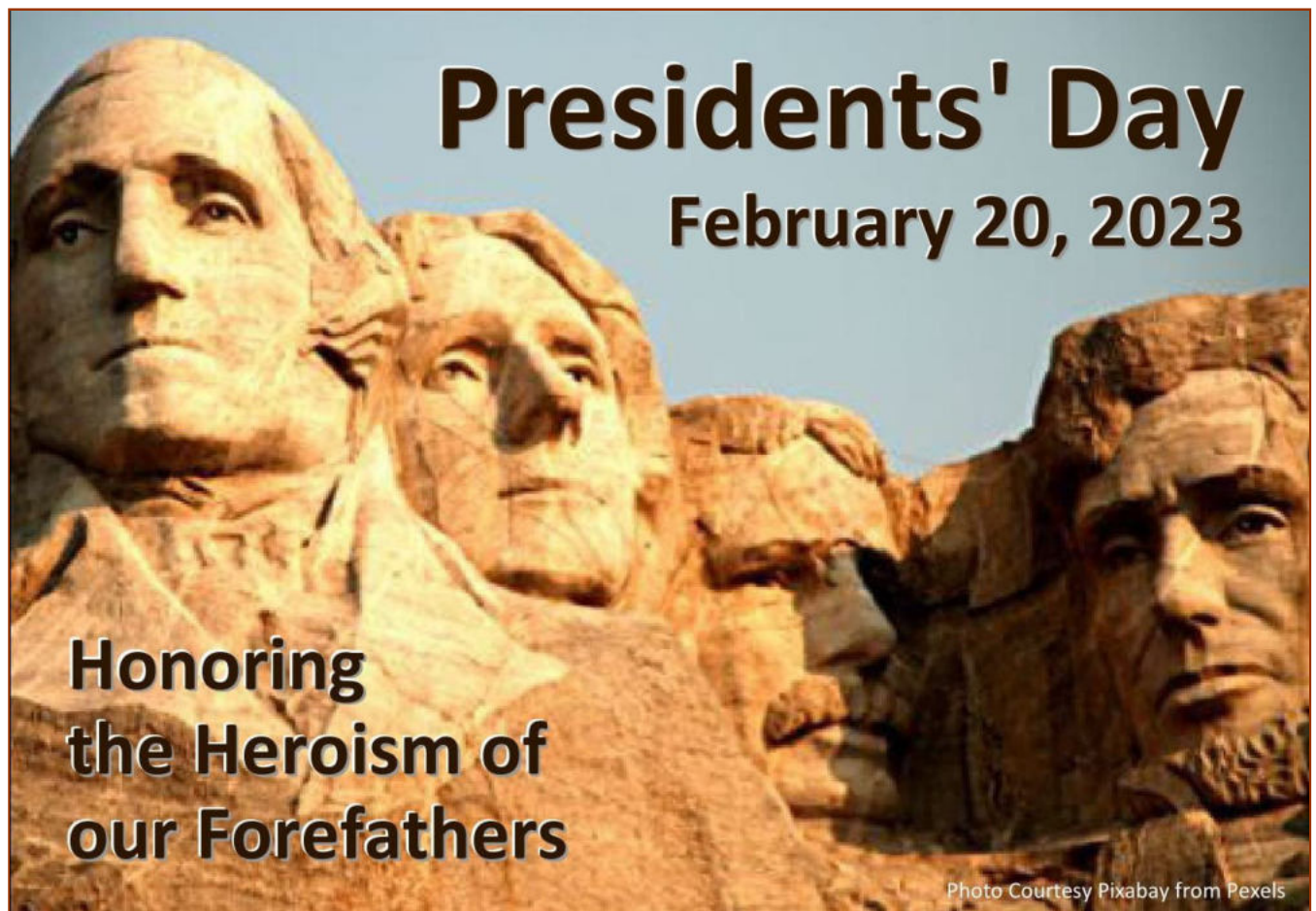
William Rea Furlong (1881-1976) was a U.S. Navy Rear Admiral during World War II and served as the Chief of Naval Ordnance from 1937 to 1941. Of all the National SAR awards, the Furlong Award may be among the most coveted by state societies. It is a point of patriotic pride, because it pertains to promoting proper display of our beloved U.S. flag. A complete SAR presentation about the award is available at <https://bit.ly/3Vwmvfl>.

Given annually at Congress, the Furlong Award recognizes state societies whose chapters each present at least one SAR flag certificate to individuals, businesses, government agencies, or organizations for proper display of the U.S. flag. Last year NCSSAR won the Furlong Award for having more than half of our chapters award flag certificates.

Chapter leaders can print a SAR flag certificate on a blank piece of ivory paper that is 32-pound stock or higher (go to <https://america250sar.org/>, then click on "Forms Download Updated Certificates"). Frames are available at nearby office or department stores.

If all 28 State SAR chapters award at least one flag certificate to a worthy entity, then NCSSAR receives a special award from National SAR at the upcoming Congress. Let's do it again this year!

**JAY DELOACH, *President***  
NCSSAR



# Compatriot Col. Guy K. Troy: Never Too Old

by Joe P. Sutton, *Editor ONS*



NCSSAR is celebrating one of its newest Compatriots. A 1946 West Point graduate, Col. Guy K. Troy, USA, Retired, will soon be inducted into the SAR. Pictured is Col. Troy signing his SAR membership application. Amy Tillery, wife of Nathanael Greene Chapter NCSSAR Registrar Clarence Tillery, assisted Col. Troy in the preparation of his application.

Col. Troy's lineage to the American Revolution is rich. In a 2016 article about Col. Troy, authored by columnist Harry T. Thetford, Sr. and published in the *Greensboro News & Record*, Revolutionary War Patriot Col. Andrew Balfour (1737-1782) was identified as Col. Troy's third great-grandfather.

According to historian Horace W. Raper, PhD, "Balfour served as a leading advocate and activist in the American cause. At the first outbreak of fighting he offered his services to George Washington and served with distinction in the Continental Army....While home on leave [in 1782], Balfour was surprised one Sunday morning by David Fanning and his band of marauding Tories, who were scouting in the Haw River country. He was killed by Fanning on the front porch of his residence in

the presence of his sister and daughter. Fanning escaped punishment for the deed, but one Frederick Smith of Randolph County was charged with the murder and hanged in 1783." (para. 2-3).

Remarked State SAR Secretary Bob Sigmon, one is "never too old to apply for SAR membership." Born March 15, 1923, Col. Troy is approaching his 100th birthday in 2023, thus making him a *centenarian* as well as a *compatriot*.



Pictured (left) is Col. Troy's graduation photograph from *The Howitzer* 1946 yearbook of the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, New York. In addition to his own military service, Col. Troy is a former pentathlon athlete in the 1952 Olympics in Helsinki and a gold medalist in the first Pan American games in 1951 in Buenos Aires.

Married to the late Winifred "Wynne" Charles Troy, he is the father of three children and four grandchildren. Readers may convey best wishes to Compatriot Col. Troy at [gktroy46@rtelco.net](mailto:gktroy46@rtelco.net).

## References:

Raper, Horace W. (1979). "Andrew Balfour." *NCpedia*. Raleigh, NC: State Library of North Carolina. <https://www.ncpedia.org/biography/balfour-andrew>

Thetford, Harry T., Sr. (2016, August 5). "Col. Guy Troy went from West Point to the Olympics." *Greensboro News & Record*. <https://bit.ly/3Wt7rAY>



# New Bern Chapter Observes 248th Anniversary of the New Bern Resolves

On August 27, 2022, the New Bern Chapter hosted the 248th Anniversary Observance of the New Bern Resolves. A procession of participants dressed in Revolutionary War and Colonial attire, led by SAR South Atlantic Vice President General George Strunk and NCSSAR President Jay DeLoach, commenced at the Centenary United Methodist Church. It then proceeded down Middle and Broad Streets (the original location of the Craven County Courthouse and site of the First American Provincial Congress) to the outdoor Colonial Chapel at Christ Episcopal Church. Sarah Koonts, State Archivist, NC Office of Archives and History was the keynote speaker for the ceremony held at the church.



Collaborating in the event were officers and representatives from the Richard Dobbs Spaight Chapter NCSDAR, Christ Episcopal Church, North Carolina History Center at Tryon Palace, St. Johns Masonic Lodge #3, the National Sojourners, Inc., and the Boy Scouts of America of the Southern District, East Carolina Council. Photographs were taken from a drone operated by Ben Lindemann of Ben Lindemann Photography (<https://bit.ly/3Gh7AAk>)



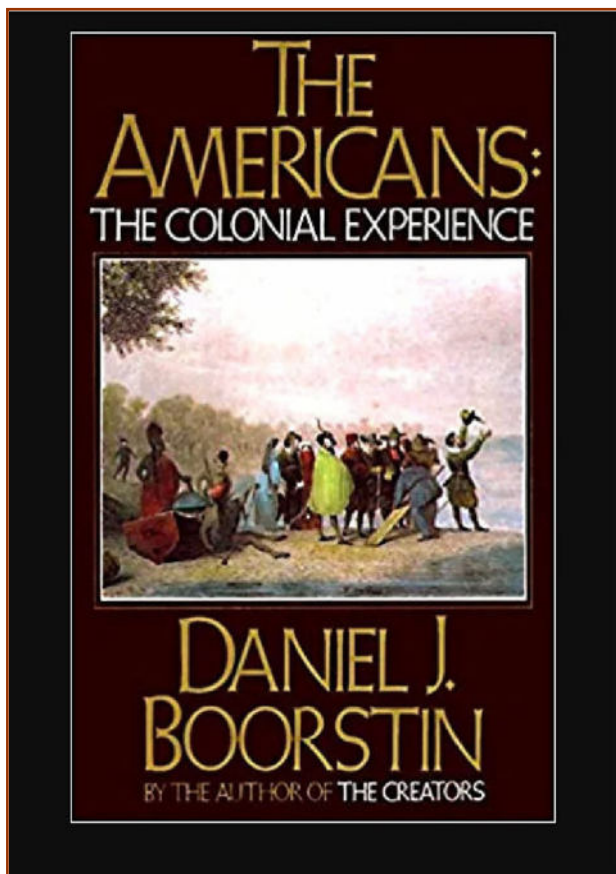


## Book Review

by Lowell Hoffman

Boorstin, D. J. (1958). *The Americans: The colonial experience*. New York: Vintage Books, a Division of Random House. 434 pages. ISBN 0-394-70513-0.

This well researched and documented historical book by Daniel J. Boorstin enables the reader to develop a deep understanding of what made colonial Americans so uniquely different from their English counterparts. Although they declared independence, they still felt as if they were English, revered the heritage of English law, and spoke the English language. Yet with each generation and with each shipload of immigrants, whether from England or other diverse nations, change was occurring. A new American culture gradually developed that was built upon an English framework but focused on opportunity and liberty.



Much of recorded history about the American Revolution focuses on battles, leaders and events. This book takes another direction. Each fascinating chapter provides grounding in how colonial life developed over the 150-year period from the Mayflower to the Redcoats' march toward Lexington and Concord. The comparable development of New England Puritans, Pennsylvania's Quakers, and the social experiment in Georgia that was transplanted in Virginia constitutes the first section of the Book. Their similarities, notwithstanding, the differences among these respective colonists explain in part the contrasting viewpoints expressed so many years later in a Continental Congress.

Subsequent sections of the book reveal how and why literacy was greater in America than in England. America's value of education produced eleven degree granting colleges in the Colonies while England's rigid social structure maintained only the two elite institutions of higher education, Oxford and Cambridge. Religion, newspapers, medicine, law, agriculture, science, and technology are addressed in brief, pithy, and informative chapters. The stories of lesser known colonial personalities are told, along with citations of Ben Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, and other more familiar names.

Readers will gain respect for the early generations of Americans who traded tradition for opportunity, faced hardships squarely, and manifested a love of liberty at every turn. The annotated bibliography listing of many original manuscripts and sources is worth a half hour of study alone.

Published in 1958, this book might be viewed by some as ancient. Nonetheless, the scholarship is impeccable. Author Boorstin's credentials include a Doctor of Judicial Science (SJD) degree from Yale University, two degrees from Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar, a 25-year tenure at the University of Chicago, a coveted appointment as Librarian of the Library of Congress, and a Pulitzer prize in history. Dr. Boorstin authored more than 20 books.

**Editor's Note:** Contributing author Lowell Hoffman is Chair of the NCSSAR Rumbaugh Oration Committee and a member of the Gen. Francis Nash Chapter. Email comments, questions, and suggestions to [lmhglobal927@gmail.com](mailto:lmhglobal927@gmail.com).



## COLOR GUARD REPORT

By Stephen P. McKee, *NCSSAR Color Guard Commander*

The NCSSAR Color Guard was active over the last quarter of 2022, making appearances and assisting in numerous ceremonies and events, including the following:



**242nd Anniversary of the Battle of Kings Mountain**, Blacksburg, SC, hosted by the Battle of Kings Mountain Chapter, NCSSAR, October 7, 2022. See video at <https://bit.ly/3WDhC69>.

**242nd Anniversary Commemoration for the Battle of Shallow Ford**, Huntsville, NC, hosted by the Bethabara Chapter, NCSSAR, October 8, 2022.

**Grave marking for Patriot Edwin Brown**, 1755-1830, near Taylorsville NC, hosted by the Catawba Valley Chapter, NCSSAR and the Hickory Tavern Chapter, NCSAR, November 5, 2022.

**Wreaths Across America Day** events hosted by Catawba Valley (pictured), Gen. George Washington, and New Bern Chapters, December 16, 2022.

## Mount Vernon Vigil

On Saturday, September 17, 2022, a 36-man detachment of the SAR Color Guard and Compatriots stood vigil at General George Washington's tomb at Mount Vernon in Revolutionary War uniforms, Continental and Militia, and armed with firelocks. Compatriots from State Societies as far away as Texas comprised the guard mount.



Guardsmen assembled at the Chapman House on the grounds and marched off at 8:45 AM to the front of the mansion and on to the tomb. The tomb is undergoing an extensive renovation and is surrounded by scaffolding. Guardsmen stood 15-minute guard mounts from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM, then paraded back to the Chapman building.

The weather was cooperative and not unbearably hot. The public showed interest and appreciation of our efforts and asked many questions. National SAR Color Guard Commander Brooks Lyles (NCSSAR) was the officer-in-charge, Vice Commander Scott Collins (GASSAR), and First Adjutant Rob Meyer (NJSSAR) commanded the reliefs.

This was a wonderful opportunity to honor the life and work of the man who was unquestionably our nation's most important founder and to inform the public of the mission and history of the SAR. Compatriots owe it to themselves and our ancestors we strive to honor by joining the National SAR Color Guard at this annual event at least once over the course of their lifetimes.

**MICHAEL AYCOCK**  
le Marquis de Lafayette Chapter NCSSAR

**Be Among the Proud, the Few. Join the  
Premier NC Minutemen Company.**



**WANTED!!!**

*76 Compatriots, Men Stout & True*



*In support of the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary National Congress in 2026,  
hosted by our North Carolina Society, we are committed to  
raising a Company of North Carolina Minutemen, men  
willing to pledge to contribute \$1,000 either in a lump sum or in 4 annual  
contributions of \$250. Participation in this program will be limited  
to the first 76 compatriots to enlist.*

*As befits generosity of this magnitude, enlistees in the Company of  
Minutemen will be appropriately recognized by the State Society.  
Enlist at [NC SAR Minutemen@gmail.com](mailto:NC SAR Minutemen@gmail.com).*

**The NC Minutemen Company is a Fundraising Program Approved  
by the NCSSAR. All Money Raised will be Used to Host the  
2026 SAR National Congress in North Carolina.**



## THE OLD NORTH STATE

*A Publication of the  
North Carolina Society  
Sons of the American  
Revolution*

Vol. 26, No. 1  
January 2023

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### SUBMISSION DEADLINES

January Issue: December 10  
April Issue: March 10  
July Issue: June 10  
October Issue: September 10

## Meetings & Events

### January-March 2023

#### Updates Available:

[https://ncssar.org/ecwd\\_calendar/calendar/](https://ncssar.org/ecwd_calendar/calendar/)  
<https://www.sar.org/events/>

### NATIONAL

**January 14-17: 242nd Anniversary Battle of Cowpens.**  
Hosted by Daniel Morgan Chapter SCSSAR, Gaffney, SC.

**February 9-11: 242nd Anniversary Crossing of the Dan.**  
Hosted by Dan River Chapter VASSAR, Berryman Green Chapter VASDAR, and others, South Boston, Halifax County, VA. Three-day event.

**February 25: 247th Anniversary Battle of Moores Creek.**  
Hosted by Lower Cape Fear Chapter NCSSAR, Moores Creek Battlefield, Currie, NC, 10:00-12:00.

**March 2-4: National SAR Spring Leadership Meeting.** The Brown Hotel, Louisville, KY. Time TBA.

**March 15: 242nd Battle of Guilford Courthouse.** Organized by the Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, Greensboro, NC, 10:00-12:00.

### STATE

**January 28: 242nd Anniversary Battle of Cowan's Ford.**  
Hosted by Mecklenburg Chapter NCSSAR, Hopewell Presbyterian Church, Huntersville, 8:00-11:00.

**January 28: NCSSAR Winter Board of Managers Meeting.**  
Organized by Mecklenburg Chapter NCSSAR, Hopewell Presbyterian Church, Huntersville, 11:30-2:30.

**March 31-April 1: NCSSAR Annual Meeting.** Wyndam Garden Hotel, Greensboro, All day.

### CHAPTERS

**February 4: Chapter Meeting & Luncheon.** Hosted by Gen. Francis Nash Chapter NCSSAR, Colonial Inn, Hillsborough, 11:30-2:00. Speaker: Courtney Smith, Events and Exhibits Coordinator, Orange County Historical Museum.

**February 11: Gen. George Washington Birthday Luncheon.** Hosted by Halifax Resolves Chapter NCSSAR and Elizabeth Montfort-Ashe Chapter NCSDAR, Littleton Food & Spirits, 11:00-2:00. Speaker: Dr. Troy Kickler, Founding Director, N.C. History Project, and Editor, NorthCarolinaHistory.com.

**February 22: Gen. George Washington Birthday.** Check the NCSSAR online calendar for updates of other special celebrations and events hosted by State chapters.