



The Sons of the American Revolution

Catawba Coalition



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

President's Report

Compatriots and Friends



10 August 2023

Volume 4 Issue 8

Chapter Officers

President
Ben Setser

Vice President
John Jay Cline

Secretary
Roy C Lightfoot

Treasurer
Dan Beal

Historian
Rhod Reep

**Past President &
Registrar**
Jack Bowman



Catawba Valley Chapter has been working tirelessly to perpetuate the memory of Revolutionary War Patriots and battle locations locally and across the state. Before we begin the news of what we have accomplished last month, I must report the news that our National Congress voted to increase National dues by \$15.00 beginning in September when National, State and Chapter dues come due. This is the first increase in 10 years, and the regular dues now is; National \$50.00, State \$20.00, Chapter \$20.00, 2026 Congress excise \$5.00: for a total of \$95.00. The notices for dues will be coming soon.

There will also be proposed changes to the Chapter Bylaws at our next meeting. These proposed changes indicated in red and italicized are: **Section 7, Election:** A. Elected officers shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. *Only members in Good Standing may stand for office.* AND addition of a new section, **Section 8, Discipline:** A. *Complaint. Any member of the Society may lodge a formal complaint against another member for alleged conduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Chapter. The complaining member will file the written complaint, in duplicate, including specifics of the conduct alleged with the secretary. The secretary will send or present a copy of the complaint to the president. Upon receipt of the complaint, the president will convene an adjudication panel. The panel will be comprised of: State Regional Vice President, Chapter President, Vice President and Secretary. The panel will first consider whether the conduct alleged in the complaint, if true, constitutes conduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Society. If the panel determines that the alleged conduct is not prejudicial, it will take no further action and the matter is closed. If the panel determines that the alleged conduct, if true, is prejudicial, it will set a date for a hearing not less than three nor more than six weeks after such determination. The secretary will send a copy of the complaint to the accused member by a method that will assure delivery, together with a notice of the hearing. The notice will advise the accused member that he may appear and present witnesses in his defense. B. Panel Hearing. The panel may decide that counsel may represent the parties. At the hearing, the complaining member first, and then the accused member may present evidence, including witness testimony, regarding the conduct in question. Should the panel find that the alleged misconduct is prejudicial to the best interests of the Chapter, it may, by a majority vote of those members present, depending on the nature and severity of the misconduct, issue the following: 1. A Formal Reprimand to subject member 2. A Formal Apology to the Complainants, Chapter Members, other Organizations as applicable 3. Elevation to State President for Article XV proceedings.*

Maintaining a singular purpose for the Chapter is imperative.

Pictured below are scenes from The Battle of Huck's Defeat with Stephen McKee, Lynne Smith and Roy Lightfoot representing us there and the Neil Morrison Grave marking, both held on July 15.



Continued on Page 3

יהי



Ben Setser
Chapter President





“The Battle of Musgrove Mill”

As previously discussed, on 12 May 1780, the British had captured Charlestown, South Carolina, and with that had gained almost complete control over the state. While this was a major victory for the British, there were still pockets of resistance in the form of Patriot guerilla fighters who were engaged with Loyalist sympathizers in a bloody civil war. These Patriots began striking at Loyalist outposts in the backcountry. One such incident was the Battle of Musgrove Mill. On the morning of 19 August 1780, approximately 200 mounted Patriots arrived near a local Loyalist outpost and grain supply near Musgrove Mill. The Patriot force consisted of Georgians led by Colonel Elijah Clarke, South Carolinians with Colonel James Williams, and a group of Over Mountain Men from the mountains which were still part of North Carolina (present-day Tennessee) under the command of Colonel Isaac Shelby.

The Patriots presence was discovered when several of their scouts ran into a Loyalist patrol. Two of the Patriots were wounded, and when falling back, they ran into a friendly farmer who relayed that contrary to their initial intelligence, the Loyalist outpost now consisted of 500 men including 100 Loyalist militia and 200 provincial regulars who were on their way to join with Major Patrick Ferguson.

Outnumbered and with the loss of the element of surprise on their side, the Patriots formed up on a ridge top overlooking the Mill, and threw together a make-shift semicircular breastwork of fallen timber and brush approximately 300 yards long. A small detachment of about 20 men under the command of Captain Shadrach Inman moved forward to lure the Loyalists out into an ambush. Inman’s force crossed over the Enoree River, and briefly engaged the Loyalist force. Appearing to retreat in confusion, the Patriots fell back to the main line of defense, The Loyalist took the bait “hook, line, and sinker,” and pursued the small force.

The Patriots had been ordered to hold their fire until they “could distinguish the buttons” on the clothes of the advancing Loyalists, under the command of Colonel Alexander Innes. The excited Loyalists fired too early, and when they were within seventy yards of the Patriot line, the Patriots opened fire with a devastating effect. However, the well-disciplined Loyalists kept their nerve, fixed bayonets, and advanced on the Patriots’ right flank where Shelby’s men were positioned. The Over Mountain Men lacked bayonets with which to fend off the advancing Loyalist, and were forced to defend themselves with hand to hand combat. Realizing this was as of no use, the Patriots fell back. Attempting to relieve the applied pressure, Colonel Clarke advanced, and attacked the Loyalist’s right flank. At about the same time, one of Shelby’s men shot and wounded Innes who fell from his horse. Shelby’s men rallied, returned to the fray, and attacked shrieking like banshees as the Loyalists began to waiver, and finally withdrew. The Patriots pressed their attack, and the Loyalists’ retreat turned into a rout.

Lasting only about an hour, the Loyalist force suffered heavy casualties, with sixty-three killed, unknown number of wounded, and seventy taken prisoner. The Patriots’ lost approximately four dead, and twelve wounded. Before they could follow up on the success, the Patriot commanders learned of the Patriot loss at Camden only three days prior. Nonetheless, the Battle of Musgrove Mill, and many others that followed in the area, signaled to Great Britain that the flames of resistance to British rule were far from extinguished, and would continue.

In addition, these Loyalist militia men, and provincial troops were kept from joining Major Patrick Ferguson, and thus, were not able to participate in the Battle of Kings Mountain. Once again, another small battle prior to Kings Mountain which kept troops from joining Ferguson, and perhaps, changing the outcome of that battle a few months later.

Roy C. Lightfoot




**The Catawba Valley Chapter
of the
Sons of the American Revolution**

President's Report
Continued from Page 1

Catawba Valley Chapter, in its efforts to follow our national "Partners In Patriotism" program with the Daughters of the American Revolution will be joining with the Mary Slocumb Chapter in conducting a Patriot Grave Marking for Rev Daniel Asbury at Rehoboth United Methodist Church, 9297 Sherrills Ford Rd, Terrell NC 28682 at 1:00 pm on Saturday, October 12, 2023. It is important that as many Color Guard members as possible be present. This is our chapter's first contact with the Mary Slocumb Chapter, and we need to make a good showing of it. See the flyer below left.

Keeping in that same train of thought, Catawba Valley and Bethabara Chapters, along with many members of our region have began the process of doing a large Grave Marking at Pilgrim Reformed Church in Lexington NC. When we began the idea, there were 15 men known by the church as Patriots, and they always placed wreaths on their grave during Wreaths Across America. We examined the information, proved a few more Patriots there, and when the flyer was made 2 weeks ago, the number was up to 23. As of 3 days ago, the number is up to 24 proven Patriots, and there may be more. In order for us to gain the funds to have the stone made, a campaign to solicit moneys for creating and erecting the stone was undertaken. As such, one may earn "Patriots" for their Patriot Grave Marking Medal forms by donating \$60.00 for each Patriot they chose for the medal, and not have to be present for the ceremony. Grave Marking Manual, version 7, adopted 25 March 2020, page 11, section 17, item 2 states; After 28 Sep 2018, an SAR Compatriot must contribute a minimum of \$60 to each grave marking ceremony to receive credit towards the grave marking medal when the Nominee Role is identified as "Funding." Documentation from the chapter president conducting grave marking that the Funding was for a specific ceremony must be included with the Grave Marking Medal application. We have already received some funds for this project, but are still far shy of the goal. Should anyone care to aid in this project, please make checks payable to: CVC Monument Fund, 1303 Oak Hill Drive, Newton NC 28658. All assistance is greatly appreciated. See flyer below right.




Saturday October 21, 2023
 At 1 O'clock in the afternoon
Mary Slocumb Chapter, NCS DAR,
 &
Catawba Valley Chapter, NCSAR
 Will Conduct a Grave Marking Ceremony Honoring
Patriots Rev. Daniel Asbury & his wife, Nancy
Rehoboth United Methodist Church
 9297 Sherrills Ford Road, Terrell, North Carolina 28682




**Patriot Grave Marking Medal
Opportunity**
 Bethabara Chapter & Catawba Valley are planning A
 Regional Grave Marking for 23 Patriots
 Pilgrim Reformed Church 797 Pilgrim Church Road,
 Lexington NC. For those in any NC SSAR Region who are unable
 To attend, one can earn the SAR Grave Marking Medal by
 Donating \$60.00 for each Patriot that you want to claim on your
 Medal form, raising funds to erect the Patriots Memorial Stone.
 According to National Grave Marking Medal Reporting Form
 Role Abbreviations: D = Funding
 So you can donate any amount on behalf of any Patriot, and
 Receive Grave Marking Credit for that Patriot!
 With 23 Patriots to choose from, 15 are needed for the Medal.

Casper Brinkle	George Fritz Jr.	Philip Leonard
Peter Cain	John Grimes	Johan Loop
John Clodfelter	Johan Hedrick	Predrick Michael
John Darr	Michael Leonard	Nicholas Michael
Joseph Basig	Valentine Leonard Sr.	Philip Sauer
John Everhart	Valentine Leonard Jr.	Johan Sink
Woodrich Fritz	Jacob Leonard	George Sprecker
George Fritz Sr.		Rudolph Younts

 Ask for More Info at lennon_0102@yahoo.com
 Please choose a Name or Names and send donation
 Amounts for each to:
 SAR Monument Fund
 1303 Oak Hill Drive, Newton NC 28658

All assistance is greatly appreciated.

Ben Setser
Chapter President



The Sons of the American Revolution Catawba Coalition



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

LOGISTICS

SAR-DAR Happenings

- *Tryon Resolves, Saturday, 12 August 2023, 10:00 am, 2577 Tryon Courthouse Rd, Bessemer City, NC 28016
- *Old Soldiers Parade, Thursday, 17 August 2023, 10:00 am and 6:00 pm, Downtown Newton NC
- *New Bern Resolves, Saturday, 26 August 2023, 9:45 am, 320 Pollock St, New Bern, NC 28560.
- *Sycamore Shoals, Monday, 25 September 2023, 2:00 pm, 1651 W. Elk Avenue, Elizabethton, TN 37643
- *Summer BOM, Saturday, 30 September 2023, 11:00 am – 3:00 pm, North Carolina State University Club, 4200 Hillsborough St, Raleigh, NC 27606
- *Greenlee Crossing, Sunday, 1 October 2023, 2:00 pm, 128 Greenlee Ford Road, Morganton NC
- *Battle of Kings Mountain, Saturday, 7 October 2023, 11:00 am, Kings Mountain National Military Park, Blacksburg SC
- *Three Catawba Revolutionary War Patriots: Weidner, Wilfong And Setzer lecture, Thursday, 19 October 2023, 2:00 pm, Patrick Beaver Memorial Library, 375 3rd St NE, Hickory NC
- *Daniel Asbury Grave Marking, Saturday, 21 October 2023, 1:00 pm, Rehoboth United Methodist Church, 9297 Sherrills Ford Rd, Terrell NC 28682
- *Boston Tea Party, Saturday, 9 December 2023, Betty Ross Memorial Park, Lincolnton NC
- *Wreaths Across America, Saturday, 16 December 2023, 10:00 am, Western Carolina State Veterans Cemetery, 962 Old US 70 W, Black Mountain, NC 28711.

Our next regular Chapter Meeting will be Saturday, 9 September 2023. This is an important meeting! New officer for the ensuing term will be elected and amendments to our Bylaws will be voted on. It is requested that everyone attend. We will meet at Palermo's Family Italian & Greek Restaurant, 924 Conover Blvd West, Conover, NC 28613. One may order a meal at 11:00 am or later. The meeting begins at Noon. Please come out and support your Chapter.

Our Chapter President, Ben Setser, was ask to, and will present a lecture, "Three Catawba Revolutionary War Patriots: Weidner, Wilfong And Setzer", on Thursday, 19 October 2023, at 2:00 pm, at the Patrick Beaver Memorial Library, 375 3rd St NE, Hickory NC. The lecture will include how these three patriots, all of which are President Setser's 5th great grandfathers, helped shape Catawba County. Please come out for support.

Please find us at

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100091684277614>

<https://ncssar.org/chapters/catawba-valley/>

or email us at

lennon_0102@yahoo.com



The Sons of the American
Revolution

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

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

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

Join Today

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

Did you Know?

Today, the name "Benedict Arnold" is synonymous with the word "traitor". After all, when the American Revolution first started, Benedict Arnold was only a captain in the Connecticut militia. However, he served with distinction at several decisive American victories, bringing him to the attention of George Washington. In recognition of Arnold's service, he would be granted the rank of major general, and be given command of West Point's Fort Clinton. Whilst the commander of Fort Clinton, Arnold made plans to hand the fort over to the British.

However, his plan was discovered, and he was forced to flee to British lines or face execution. Arriving at British lines, Arnold surrendered, before being commissioned as a brigadier general. From here, Arnold would lead British troops against many of the very men that once under his command in the Continental Army. Since the end of the war, people have wondered what exactly made Arnold switch sides. Indeed, there are hundreds of theories, all with evidence to back them up.

However, the most likely story was that Arnold switched sides due to a smear campaign by Joseph Reed, then the President of the Continental Congress. You see, Reed took an immediate dislike to Arnold, choosing to spread rumors about him, before attempting to prosecute Arnold for something he didn't do. Ironically, even though he was one of the best British generals of the war, many in the British ranks didn't trust Arnold owing to his turncoat past.