



## President's Message

**Steve A. Van Pelt**  
President NCSSAR



NC Compatriots,

Serving as your new President is both humbling and an honor. Many in our State Society have showed their support,

and it is much appreciated. I hit the ground running after our Annual NCSSAR Meeting in Greensboro by visiting with Compatriot Robert Patton in Morganton on April 7. He showed me the new monument for *The Crossing*. This beautiful monument commemorates the crossing of the Catawba River by the Overmountain Men on October 1, 1780, on their way to confront the British at Kings Mountain. A dedication for the monument is scheduled for October 1.

I also joined Blue Ridge Chapter in a tribute to Compatriot Tom Rightmyer, who was honored for 55 years of service to the SAR. Congratulations to Tom who presently serves as Chapter Chaplain.

The Bethabara Chapter invited me to install officers on May 11 in Winston-Salem. Orin Sadler will be serving as the new Chapter President.

Alamance Battleground Chapter held Patriot Day on May 20. This event not only commemorates the 1771 battle there between the Regulators and Governor Tryon's militia, but it also remembers three other minor conflicts that occurred in 1781—Pyle's Defeat, the Battle of Clapp's Mill, and the Battle of Lindley's Mill. These minor conflicts have an inte-

resting history, and I encourage you to learn more about them.

Supporting the education of North Carolina's youth should always be a priority. Winners of this year's NCSSAR Poster and Brochure Contests were announced at the recent State SAR Awards Ceremony. See pages 7 and 11 of this issue of *ONS* for the Chapter and State winners.

Several fellow NC Compatriots and I will attend the 2023 National Congress in Orlando. I, for one, am looking forward to this event, since it is my first Congress. NCSSAR is poised to receive several awards that I will accept on behalf of our State.

The NCSSAR can be proud that it has gained an impressive 90 new members since January 1. This is an outstanding accomplishment and reflects dedicated recruitment efforts. It is noteworthy that the *SAR Magazine* (Spring 2023 issue) reported that the NC Society is only second to Georgia in new member recruits this year. Our present roster stands at 1,474, and it continues to tick up almost daily. Thanks to all the Chapter and State Registrars for the hard and exacting work that is required to make this happen. Chapter Presidents are encouraged to find ways for all these new members to participate.

The NCSSAR will hold a raffle for a Daniel Boone Tomahawk to be given at the upcoming Board of Manager's Meeting on September 30. All proceeds will go toward expenses of hosting the 2026 Congress in Greensboro. For more information and to purchase tickets, go to <https://shorturl.at/cdKP7>, or send an email with any questions to [ncssarfundraising@gmail.com](mailto:ncssarfundraising@gmail.com).

Be sure to invite and involve DAR in commemorations, grave markings, and youth programs. Reciprocally, they are committed to including us in their events. In many cases, the DAR and the SAR collaboratively hold joint events to show mutual support.

Finally, identify the strengths of every Chapter member, and solicit their on-going, active involvement. Keep up the good work!

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## Membership Update

**NCSSAR welcomes 61  
new members (Mar. 4,  
2022 - June 9, 2023)**

ADKINS, James Jr. #226630  
ALLEN, Zachary #226628  
BOTZIS, Benjamin #226627  
BROOKS, Matthew #226292  
BURGESS, Garron #225601  
BURGESS, Nathan #225600  
CARPENTER, Glen #226918  
DAVIDSON, Charles #226395  
ELKINS, William #226011  
FRICK, Benjamin #225607  
FRICK, Daniel #225608  
FRICK, Garrett #225606  
FRICK, Levi #225609  
GALENTINE, David #226280  
GILBERT, Clyde Jr. #226281  
GARNER, James #225603  
GARNER, Michael #225605  
GARNER, William #225604  
HALBERSTADT, Wm. II #226012  
HASSELBACH, Steven #226010  
HAWKINS, Carroll #226159  
HOISINGTON, Lowell #226556  
HOLMAN, Daniel #225710  
HOLMAN, John #225709  
HOVIS, Derek #225711  
KESLING, Harrison #226282  
KNIGHT, Dalton #226284  
KNIGHT, Foster #226285  
KNIGHT, Melvin Jr. #0226283  
KNUDSON, Grant #226290  
KNUDSON, Jason #226289  
KNUDSON, Warren #226288  
LAURENCE, Geoffrey #225599  
LINTON, David #226394  
MC GINNIS, Gary #226013  
MAXWELL, Donald Jr. #226279  
MILLER, Brian #226397  
MITCHELL, Baker Jr. #225597  
MOISE, Garrett #226513  
MURPHY, Duane #226920  
POLK, James Jr. #226392  
POOLE, Hugh #226390  
POTEAT, Curtiss #225713  
ROACH, Jacob #225598  
ROBERTS, John #226287  
SASSER, James #226009  
SHARP, Keith #226391  
SKROTSKY, Robert #226160

STANTON, David Jr. #226014  
STEPHENS, Mark Jr. #226917  
THOMAS, Charles III #225712  
TRIPP, Walter Jr. #226919  
Van PELT, Charles #226393  
VERNON, Thomas #226396  
WALLACE, Parker #225602  
WEBSTER, Joseph #226916  
WEBSTER, David Jr. #226915  
WHITLOCK, Victor #226158  
WILES, Jonathon #226291  
WILLIAMSON, Frank #226286  
WRIGHT, Lawrence #226629

**NCSSAR extends its  
deepest thoughts and  
prayers to the families  
of the following compa-  
triots who recently  
passed away**

AVENT, Robert  
BLAKESLEE, Harry  
CUNNINGHAM, George  
PERRY, Clifford J. "Pete"  
STEELE, Randy  
STEELE, Ronald  
TEEM, Jacob  
TEEM, Paul Sr.  
WRIGHT, Lawrence

### NCSSAR Membership Inquiries

Since March 10, NCSSAR has received 59 inquiries about SAR membership. Chapter and inquiry counts include the following: Alamance Battleground-0; Albe-marle-2; Bethabara-3; Battle of King's Mtn.-3; Colson's Mill-1; Blue Ridge-1; Catawba Valley-1; Col. Alex. Erwin-2; Col. Alex. Lillington-0; Col. Daniel Boone-1; Gen. Frances Nash-3; Gen. George Washington-1; Halifax Resolves-0; Isaac Carter-0; Lower Cape Fear-11; le Marquis de La-fayette-2; Lumber River-1; Lt. Col. John Phifer-1; Mecklenburg-8; Old North State-1; Nathanael Greene-1; New Bern-2; Raleigh-8; Salisbury-2; Sandhills-1; Lt. Col. Felix Walker-0; Western Waters-3; and Yadkin Valley-0.

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



# Chapter News

## Blue Ridge Chapter

The commemoration of the 241st Anniversary of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse was held in Greensboro at the Guilford Courthouse National Military Park on March 15. A ranger from the National Park Service provided a brief introduction followed by brief speeches from SAR representatives and wreath presentations by NCSAR, NCSDAR, and NCSAR. Approximately 150 were in attendance. The Color Guard boasted 40 compatriots, including Chapter Compatriots Lance Dickinson, Dr. Garry Linton, and Craig Isaacson.



The Blue Ridge Chapter received three awards at the recent NCSSAR Annual Meeting in Greensboro on April 1, including the *Certificate for Flag Retirements*, the *Ribbon for Membership Retention*,



and the *Ribbon for Honorable Mention for New Membership Growth*. Accepting the awards on behalf of the Chapter was Compatriot Garry Linton (pictured left) with NCSSAR Vice President Chris Grimes.



A naturalization ceremony (pictured above) was held at the Asheville Courthouse on April 21. Approximately 40 attendees observed 30 individuals swear oath to the United States, thereby obtaining American citizenship. Pictured with Judge Carleton Metcalf are Chapter Compatriots Lt. Col. Larry Chapman, Ret., Craig Isaacson, Garry Linton, Rev. Dr. Tom Rightmyer, and Kenn Weglarz, who formed the Color Guard.



On April 29, the Honor Flight for Veterans arrived at the Asheville Airport, where 200 veterans were enthusiastically greeted by about 500 citizens who offered gratitude for their service to our country. In addition to music provided, Chapter Color Guardsmen Steve Greene, David Gunther, Craig Isaacson, Garry Linton, and Ken Weglarz presented the Colors for the event. Among the honorees was Chapter member Lance Dickinson (pictured above, right) who was sponsored by fellow Compatriot Larry Chapman, Ret. (also pictured).



At the invitation of Chapter Past President John Boyd, the Chapter Color Guard presented the Colors at the State Elks Club Convention on May 6 at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Asheville, NC. Afterwards, Chapter Compatriots Craig Isaacson and Gary Linton provided an educational program on Revolutionary War period flags and uniforms to a ladies' group. Approximately 120 were in attendance. Pictured below are Compatriot Isaacson (foreground), who serves as the NCSSAR Western Region Vice President, and Dr. Linton (background), Chapter Vice President Garry Linton.



Chapter President Steve Greene presented the *SAR Outstanding JROTC Cadet Medal and Certificate* to Army JROTC Cadet Jordan Allison at the Awards Ceremony on May 17. A student at Madison High School (MHS), Marshall, NC, Jordan was selected for the award by Lt. Col. Taube Roy, commanding officer of the MHS JROTC Unit, and Sgt. Major Beene. Recipients must evidence leadership qualities, military bearing, and general excellence.



At a ceremony on May 18 at Rosman High School, Chapter Compatriot Larry Chapman presented the *SAR JROTC Bronze Medal and Certificate Award* to Luke Cochran. Luke was chosen for exemplifying the high ideals and principles which

motivated and sustained our Patriot ancestors he learned during his high school years.

Chapter Guardsmen Larry Chapman, Garry Linton, and Ken Weglarz presented the Colors on May 20 at the Lincoln-Reagan Dinner, a fundraising event for the Henderson County GOP Party. The event was held at the Kenmure Country Club, Flat Rock. Approximately 160 people attended.

On Saturday, June 3, the Chapter held a double grave marking ceremony at Gabriel's Creek Baptist Church Cemetery in Mars Hill. The ceremony honored Patriot James Anderson, sixth Great-grandfather of Chapter President Steve Greene. Also honored was Patriot Edmond Palmer, who was recognized by Win Webster, President of the Lt. Col. Felix Walker Chapter. Some 40 were in attendance, including leaders from NCSDAR District 1: Regent Julia Greene, Rebecca Sevier, Waddell Chapter, Madison County; Regent Brenda Canter, Ruth Davidson Chapter, Buncombe County; and Regent Penny Summey, Abraham Kuykendall Chapter, Henderson County. Among the Color Guardsmen (pictured) were John Boyd, Brett Callaway, Mark Canter, Larry Chapman, Steve Greene, Craig Isaacson, Tom Rightmyer, and Ken Welgarz.



**STEVE GREENE, President & DR. GARRY LINTON**  
Blue Ridge Chapter NCSSAR



## Catawba Valley Chapter



Chapter Compatriot Rick Hubbard had the pleasure of presenting the *SAR Eagle Scout Certificate* to Kenny Radecki, Boy Scouts of America (BSA) Troop 327 at his Court of Honor on May 21. Chartered by VFW Post 5305 in 1980, BSA Troop 327 of the Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church, Sherrills Ford, is nearing 100 Eagle Scouts.



On April 27, Chapter President Ben Setser presented Cadet Capt. Claudia Goodykoontz of Bandy's High School, Catawba, with the *SAR Bronze JROTC Medal*. In addition, she received the *SAR Enhanced JROTC Neck Medallion* and a check for \$50.00 as Chapter winner of the essay contest.

Catawba Valley Chapter and the Col. Alexander Erwin Chapter, NCSSAR, in collaboration with the John Sevier Chapter, TNSSAR jointly conducted a



triple grave marking on April 22 at First Presbyterian Church, Morganton, NC. Patriot ancestors honored were William Walton, Sr. (1735-1806), John Duckworth (1758-1843), and William Wilson (1751-1832). Despite the rain, the ceremony was a great success that included a six-man musket volley.

Cadet Jerry Clontz of Alexander Central High School, Taylorsville, received the *SAR JROTC Bronze Medal and Certificate* on Friday evening, May 26 at the school's awards banquet. Presenting him with the award was President Ben Setser.



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



## Gen. Francis Nash Chapter

Over the span of two weeks in late April, Gen. Francis Nash Chapter ROTC Chair Guy Guidry presented the *SAR Outstanding ROTC Cadet Medal* to four worthy students enrolled at two major universities in the State.

Recipients of this medal are selected by the Commanding Officer of the ROTC Unit, based on leadership qualities, military bearing, and general excellence.

The rollout of presentations began on April 13. Compatriot Guidry presented a medal to University of North Carolina (UNC) Navy ROTC Midshipman Third Class Madison A. Stewart. On April 25, he presented a medal to Duke University Navy ROTC Midshipman First Class Ryan



Wence. A third presentation of the medal followed on April 2 to UNC Air Force ROTC Cadet John T. "Jett" Townson.



*Navy ROTC Midshipman 3rd Class Madison Stewart*



*Navy ROTC Midshipman 1st Class Ryan Wence*



*Air Force ROTC Cadet John T. "Jett" Townson*

At an informal Hawaiian luau-themed luncheon on April 26, Compatriot Guidry presented a fourth medal to Cadet Aaron Hull, a Green-to-Gold Scholarship winner. Aaron joined the UNC's Army ROTC program after serving in the 1st Security Forces Assistance Brigade Army unit whose mission is to train, advise and assist armed forces of partner nations. The Army Green-to-Gold program provides options for enlisted Soldiers interested in pursuing a baccalaureate or graduate degree and earning a commission as an Army Officer. Aaron will graduate with a Masters Degree in Public Health and, subsequently, will be commissioned as an Explosive Ordinance Disposal Officer.



**DENNY COLVIN, Secretary**  
**Gen. Francis Nash Chapter NCSSAR**



## Gen. George Washington Chapter

Chapter leaders presented SAR *JROTC Bronze Medals and Certificates* to students at Southern Wayne, Beddingfield, and Eastern Wayne High

Schools during the month of May. Two new members, John Roberts (pictured, receiving pin) and Steven Hasselbach, were inducted at the May Chapter meeting.



To close out the month of May, Chapter Compatriot George Strunk presented three SAR *Eagle Scout Achievement Certificates* and SAR *BSA Patches* to three deserving Scouts in LaGrange. Interestingly, he learned about the Scouts at the Eastern Wayne



JROTC event. One of the assistant principals there is a scout leader, and he informed George of the forthcoming Court of Honor.

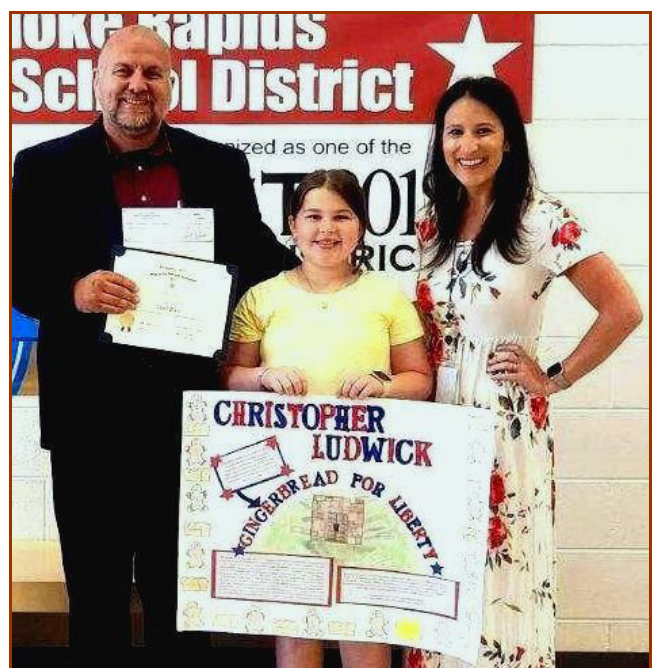
In his national role as Vice President General (VPG) for the South Atlantic District SAR, George assisted SAR President General C. Bruce Pickett with the officer installation and *Patriot Medal* presentations at the Florida Society Annual Meeting in Kissimmee, Fl. George also participated and brought greetings at the 243rd Anniversary of Buford's Massacre commemoration of the Battle of Waxhaws, Buford, SC.



## Halifax Resolves Chapter

The Halifax Resolves Chapter supports local school participation in the National SAR Annual Sgt. Moses Adams Memorial Middle School Brochure Contest and the Elementary School Poster Contest. Brochures must focus on foundational documents of the United States, and Posters must feature Revolutionary War person(s).

Two chapter-level winners were recognized this year. Hannah Grace Allen, a student at Manning Elementary School, placed third in the annual Poster Contest on the State level for the NCSSAR. Her poster of Christopher Ludwick, Baker General for the Continental Army, earned her and her teacher, Lauren Medlin, a certificate and \$75 checks. Pictured is Chapter President Geoff Pittard presenting the award to Hannah and Ms. Medlin.



In the brochure division, Linley M. Godsey, from Chaloner Middle School, placed first in the State

competition with her brochure detailing the Declaration of Independence. Linley (pictured below) received a certificate of achievement and a check for \$250, while her teacher, James Rook (pictured, left), received a check for \$100. Godsey's brochure will now compete on the National Level at the SAR's Annual Conference this summer. Both students won the chapter-level competition earlier in the school year.



**RENNY TAYLOR**  
Halifax Resolves Chapter NCSSAR



## le Marquis de Lafayette Chapter

Cadet 1st Lt. Sean Boyd (pictured, center) of Harnett Central High School was the chapter-level JROTC Enhanced Scholarship Winner and the second place State Winner. The award and check for \$500 was presented by State SAR Regional Vice President Michael Aycock (left) and Chapter VP Josh Tate (right) at the May 11 Chapter meeting.





## New Bern Chapter



On March 16, the Chapter honored New Bern City Police Officer Christopher D. Philyaw (pictured, left) with the *SAR Law Enforcement Commendation and Medal*. NCSSAR Past President

DeLoach presented the award during a ceremony at the New Bern City Hall. This medal recognizes officers for exceptional service and/or accomplishments and who have served with distinction and devotion in the field of law enforcement.

In addition to several members of Officer Philyaw's family, others in attendance were New Bern Chief of Police Pat Gallagher, New Bern Mayor Jeff Odham, Chapter Color Guard members Gary Gillette and Bruce Martin, SAR members Bob Mull, Bob Rigg, Don Eglinton, Rick Layton and Warren Krudson, and Richard Dobbs Spaight Chapter NCSDAR member Sally Mull.

The grave markings of Patriots Capt. John Koonce, Sr., Capt. Michael Koonce, and his wife Elizabeth Jarman Koonce were held on April 15 in conjunction with the Koonce Family Reunion in Trenton, NC. The ceremony was hosted by the New Bern Chapter NCSSAR in collaboration with the Richard Dobbs Spaight Chapter NCSDAR, the Moseley-Bright Chapter NCSDAR, the NCSCAR, the Jones County Historical Society, the Heritage Genealogical Society, and the National Sojourners.



Chapter President Dr. Bob Ainsley presented *SAR Wounded Warrior Coins* to Tim Jewell (pictured, left) and Phillip Dallas (right) on April 28 at the VetCenter BBQ Supper held at the VFW Post 2514 in New Bern. Recognized for their continued vete-

ran support, Tim has been instrumental in organizing golfing events, and Phillip has delivered fly tying workshops.

Pictured below are Chapter Compatriot and National Sojourner member Dr. Bob Mull, along with National Sojourners Bobby Meadows and Glen Carpenter, both prospective SAR members, who presented a "Build the Flag" program for



Boy Scout Troop #61 of Newport on May 16 at the Newport Masonic Lodge No. 706 A.F. and A.M. A total of 31 Scouts, in addition to several family members and numerous veterans, attended the program. Complimentary hot dogs, chips, and drinks were provided by Lodge members. The program is available to schools and civic organizations upon request to the National Sojourners Camp Lejeune Chapter #369, Jacksonville.



Chapter Compatriot Gerry Strickland, Jr. received the *SAR Youth Education Medal* on May 19 during the Annual Chapter Awards Meeting held at the St. Johns Masonic Lodge #3. This award recognizes the sustained education of our youth by a SAR member. As a volunteer member of the Tryon Palace Continental Line, Gerry has served as an historical interpreter over the past five years at



a wide variety of venues that included Moore's Creek National Battlefield Park, Tryon Palace at the NC History Center, Halifax Historical Site, Alamance Battleground State Historic Site, and the NC State Fairgrounds in Raleigh.

His demonstrations have included colonial campsite and cooking; the Brown Bess musket; NC maritime commerce during the American Revolution; guarding prisoners of war; NC State Navy in the American Revolution; soldier encampment life; NC Continental Line organization and history; and Naval stores and production. In 2022 alone, Gerry presented these demonstrations to a total of 1,700 Boy and Girl Scouts, homeschool students, public and private school groups, and families with children. NCSSAR Past President Jay DeLoach presented Gerry (pictured, left) with the award.



The Chapter celebrated Flag Day at the Annual Elks Lodge #764 Flag Day "Salute to the Flag" ceremony held at the Union Point Park gazebo, New Bern, on June 10. New Bern Chapter member and Past President DeLoach provided the keynote address. The Chapter Color Guard presented the eight historic national colors from the Revolution to the present day. Pictured with the New Bern Chapter Color Guard is the 2nd Marine Air Wing Band that provided an array of patriotic music. The ceremony that was well-attended by the community.



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

## Raleigh Chapter

On March 11, the Raleigh Chapter, in partnership with The Descendants of Washington's Army at Valley Forge (DVF), performed a grave marking ceremony for Patriot Benjamin Taylor Smith at his family plot in Seven Springs, NC. Private Smith served in the 10th North Carolina Continental Line, wintered at Valley Forge, fought at the Battle of Monmouth, and was taken prisoner after the siege of Charleston.

Chapter member and State SAR Chaplain Rev. Van Jones led the invocation and benediction, while Compatriot Gary Horne facilitated the ceremony. Chapter President Gary Spencer led the Color Guard and Tom Davis commanded the Volley Firing Squad. Also participating was the SAR South Atlantic Vice President General George Strunk. Chapter Past President Richard Pena and his wife Bette of the NCSDAR were in attendance. Special thanks go to Chapter member and State SAR Secretary Bob Sigmon for setting the marker in concrete prior to the event.



On Apr. 29 descendants of Joel Lane gathered with members of the NCSSAR, the NCSDAR, and representatives of the Joel Lane Museum House for the grave marking of Patriot Joel Lane. Col. Lane was an NC Constitutional Convention representative and served in the NC militia during the Revolution. He is considered a founding father of both Wake County and the State Capitol of Raleigh. The ceremony was held on a beautiful spring day beside Joel Lane's resting place in City Cemetery, Raleigh. See the full story on page 22.



With Spring arrives student awards season. In April and May, the Raleigh Chapter presented the *SAR Bronze Outstanding Cadet Award* to JROTC cadets at Sanderson and Wake Forest-Rolesville High Schools in Wake County, and Clayton, South Johnston, and Cleveland High Schools in Johnston County. The *SAR Silver Outstanding Cadet Award* was given to Cadet Jacob Ginn of North Carolina State University Air Force ROTC. Caroline Van Schaick of Corinth-Holders High School received the *SAR Bronze Good Citizenship Medal* for excellence in American government study. Several other students earned the *SAR Outstanding Citizenship Award* for volunteering over 75 hours each of community work each. Sophia Quinter, chapter winner of the 2023 *SAR George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay Award*, presented her paper on "The Boston Massacre" to chapter members on May 20.

During this quarter, the Raleigh Chapter made Flag Awards to graduating JROTC Color Guardsmen from Sanderson, South Johnston, and Cleveland High Schools. Awards were also made to graduating ROTC Color Guardsmen from North Carolina State University. A Flag Award was also presented to the Ramada by Wyndham in Raleigh, NC.



President Spencer awarded Compatriot David Bamford (pictured right) the *SAR Robert Sherman Medal* for his many dedicated hours to chapter success over the last several years. Numerous other SAR Military and War Service Medals were also awarded to chapter members this quarter.

**KARL FELD, Director of Communications**  
Raleigh Chapter NCSSAR

## Salisbury Chapter

On March 25, the *SAR Eagle Scout Certificate* was presented to Scouts Daniel and Levi Frick at the Court of Honor where they received their Eagle Scout Awards. At the same gathering, Daniel, Levi, their father, Garret, and Garret's brother Ben were all inducted into the SAR and Chapter as the newest members. Their Patriot ancestor is George Fisher. Fisher was a part of the Pennsylvania militia assigned to the Commander-in-Chief's guards, which, by extension, made him one of Gen. George Washington's body guards. Chapter Color Guard Commander Terry Holt assisted with the induction. Pictured below (L-R) are Daniel Frick, Levi Frick, Garret Frick, Ben Frick, Chapter President Frank Merrell, and Chapter Color Guard Commander Terry Holt.



Another new SAR member, David Stanton, was inducted at the May 21 Chapter meeting. David was also awarded the *SAR Veterans Corps Certificate and Medal*. On the same date in Kannapolis, the Chapter presented 54 *SAR Eagle Scout Certificates* at the annual recognition dinner of the Sapona District, Central NC Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

Chapter plans are well underway for participation in the annual Faith Fourth Parade on July 4 in the town of Faith, NC. All SAR members have been





invited to join this event, including color guardsmen. One of the largest July 4th celebrations in the State, the Faith Fourth Parade event typically draws 25,000 to 30,000 people.

**DR. FRANK MERRILL, President**  
Salisbury Chapter NCSSAR

## Sandhills Chapter

On March 15, Chapter Vice President and Public Service Committee Co-Chair Mike Saulnier and Compatriot Rod Herbig attended a Law Enforcement Awards Ceremony at the Southern Pines Police Station. Patrolman Steven Wessman was presented with the SAR Law Enforcement Medal and Certificate.



Officer Wessman was recognized for being a forward-thinking officer. He previously received an *Employee of the Quarter Award* in 2021 and in 2022 for the impact of his work on drug enforcement activities. He was also awarded with the *Southern Pines Police Department Life Saving Medal* in 2021 for helping save the life of a person who was experiencing a drug overdose. Officer Wessman has a strong desire to be involved in community policing activities and to stay motivated with proactive policing efforts. Pictured (L-R) are Rod Herbig, Mike Saulnier, Officer Wessman, and Southern Pines Police Chief Nicholas Poidori.

On March 25, 2023, the Chapter Color Guard joined members of the Alfred Moore Chapter NCSDAR Chapter and the Alston House Association to participate in the 250th historic legacy celebration of the House in the Horseshoe held at

The Alston House in Sanford, NC. Guardsmen Rod Herbig, Bill Loeser, Mark Townsend, Victor Burns, Steve Gent, Jack Laflin, Ramsey Blanks, and Bruce Fensley presented the Colors. Read more about this year's event in *The Pilot* e-news article (see <https://shorturl.at/tFHRW>).



Chapter Veterans Recognition Committee Chair and JROTC Liaison Officer, Army Maj. Chuck Spelman, USA, Ret. (pictured below, right), and Chapter President Bruce Fensley (left) presented the *SAR JROTC Outstanding Cadet Medal* to Cadet Johnathan Norris recently. The presentation was made at the Richmond Senior High School (RSHS) JROTC Chapter Annual Awards Dinner and Change of Command Ceremony in Rockingham. 2.5 3.25



The RSHS JROTC program is preparing an outstanding unit of cadets who are a highly motivated, focused, cohesive, well-trained, and academically accomplished class of future American citizens. Congratulations were extended to the Senior JROTC Instructor Army Maj. Darryll Kelly and Marine SFC James Light for their outstanding service. Also present at the ceremony was the Chapter's 2022 award recipient, Cadet Alfonso Nunez, who will graduate soon and proceed to Ft. Benning Georgia in August for his initial Army boot camp training.



Chapter leaders Spelman and Fensley also presented the *SAR JROTC Outstanding Cadet Medal* to Cadet Chief Petty Officer George Mitchell (pictured below) at the Union Pines High School (UPHS) JROTC Chapter Annual Awards and Change of Command Ceremony. Cadet Mitchell is a junior and the Orienteering Team Commander. Son of Holly Jorgensen and Steven Slavic of Cameron, NC, he plans to attend Wake Technical College after graduation to pursue studies in the Welding and Metallurgy Technology. Instructor, Navy LCDR Timoty Winn was commended for his outstanding leadership and service in the JROTC program.



**BRUCE FENSELY, President**  
Sandhills Chapter NCSSAR



## Yadkin Valley Chapter



after sitting under inspirational instruction about the American Revolution from his teacher Tara Ford. Jonah's poster was about Patriot Major Caleb Gibbs, Commander of Gen. George Washington's personal Life Guard.

Ten-year old Jonah Walker won the first place prize at the State SAR Elementary School Americanism Poster Contest held at the Alamance Battleground in May. A fifth grade student at Elkin Elementary School, Jonah created his poster



Sponsored by the local Yadkin Valley Chapter NCSSAR, Jonah's winning poster advances to the National SAR Poster Competition to be held in Orlando, FL in July. On hand to present Jonah with his award was NCSSAR President Steve Van Pelt and others who offered their congratulations. Pictured (L-R) are Chapter President Danny Crouse, Chapter Secretary Doug Mitchell, Jonah, Mrs. Ford, Jonah's mother Abby Walker, and Principal Emily Rycroft. *The Elkin Tribune* covered the story (see <https://rb.gy/8jg98>).

**DOUG MITCHELL, Secretary**  
Yadkin Valley Chapter NCSSAR



## HISTORICAL SITES

### House in the Horseshoe

by David Mann  
Consulting Editor ONS



The Phillip Alston House, or the House in the Horseshoe, sits atop a bend along the Deep River in Moore County. During the Revolution, it was part of Cumberland County. Newly-arrived Highland Scots settled in the region, and it became a site for skirmishes between Loyalist and Patriot militias. One event occurred in 1781,

when Patriot Commander Alston's militia engaged the forces of noted NC Loyalist Commander Col. David Fanning. Now owned and operated by the NC Division of Cultural Resources, the Sandhills Chapter hosts an annual commemoration there.



# NATIONAL PURPLE HEART DAY AUGUST 7TH



**NCSSAR Remembers the Sacrifices  
of Brave Patriots**

<https://www.dvidshub.net/graphic/21317/purple-heart-day-graphic>

## Compatriot Receives Prestigious Award

**By Dr. Bob Ainsley**

The *Chief Justice's Professionalism Award* is presented annually by The North Carolina Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism. The award is given to an individual whose contributions have demonstrated the highest commitment to genuine professionalism and the highest standards of legal ethics. Eligible nominees are those who have demonstrated the good that can be accomplished by turning intellectual honesty, compassion, and practical skills in the practice of law.



The Hon. Paul Newby, Chief Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court, presented the prestigious award to Judge Ken McCotter, Jr. of the New Bern Chapter on May 18. He is the first recipient from the NC 4th District Bar. A graduate of the University of North Carolina School of Law in 1971, Ken has been a practicing counselor of law for over 50 years, serving as a U.S. Magistrate Judge for 16 years and a trial lawyer since 1995. Joining Ken in the picture (L-R) are Chief Justice Paul Newby, Ken's wife Patand, and their two daughters, Ginny and Trish.

**Editor's Note:** Dr. Bob Ainsley is President, New Bern Chapter NCSSAR.



# In Search of My Grandfather's Gravesite (Part 2)

By Victor Burns, *Genealogist*  
Sandhills Chapter NCSSAR

**Readers** may want to read or review Mr. Burns' Part 1 article, published in the April 2023 issue of *The Old North State* (see <https://shorturl.at/adyGO>, p. 23), to get the continuity of his Part 2 article.

In 1784 Nathan Alexander Steadman, III migrated to North Carolina with his brothers Winship and Elisha, along with his parents. Five years later, the 2nd North Carolina Constitutional Convention was held at Cross Creek, present day Fayetteville in 1789. Convention members were housed at the Cool Spring Tavern. It was at this time that North Carolina ratified the U.S. Constitution along with its Bill of Rights. North Carolina was the 12th state to do so.

On April 7, 1791, Nathan married Anna Frances Clark. Purportedly, they were wed at the Cool Spring Tavern. In 1795 the Cool Spring Tavern was converted to a private residence by Nathan's brother Elisha. Still standing, the house is the oldest surviving structure in Fayetteville, NC.

Anna was the daughter of William H. Clark, who also served in the Revolutionary War. He served as a Sergeant on the North Carolina Continental line. For his service to the State and nation he was awarded 1,000 acres of land.

Nathan and his family were active in real estate and commerce in the Deep River and Chatham County area of North Carolina. In 1827 at the age of 65, Nathan was elected to the N.C. House of Representatives (House of Commons). In 1832 he became a member of the North Carolina Senate, which commenced November 19 that year. In 1834 he became the State Comptroller.

Nathan also served his community in many local offices. He was Clerk of Court for the Chatham County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for a decade before his death. In 1787, he was one of the Commissioners selected by the N.C. Legislature to layout the town of Pittsboro. Nathan was a member and Clerk of the Board of Superintendents for common (public) schools for Chatham County.

Nathan died on Nov 13, 1847, at 85 years of age. Amateur genealogists and Stedman family historians have spent considerable time trying to locate Nathan's grave site but always hit a brick wall. Research was set aside, and computer files, stacks of papers, and old books were only periodically reviewed.

Then, an unexpected interaction with a relative reignited our family's interest once more. My first cousin's husband, Paul, contacted me and asked if I would be interested in YDNA testing to track our family's ancestral roots.

During our correspondence, I sent Paul pictures of some family grave markers, including one of my third great-grandmother, Nabby Stedman Burns. She was the daughter of Nathan Alexander Stedman, III. This allowed me to confirm my Patriot ancestor. With a few more verifying documents, my SAR application was approved, and I became a member of the SAR.

Mystery and controversy ensued as Paul and I continued to research our ancestors, specifically, the location of the Stedman family cemetery in the Pittsboro area. Fortunately, ample historical information about Nathan and his family is available in Pittsboro. However, there was conflicting information about where he was buried.

The [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com) website indicated Nathan was interred in the Stedman Family Cemetery in the downtown Pittsboro area. Other information suggested he may have been buried near a home he once owned near the Asbury United Methodist Church (UMC) in Chatham County, outside the Pittsboro Township. The latter possibility was disproved by a family member, Dr Larry Stedman O'Connell, who spent many years searching in the Asbury area for the possible burial location with no results.

**Editor's Note:** Part 3 of Mr. Burns' article will follow in the October issue of *The Old North State*.



# NCSSAR Chapter Leadership Presidents | 2023-2024

THE  
OLD  
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2023

**ALAMANCE BATTLEGROUND**  
*John Guss*

**ALBEMARLE**  
*Chris Grimes*

**BATTLE OF KINGS MOUNTAIN**  
*Clark Summers*

**BETHABARA**  
*Orin Sadler*

**BLUE RIDGE**  
*Steve Greene*

**COL. ALEXANDER ERWIN**  
*Kevin Hancock*

**CATAWBA VALLEY**  
*Ben Setser*

**COL. ALEXANDER LILLINGTON**  
*Michael Murphy*

**COL. DANIEL BOONE**  
*Robert Crum*

**COLSON'S MILL**  
*Daniel Burleson*

**GEN. GEORGE WASHINGTON**  
*Travis Putman*

**GEN. FRANCIS NASH**  
*Al Segars*

**HALIFAX RESOLVES**  
*Geoff Pittard*

**LE MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE**  
*David Dowless*

**LOWER CAPE FEAR**  
*Dr. Jack H. Albert Jr.*

**LT. COL. JOHN PFIFER**  
*John Misenheimer*

**LT. COL. FELIX WALKER**  
*Thomas "Win" Webster*

**LUMBER RIVER**  
*Carlton Mansfield*

**MECKLENBURG**  
*Greg Catledge*

**NATHANAEL GREENE**  
*Danny Murray*

**NEW BERN**  
*Dr. Bob Ainsley*

**OLD NORTH STATE**  
*David Alls*

**PATRIOT ISAAC CARTER**  
*Napolean Carter*

**RALEIGH**  
*Gary Spencer*

**SALISBURY**  
*Franklin Merrill*

**SANDHILLS**  
*Bruce Fensley*

**WESTERN WATERS**  
*Joe Sam Queen*

**YADKIN VALLEY**  
*Danny Crouse*

NC Society Sons of the American Revolution

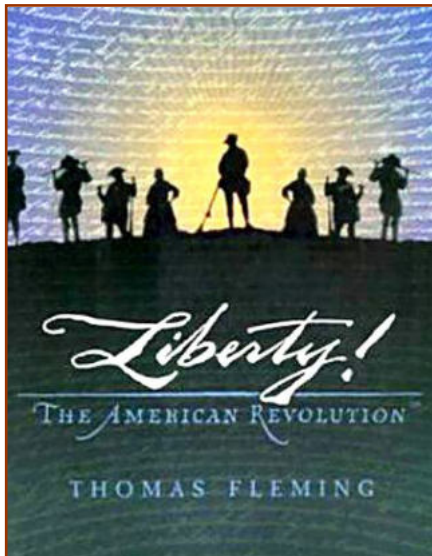


FROM THE REVOLUTIONARY  
BOOK SHELFBy **Lowell M. Hoffman**

Fleming, Thomas J. (2014). *Liberty: The American Revolution*. New York: Viking Press, 394 pp., ISBN 0-670-87021-8.

Simply stated, as our nation enters the historic period of commemorating the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the American Revolution, there is no better source to learn about and honor the entirety of that era than this book by Fleming. Amply augmented by portraits, paintings, maps and sidebar stories, this book holds one's interest from cover to cover.

Even those with substantial grounding will discover new and previously unknown stories and insights into the key figures on both sides of the Atlantic. As but one example, Fleming often references the names of William Pitt or Edmund Burke as prominent supporters of the Colonies and their grievances. We learn about many others including Lord Rockingham, Charles James Fox, Isaac Baare and, importantly, John Wilkes and the significance of "Wilkes and Liberty" in both England and within the Colonies.



Many of our American histories focus on the grievances and actions that took place in Boston and the Colonies, including response to the series of enacted English laws and regulations. Lesser addressed by the author is the increasing dissent within Parliament, the turnover of leadership, and the truculence of King George III in dealing with opposition.

The book will add significantly to one's knowledge of the internal politics of English government which impacted policies and leadership of the war effort. Readers also are treated to the issues which might now identify as "supply chain" complexities that served as restrictions on England's ability to wage war. When America's allies are considered, France merits primary mention. However, long and variable transit time of ships, storms and variable winds, depletion of supplies, and the necessity to take ships out of service for repairs all worked in support of the American cause.

A notable feature of the book is the abundance of single-column "sidebar stories." Among these are: "Rules by Which a Great Empire May Be Reduced to a Small One"—a satire by Ben Franklin, "Minute-men to the Rescue"—expounds upon origin, training and leadership, "A Short History of 'Yankee Doodle'"—including sets of alternative verses, "Proclamation of Rebellion"—text of King George III's message to Parliament on August 23, 1775, and "The Fate of the Loyalists"—an analysis of who they were and what happened to them. These and many others enable readers to read and contemplate history in a more contemporary mode.

The book covers major battles in an abbreviated scenario of the essentials as it builds upon the preamble issues of leadership, strategy and political relationships. Readers will understand more of the "Why" of the battle and the "What did it accomplish" than the tactics that influenced the outcome. From this, we gain a sense of the rise and fall of morale of the troops and the spirit of liberty which sustained them.

One final accolade is the inclusion of data that enable us to better consider the conditions under which our Patriot ancestors served and the perils which they faced. In one of the sidebar stories, we read that Patriot sacrifices included 6,284 killed in action (238 clashes and larger battles), another 10,000 due to disease such as smallpox and dysentery, and another 8,500 died as prisoners. Other sources provide larger estimates. The Revolutionary War dead approximated 0.9% of total white and black population of 2,640,000. Only the Civil War with deaths of 1.6% of the population were higher among all of America's wars to date.



Quoting from the book cover: “Liberty traces the ideals that inspired a generation of Americans to struggle against Britain—then the most powerful nation in the world—to establish the free society and democratic system that is so inherently and uniquely American. A remarkable work that surges with human drama.”

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

## Halifax Resolves Day 2023

By Geoff Pittard

Commemorating the 247th Anniversary of the Halifax Resolves, Halifax Resolves Day was held on the grounds of the Colonial Courthouse in Halifax, NC, on April 12. At this location in 1776, resolutions were adopted by the Fourth North Carolina Provincial Congress, declaring the State's resolve and intent to declare independence from Great Britain. The Halifax Resolves were sent to Philadelphia, PA, where the North Carolina Delegates to the Continental Congress were authorized to vote for independence that later became the Declaration of Independence.

The celebratory event began with a welcome from Carl Burke, Site Manager for Historic Halifax, followed by introductory remarks by Past President Ken Wilson of the NCSSAR Halifax Resolves Chapter, which largely hosted the event. The invocation was provided by the NCSSAR Chaplain Rev. Van Jones. The Pledge of Allegiance and the SAR Pledge were led by Chapter Compatriots Harry Albert and Bill Riggan, respectively. Presentation of the Colors was led Brooks Lyles Jr., National SAR Color Guard Commander

Remarks were provided by George Strunk, South Atlantic Vice President General (VPG) NSSAR; Steve Van Pelt, current President, NCSSAR; Steven F. Avent, Mountain Region Vice President, NCSSAR; Ernie Coggins, President, VASSAR; Mary Tatum, Parliamentarian, NCSDAR; Dorothy Johnson, Chaplain-elect, NCSCAR; Valerie Howell, Senior President, NCSCAR; Gus Succop, President, NC General Society Sons of the Revolution (NCGSSR); Sheryll Pope Albert, NC Governor, Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence (DSDI); Kevin Hanretta, Commander American Legion Post 38; and Dia Denton, Halifax County Manager.



Vernon J. Bryant, Chairman, Halifax County Board of Commissioners, spoke on the history of Halifax in the founding of America and presented a Proclamation to Ken Wilson in regard to the day's events. Aide-de-camp Jay A. DeLoach, Past President, NCSSAR, introduced the event guest speaker, C. Bruce Pickett (pictured), President General (PG), NSSAR. The National SAR wreath was presented by PG Pickett and VPG Strunk.

Additional wreaths were presented by representatives from numerous other groups: NCSSAR—Alamance Battleground Chapter, Gen. George Washington Chapter, Kings Mountain Chapter, Lower Cape Fear Chapter, and New Bern Chapter; VASSAR—Culpepper Minutemen Chapter; NSSAR—Brunswick Town Chapter, Elizabeth Montfort-Ashe Chapter, Guilford Battle Chapter, Micajah Pettaway-Halifax Resolves Chapter, John Penn Chapter, Samuel Johnston Chapter, and Shocco Creek Chapter; VASDAR—Fauquier Court House Chapter; NCSCAR; NCGSSR; DSDI; American Legion Post 38; and Halifax County Board of Commissioners.

**Editor's Note:** Geoff Pittard is President, Halifax Resolves Chapter NCSSAR and a Consulting Editor for *ONS*.



# Law Enforcement Officers Honored for Service

By Ken Wilson

The Halifax Resolves Chapter NCSSAR recently recognized three law enforcement officers from the Halifax County Sheriff's Department with the *SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal*. This medal recognizes those who have served with distinction and devotion and is intended to recognize exceptional service or accomplishment in the field of law enforcement.

The presentations were made by Chapter Past President Ken Wilson (pictured below, far left), assisted by Sheriff Tyree Davis (far right). Honorees were Lt. Stevie Salmon (second from left), Deputy Dakota Jakota Snider (center), and Cpl. Raymond Chin (second from right). Their service to the community and to the profession is noteworthy.



**Lt. Stevie Salmon** oversees the court division and has approximately 13 deputies (some part-time) and three transport deputies that assist with the day-to-day business at the Halifax County Courthouse. He makes certain the front desk at the Sheriff's Office is staffed during business hours and has deputies at the main entrances of the Courthouse who provide security, ensuring that no weapons make it through the front doors. He is also responsible for the safety and order of the Courthouse entrants, including judges, courthouse employees and the general public. As part of supervisory duties, Lt. Salmon is actively involved in the rotation of deputies during court and security assignments. He

works security himself, performing scans using a handheld metal detector. He also works court sessions and accompanies hospital patients with mental illnesses. He uses good judgment and discretion in performing work and advising deputies in the correct approach to specific assignments when dealing with defendants, lawyers, plaintiffs, and the public. Approximately 200 to 1000 people pass through the doors of the Courthouse at any one time during scheduled court sessions. Lt. Salmon also coordinates the safe transportation of involuntary commitment (IVC) patients and inmates to and from facilities. This sometimes requires work after normal work hours and on weekends.

**Cpl. Raymond Chin** has a demonstrated record of remaining steady and calm in life-threatening situations. On Thursday January 26, 2023, at approximately 9:30 p.m., Corporal Chin was following up on a shooting which had happened in the town of Enfield. The Enfield Police Department was actively investigating the shooting that resulted in two victims. Chin was speaking to several individuals on Bryant Street seeking information when shots were fired from behind a vacant home nearby. He gave verbal commands to the two individuals to get behind the car and to stay down for safety. Chin remained with the two individuals until the area was secured. This was a very dangerous, intense situation. Cpl. Chin kept his composure and relied on his training to ensure the safety of these two individuals.

**Dep. Jakota Snider** thinks quickly and can be decisive when facing serious matters of law enforcement. On Wednesday March 8, 2023, at approximately 2:46 a.m., NC Highway Patrol (HP) responded to a hit-and-run fatality on Interstate 95 Northbound near the 167-mile marker. Troopers released a BOLO (be on the lookout) on the suspect vehicle, which was given to Halifax County Sheriff's Deputies. Dep. Snider, who was on duty at the time, took the initiative to contact a friend who owns a truck repair shop in Virginia. That friend then started making calls to other repair shops in Virginia about the fatality. The tractor trailer involved was located in Sussex County, VA, and the driver was identified. Dep. Snider's willingness to reach out to friends about this incident allowed the HP to continue their investigation with a potential arrest.

**Editor's Note:** Ken Wilson is the immediate Past President of the Halifax Resolves Chapter NCSSAR.



# Strong SAR-CAR Bond



The bond between NCSSAR and the North Carolina Society of the Children of the American Revolution (NCSCAR) remains strong. NCSCAR held its annual State Conference at the Carraway Conference Center on March 18. NCSSAR President-elect Steve Van Pelt attended and brought greetings.

Steve (not pictured) presented the SAR *CAR Silver Medal of Appreciation* to Bethany Westbrook. He also presented her with the SAR *CAR Outstanding Member award*. In addition, a \$1,000 donation to NCSCAR on behalf of NCSSAR was presented.

NCSSAR Past President Fred Learned, Larry Brown, and John Martin (pictured, L-R) attended in uniform and organized the flags for the evening awards celebration. The NCSCAR graciously expressed its sincere appreciation for all the support the SAR provides throughout the year.

**GARY HORNE, *CAR Liaison***  
**NCSSAR**



## July 4th Independence Day Since 1776

*Celebrating Freedom Never Gets Old*



<https://unsplash.com/@bsinger1970>

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# NCSSAR Color Guard Report

By Stephen P. McKee  
NCSSAR Color Guard Commander



The NCSSAR Color Guard continues to be very active across the State in the second quarter of 2023. Dedicated Guardsmen made appearances and assisted in numerous ceremonies at SAR and local events, including the following:

**247th Anniversary Commemoration of the Halifax Resolves**, Halifax, hosted by the Halifax Resolves Chapter, NCSSAR on April 12, 2023. President General C. Bruce Pickette was in attendance and delivered remarks.

**Patriots Day Celebrations at Alamance Battleground State Historic Site**, Burlington, hosted by the Alamance Battleground Chapter NCSSAR, May 20.

**243rd Anniversary Commemoration of the Battle of Ramsour's Mill**, Lincolnton, hosted by the Catawba Valley Chapter, NCSSAR, the weekend of June 16. It was preceded Friday night by the 2023 Patriots Gala hosted by the Jacob Forney Chapter NCSDAR.

## Upcoming Events:

**Faith 4th of July Parade**, Faith, hosted by the Salisbury Chapter NCSSAR on July 4.

**Boone 4th of July Parade**, Boone, hosted by the Col. Daniel Boone Chapter NCSSAR on July 4.

**242nd Anniversary Commemoration of the Attack on the House in the Horseshoe**, Sanford, hosted by the Sandhills Chapter NCSSAR on July 29.

**249th Anniversary Commemoration of the New Bern Resolves**, New Bern, hosted by the New Bern Chapter NCSSAR on August 26.



## Henry Knox Achievement Medal

The NCSSAR Executive Committee has approved a set of three new SAR medals, the *Henry Knox Achievement Medals* (gold, silver, and bronze). The Medal may be awarded to a Compatriot or non-SAR member in recognition and appreciation of a specific, outstanding achievement to advance the mission, programs, or activities of the SAR.

The goal is to recognize noteworthy individual or multiple contributions, accomplishments, deeds, performances, or efforts. This award is not limited by a specific time of service requirement. A description of this new medal will be included in the upcoming, revised *NCSSAR Handbook* (vol. 5). Chapter leaders are encouraged to consider awarding this new medal to deserving compatriots.

JAY DELOACH, *Past President*  
NCSSAR



## FLAGS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

### The Moultrie Flag

By Robert Webster

The Moultrie flag, also known as the “Liberty” flag, is a strong symbol of role of the Southern Colonies in the Revolution. The flag design was commissioned by Col. William Moultrie of the 2nd South Carolina Regiment of provincial troops. Reportedly, the flag’s design is based on the unit’s uniform. Although the specific origin of the crescent moon is debated, whether representing the caps of soldiers or a form of neck armor commonly worn at the time, it is still represented in today’s South Carolina state flag.

On 28 June 1776, the Moultrie flag was raised over the newly built Fort Sullivan as nine British warships entered Charleston Harbor. The fort, which was still under construction, was not yet armed or ready for the attack when it came. For ten hours the British warships bombarded the palmetto-log fort with cannon fire.



Though the Moultrie Flag was shot away by the British in the battle, the fort's freshly cut palmetto logs were still spongy and very flexible. The few completed walls of the fort absorbed the British cannon fire and, as legend tells, several cannonballs bounced off the walls. Lack of knowledge of Charleston Harbor further complicated the British attack, as at least one ship ran aground.

Having lit the grounded vessel afire to prevent Colonial scavenging, the British retreated. Thus, the Colonial Regiment was victorious and saved the South from British occupation for another two years.

**Editor's Note:** MSgt. Robert Webster, USMC, Ret., is the Secretary of the New Bern Chapter and Contributing Author for *ONS*. He can be contacted at [NewBernSAR@gmail.com](mailto:NewBernSAR@gmail.com).



# Patriot Joel Lane Grave Marking

By Karl Feld

Descendants of Joel Lane gathered with members of the NCSSAR, NCSDAR, and representatives of the Joel Lane Museum House on April 29 for the SAR grave marking of Patriot Joel Lane. The ceremony was held on a beautiful spring day beside Lane's resting place in City Cemetery, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Descendant Sam Mordecai provided remarks, followed by greetings from Ms. Ava Pecze, President of the Joel Lane Chapter NSCAR (pictured). Ms. Lanie Hubbard, Director of Joel Lane Museum House, delivered a keynote speech on facts and myths about Joel Lane. Memorial wreaths were formally presented by several NCSSAR chapters. Raleigh Chapter President read prepared remarks sent by North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper, a Raleigh Chapter member. Sergeant First Class Walter Blower of the North Carolina National Guard performed *Taps* following volley fire by the Raleigh Chapter Color Guard.



Joel Lane is considered a founding father of both Wake County and Raleigh. He introduced the legislation to found Wake County in 1771 and sold 1,000 acres of land to North Carolina on which to build Raleigh as the new State Capitol. He was a member of the Colonial Assembly for Johnston (1770-1771) and Wake (1773) Counties, a Lieutenant Colonel in the militia, justice of the peace for Wake and Johnston counties, and served Wake County as Senator in the North Carolina General Assembly for eleven terms (1782-1785, 1787-1795).

During the Revolutionary War, Lt. Col. Lane supported North Carolina's break from Great Britain. In 1775 he was appointed a member of the Council of Safety for the Hillsborough District of North Carolina, the wartime governing body that oversaw the new State of North Carolina when the Provincial Congress was not in session. In August of 1776, he hosted the Council's meetings in his home. Lane was also responsible for distributing 100 bushels (800 gallons) of very valuable confiscated Loyalist salt to local Patriot soldiers.

Joel Lane was a delegate to the 1788 Constitutional Convention in Hillsborough, NC where he voted along with the majority of North Carolina delegates to "neither ratify nor to reject the U.S. Constitution," which lacked a Bill of Rights. North Carolina and Rhode Island were the two states that did not accept the original document. Both Lane and his son Henry Lane were delegates to the subsequent 1789 Constitutional Convention at Fayetteville, which ratified the U.S. Constitution with a new Bill of Rights amendment.

The ceremony was organized by the Raleigh Chapter NCSSAR. Attendees included compatriots from other NCSSAR Chapters and DAR representatives from North Carolina and Tennessee. A lunch meal followed the event at Sam Jones BBQ on West Lenoir Street, Raleigh.

**Editor's Note:** Karl Feld is the Director of Communications for the Raleigh Chapter and a Contributing Author for *ONS*.

# NCSSAR Bylaws Update

By **A. Robert "Bob" Sigmon**  
**Secretary NCSSAR**

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**Revision 1:** Added the following to Article VI. Officers, Delegates and Trustees:

*§ 9. Out-of-Cycle Vacated Elected Positions. The Executive Committee (EXCOM) will appoint an interim replacement in the event an elected position is vacated out of its normal cycle. The interim appointee will be voted upon at the next Board of Managers' (BOM) meeting.*

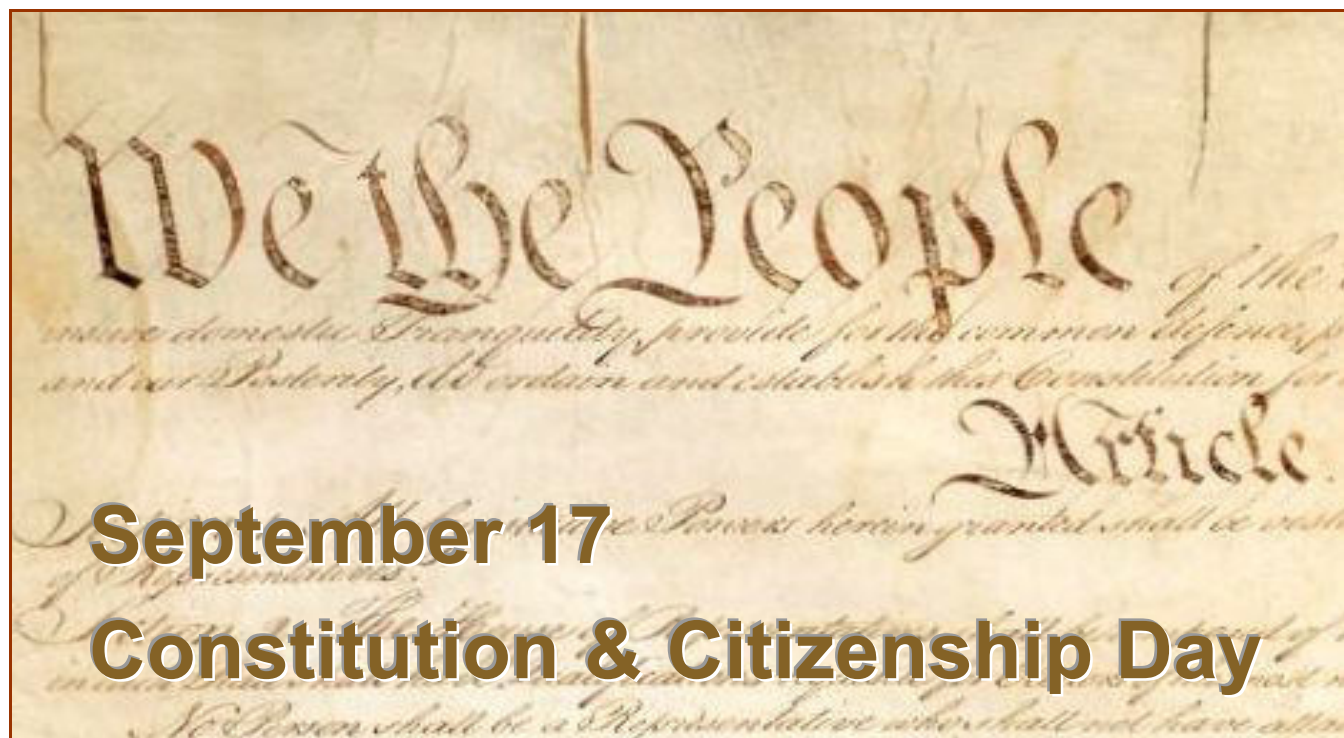
**RATIONALE:** During 2021-2022, NCSSAR had a number of State officers who vacated their respective position for a variety of reasons, including resignation, death, transferred out-of-state, or moved from one position to another. There was no established process within the NCSSAR *Bylaws* or *Handbook* for replacing these out-of-cycle vacated positions. Consequently, the NCSSAR leadership developed and followed an unwritten process based upon the spirit of Robert's Rules of Order whereby the Executive Committee (EXCOM) appointed an interim-willing replacement and then voted on that appointment at the next BOM. The emergency procedure used by the NCSSAR leadership in 2021-2022 was an effective way in which to remedy the situation. The Bylaws Committee will solicit recommendations from State and chapter leadership on how to codify this process or a modified/different process.

**Revision 2:** Deleted the following statement from Article III. Membership, §2. Methods for Securing Membership, C. Transfer:

*"...accompanied by a copy of the application for membership originally submitted to the National Society."*

**RATIONALE:** The requirement to present an original application is not required by NSSAR and was a NCSSAR requirement when the member database was unavailable. The important document is the transfer form from the State society verifying the person is a member in good standing.

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NC Society Sons of the American Revolution



## Wise-Haas Grave Marking



Catawba Valley Chapter conducted a double grave marking for Patriots Isaac Wise and Simon Haas on May 27 at the Old Haas Cemetery in Newton. Among the Color Guardsmen who participated in the ceremony were NCSSAR Color Guard Commander Steve McKee (pictured far left) and Catawba Chapter President Ben Setser (second from right).

Ms. Nancy Ramsey, contributor to the Haas-Davenport website ([www.lhaasdav.com](http://www.lhaasdav.com)), summarized the origin of the Old Haas Cemetery from stories that have circulated around the State:

"Simon Hass the pioneer was a good farmer and very successful. A few years before his death he found the body of Isaac Wise, hung on a limb, by the Tories, because he refused to join with them to fight in the Revolution against his own people. Simon took the body to his home and prepared it for burial with some of his wife's best linen sheets (as there were no sawmills in those days and no lumber for a coffin). He was buried on a hill, which afterward was made into the famous Old Hass Graveyard. In 1779 Simon died and was buried beside the body of Isaac Wise. And a few years later his wife was placed there, too. Simon died under peculiar circumstances, as he left home to visit a neighbor and when he did not return in due time, his son was sent to look for him, and found his body beside the branch, and his horse tied to a tree. It is presumed that he went to get a drink of water and died of a heart attack."

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

## 241st Anniversary of the Guilford Courthouse Battle



Viewed as one of the significant military actions that led to the British surrender in Yorktown in 1781, the Battle of Guilford Courthouse under the command of Maj. Gen. Nathanael Greene was fought on March 15, 1781. Compatriots from various NCSSAR chapters joined other patriotic groups at the Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, Greensboro, on March 15 this year for the 241st Anniversary Observance of the Battle.

In addition to laying of wreaths, the event included an annual parade led by the combined National SAR and State SAR Color Guards (pictured). Among the Guardsmen who participated were Sandhills Chapter Compatriots Victor Burns, Bruce Fensley, Steve Gent, Jack Laflin, and Bill Loeser.

**Bruce Fensley, President**  
Sandhills Chapter NCSSAR





# *New Bern Resolves*

THE  
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NC Society Sons of the American Revolution

## *SAVE THE DATE*

*249<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OBSERVANCE  
OF THE  
NEW BERN RESOLVES  
1<sup>ST</sup> NORTH CAROLINA PROVINCIAL CONGRESS  
NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA*

*August 26, 2023 at 9:45\* o'clock a.m.  
320 Pollock Street  
Christ Episcopal Church, New Bern, NC*

*The SAR New Bern Chapter, DAR Richard Dobbs Spaight Chapter,  
Christ Episcopal Church, the North Carolina History Center at Tryon Palace, St.  
Johns Masonic Lodge #3 and the National Sojourners will host a ceremony in  
remembrance of the 71 Delegates and Resolves of the 1<sup>st</sup> North Carolina  
Provincial Congress held in New Bern during 25-27 August 1774.*

*Mustering of All Members.*

*INQUIRIES: [NewBernResolves@gmail.com](mailto:NewBernResolves@gmail.com)*

*REGISTER ONLINE AT <https://rb.gy/548t1>*

*\*Procession starts at 9:45 o'clock a.m.*



# State SAR Awards

By John Thornhill  
Consulting Editor ONS

The evening of April 1 was an enjoyable and encouraging time for Compatriots who were able to attend the State SAR Convention and Annual Awards Banquet in Greensboro. Members across the State were recognized for their service to the SAR and presented with the following individual awards:

**Martha Washington Medal**—for outstanding service to the SAR, presented to Bette Pena; An Oak Leaf Cluster was presented to **Jo Thornhill**.

**Daughters of Liberty Medal**—for unselfish devotion, tireless efforts, and assistance to the SAR, presented to **Amy Tillery**.

**Lyda Darragh Medal**—for a lady who has provided significant service to her husband, the outgoing NCSSAR President, presented to **Jodi DeLoach**.

**Letters of Appreciation**—for service to the NCSAR, presented to **Steven Avent, Daniel Burleson, Gary Horne, James Johnson, David Mann, Stephen Morris, Pat Niemann, and Gary Spencer**.

**Color Guardsman of the Year**—for a State/Chapter-level Color Guardsman who has served at least three years and who best exemplifies both the spirit of the SAR and the use of the Color Guard to display that spirit, presented to **Robert Patton**.

**Lafayette Volunteer Medal**—for volunteer service to the SAR of 40 hours; Oak Leaf Clusters presented to **Gary Green, John Thornhill, Gary Spencer, and Ed McBride**.

**Youth Education Medal**—for sustained education of our youth, presented to Gerry Strickland; Oak Leaf Cluster presented to **Ken Wilson**.

**Silver Roger Sherman Medal**—for outstanding service to the State SAR Society, presented to Richard Pena, Robert Ray, and Clark Summers; Oak Leaf Clusters presented to **David Alls, John Boyd, Bob Ervin, Bruce Fensley, Gary Green, Fred Learned, Dr. Sam Powell, George Strunk, John Thornhill, Steve Van Pelt, Ken Wilson, and Jim Wood**.

**Silver Meritorious Service Medal**—for members who have rendered long, faithful, and meritorious service to the State SAR Society, presented to **Dr. Bob Ainsley, Lowell Hoffman, Robert Patton, Ben Setser, and Dr. Joe Sutton**.

**State Distinguished Service Medal**—for long and conspicuous service to the State SAR Society, presented to **Chris Grimes**.

**State Patriot Medal**—the highest State SAR Society award to a Compatriot for long, faithful, outstanding, and distinguished service at the State and/or chapter level, presented to **Michael Aycock, Jay DeLoach, Stephen McKee, and A. Robert "Bob" Sigmon**.

Summaries of service for the Class of 2023 State Patriot Medal recipients follow:

**Michael Aycock**—Michael has served the State as a Regional Vice-President for 3 years. Prior to that, he was State Chaplain for 2 years. Mike has served 4 years as the State Enhanced JROTC Chairman. At the local chapter level, Michael was President of the le Marquis de Lafayette Chapter for 1 year and the Chapter Secretary for 3 years. He has attended 32 Patriot and 4 Compatriot grave markings. In addition, he has attended 11 Board of Manager meetings and 5 Annual State Conventions. Michael is a George Washington Fellow and a NC Minuteman.

**Jay DeLoach**—Jay has served as State SAR President, State Secretary, and Senior Vice President. He has chaired the Awards, Americanism, EXCOM and Flag Committees, and has served on the JROTC

# POW / MIA Recognition Day September 15



THE  
OLD  
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JULY  
2023

NC Society Sons of the American Revolution

and Eagle Scout committees. At the chapter level, Jay served as President for 2 years, Vice President for 1 year, and Chair of the JROTC and Eagle Scout Committees. He has attended over 60 Color Guard events, 19 Patriot grave markings, and 15 compatriot grave markings. Jay established the Revolutionary War clothing reimbursement program, secured insurance coverage for all SAR events, updated the State SAR Handbook, established chapter and State training programs, and the Patriot Medal nomination process. He assisted in establishing 2 new chapters in North Carolina and is the first line signer for 17 new members. Jay has attended 10 Board of Manager meetings and 4 State Conventions. He is a NC Minuteman and a George Washington Fellow.

**Stephen McKee**—Stephen served as the Foothills Regional Vice President for 2 years, the State Color Guard Commander for 1 year, 2 years as the Western NC Color Guard Adjutant, and the Cowan's Ford Coordinator for 5 years. He was the Mecklenburg Chapter President for 2 years, Vice President for 2 years, and Assistant Chapter Secretary for 1 year. Stephen was the Chapter Color Guard Commander 4 years. He assisted the State with organizing the winter BOM meeting for 5 years, and he coordinated Color Guard Activities at King's Mountain, Cowan's Ford and Guilford Court House. Stephen has attended 10 Board of Managers meetings and 6 State Conventions. Stephen is a NC Minuteman and a George Washington Fellow.

**A. Robert "Bob" Sigmon**—Robert has served as State Secretary for 2 years and was the Northeast Region Vice President for 2 years. He currently serves on the State Executive Committee 2026 Congress Planning Committee. Bob has been a Consulting Editor and served on the Editorial Committee of *The Old North State* newsletter for 3 years. Bob held the post of Raleigh Chapter President for 4 years, Chapter Secretary for 4 years, Treasurer for 4 years, Chapter Color Guard Commander 5 years. He was also Chapter newsletter editor for 2 years, winning the National SAR Carl F. Bessent Award for best state chapter newsletter for 1 year. He established the Raleigh Color Guard as lead for the NC State Independence Day and Naturalization Ceremony, and the Memorial Day celebration at the Raleigh National Cemetery. Bob has attended over 25 Color Guard events including 3 Patriot grave markings. He has attended 13 Board of Managers meetings and 6 Annual Conventions. Bob helped establish the Raleigh Chapter Capital campaign to fund the Veterans Life Center of NC.



## THE OLD NORTH STATE

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### SUBMISSION DEADLINES

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

## SAR Meetings & Events

### July-September 2023

Updates available at

<https://rb.gy/19e7l>

<https://www.sar.org/events/>

### NATIONAL EVENTS

**July 4:** Independence Day

**July 13-20:** 133rd National SAR Congress; Hosted by the FLSSAR; Rosen Plaza Hotel, Orlando, FL.

**September 11:** Patriot Day

**September 17:** Constitution & Citizenship Day

**September 21-23:** National SAR Fall Leadership Conference, Louisville, KY.

### STATE EVENTS

**July 22:** 243rd Anniversary Celebration, Battle of Colson's Mill; Hosted by the Colson's Mill Chapter NCSSAR; Norwood Community Building, Norwood, NC: Begins 11:00 a.m.

**July 29:** 242nd Anniversary Commemoration, Attack at the House in the Horseshoe; Hosted by the Sandhills Chapter NCSSAR; House in the Horseshoe, Sanford, NC; 10:00-12:00 p.m.

**July 29:** 242nd Anniversary Commemoration, Battle of Rockfish Creek; Hosted by the Col. Alexander Lillington Chapter NCSSAR; Location TBA, 10:00-12:00 p.m.

**August 12:** 248th Anniversary Commemoration, Tryon Resolves, Battle of King's Mountain Chapter NCSSAR; Bessemer City, NC; Location and time TBA.

**August 26:** 249th Anniversary Observance, New Bern Resolves; Hosted by the New Bern Chapter NCSSAR; Christ Episcopal Church, New Bern; Begins 9:45 a.m.

**August 27:** 242nd Anniversary Commemoration, Battle of Elizabethtown; Elizabethtown, NC: Location and time TBA.

**September 16:** Commemoration, Battle of the Black Hole; Hosted by the Western Waters Chapter; Wayah Creek, NC, 1:00-5:00 p.m.

**September 21-24:** National SAR Fall Leadership Meeting; Location and time, TBA.

**September 30:** NCSSAR Summer Board of Managers Meeting; North Carolina State University Club, Raleigh; 11:00-3:00 p.m.