



Sons of the American Revolution
Founded 30 April 1889

The Catawba Courier



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

President's Ponderings

Chapter President Roy C Lightfoot



The month of November is known as the month to be thankful, and it was filled with plenty of activities for the Catawba Valley Chapter to be thankful for! There was the installation of the Chapter Officers, inductions of new Chapter Members, the fourth of six of a multiple grave marking, placing of flags on graves and at a battle location, travel and participation in a reenactment, educational opportunities, and an appearance in two parades. AND the Chapter is EVER thankful to all of you who were able to get your dues in!!

At our Chapter meeting on 1 November, our Chapter Officers were installed by NCSAR State President Stephen McKee. Chapter President Roy Lightfoot, Chapter Vice President Rick Hubbard, and Chapter Secretary / Treasurer Dan Beal took their oaths to serve the Chapter for the next two years. In addition, two new Compatriots were inducted: Steve Bailey and Bill Beam took their oaths to the Chapter and the SAR. At the last Board Of Managers Meeting, the Chapter also received the President General's Education Outreach Streamer for all of the hard work it does through the sharing of information at various locations and Lightfoot returned it to the Chapter to be placed on the Chapter Flag. Medals were awarded to several well-deserving Chapter Members. Hubbard and Beal received their Silver Color Guard Medals, Compatriot Bob Clark received his Silver 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution Medal, and future Compatriot Jody Avery received his Bronze 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution Medal. While there, State President McKee shared many insightful ways we, as a Chapter, can participate with and contribute to the 2026 SAR Congress in Greensboro in July.

10 December 2025

Volume 6 Issue 12

Chapter Officers

**President / Historian /
State Historian**
Roy C Lightfoot

**Vice President /
Chaplain / Webmaster**
Rick Hubbard

Secretary / Treasurer
Dan Beal

**Color Guard
Commander**
Rob Buff

JROTC Liaison
James McCauley, Jr.

Original Resolution
passed 24 August 1996,
Originally Chartered as a
part of the
National Society of the
Sons of the American
Revolution,
North Carolina Society,
as The Unifour Chapter
17 October 1997
Renamed Catawba
Valley Chapter
06 May 2002



On Sunday, 2 November, members of the Catawba Valley Chapter traveled to Lexington to complete number four of six of the multiple grave markings at Pilgrim Reformed Church. Lightfoot, Hubbard, Beal, Clark, Avery, and Compatriots Chad, Kyle, and Thomas Smith were all in attendance. Our Chapter is ever grateful for Compatriot Fred Learned's leadership, and logistical skills in putting all of this together. Only TWO more to go! 4 April and 16 July 2026.

(See pictures on Page Two)

Find us at: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61572817325169>
<https://www.ncssar.org/chapters/catawba-valley/>

"NEW" You Tube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@CatawbaValleyChapterNCSAR>

The Old North State Online Magazine: <https://ncssar.org/about/the-old-north-state/>



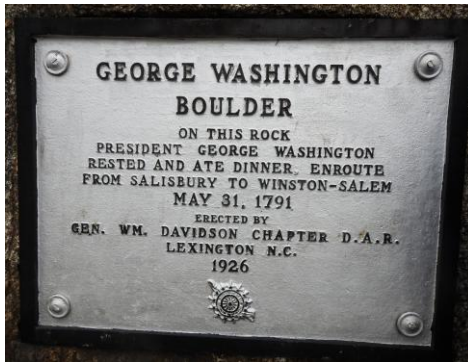
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Catawba Valley Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution

Pilgrim Reformed Church Multiple Grave Markings



While on the way back from the multiple graves marking today, Lightfoot, Beal, Clark, and Avery, and Compatriot Eric Minetola of the Colonel Alexander Erwin Chapter - SAR stopped by the George Washington Boulder located across the road from Reeds Elementary School in Lexington, NC. We left a little present behind to remind folks that we support General Washington and all he does. Sorry we were 234 years too late for dinner, General...



On several occasions this month, Chapter Members were able to complete two more inductions, present educational programs, visit historic sites and place flags on graves and in important areas.



Pictures left to right: Compatriot Jeremiah Houser is pinned by his great grandfather, Compatriot Ben Houser and member of our Chapter and inducted by Lightfoot at his home on 4 November. Compatriot Justin Lightfoot is pinned and inducted at the Camden Revolutionary War Weekend by Lightfoot on 9 November with the assistance of Compatriots Jordan Lowdermilk and Eric Minetola of the Colonel Alexander Erwin Chapter.

(See Page Three for more.)

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Inductions, Educational Programs, Historic Sites, Flag Placements



Pictures left to right: On 7-9 November, Lightfoot at Battle of Camden reenactment and Camden Education Day with members of the Colonel Alexander Erwin Chapter – NCSAR, South Carolina Independent Rangers, and the Vesuvius Furnace Chapter of the DAR. On 12 November, Newly inducted Compatriot Steve Bailey presents information about the Doctor’s House in Lincolnton to the Leadership Lincoln Class. The Leadership Lincoln Class with several presenters. Ms. Paulette Gardner, a great friend to our Chapter, explains 18th Century hearth cooking to the class. Not pictured: Newly inducted Compatriot Bill Beam presented information of the history of Lincoln County and the cabin located on Ramsour’s Mill Battlefield to the class.



Pictures left to right: Lightfoot demonstrates the proper loading and firing of a firelock and took the class on a tour of the battlefield and grounds of Battleground Elementary School on Leadership Lincoln Day. Avery, Beal, Hubbard, and Compatriot Jim McCauley presented a panel discussion on various topics involving the correlation of the American Revolution and the United States Civil War at the Gen. Robert F Hoke/Col. William J Hoke SCV Camp #1616 meeting on 13 November.



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Previously pictured: Lightfoot attended the Camden Battle Weekend in Kershaw, South Carolina. While there, he participated in the Camden Education Day on 7 November where close to 2000 students were in attendance. Unfortunately, there were no pictures taken of that as the students kept him too busy! In addition, on the same day, he went to the Camden Battlefield and placed a flag where his Patriot Ancestor, Jacob Parkerson, stood with the North Carolina Militia during the battle on 16 August 1780. He also participated in the battle reenactments where he became one of the casualties along with Minetola. He also took the opportunity to visit the graves of the "Camden Twelve", who had been found during the archaeological digs in 2022, in order to place flags and a penny on each grave.



The Chapter participated in two parades this month. Pictured are Lightfoot, Lisa Pupkiewicz – Vesuvius Furnace Chapter – NSDAR, Chapter Color Guard Commander Rob Buff, and Hubbard during the Lincolnton Veterans' Day Parade on 11 November. Next, the Chapter participated in the Lincolnton Christmas Parade and pictured are McKee, Buff, and Lightfoot on 30 November. On 21 November, Lightfoot and Pupkiewicz were invited to attend the Carolina Emerald Chapter – NSDAR's "Sock Hop For Veterans" to share information with local veterans about the SAR. Admission to the event was a pair of socks in order to fill up the HUGE stocking in support of the VA in Salisbury. The stocking was filled to its rim and overflowing! On 22 November, Hubbard presented Eagle Scout Andrew J. "AJ" Troup of Troop #327 with the SAR Eagle Scout Certificate in recognition of this young man's wonderful achievement. AJ's Eagle Scout Project was the installation of a Musical Playground Structure at Mt. Pleasant Methodist Church, Sherrills Ford, where the Court of Honor Ceremony was held. The troop is in the Lakeland District of the Piedmont Council and is sponsored by VFW Post 5305 in Newton, NC. Catawba Valley wishes AJ ALL THE BEST in the future and hope he will consider joining the CAR and the SAR because we have it on good authority from his grandmother that he would qualify as she is a Daughter of the American Revolution! If you know of Scouts who should be recognized for earning their Eagle Scout Rank (AND they ALL should be), please contact Hubbard or another Chapter Officer so, we, too, can recognize them at their Courts Of Honor.

Our next Chapter meeting will be held on **Saturday, 10 January 2026** at 12:00 PM at Palermo's Family Italian and Greek Restaurant, 924 Conover Blvd W, Conover, NC 28613.

As we continue towards 2026 and the 250th Anniversary of our country, I truly hope that you stop to take stock in exactly what our ancestors and all those who lived at that time did for us. We can all look back and see what they did, however, we cannot truly comprehend what they were thinking and feeling as they were about to leave the "safe haven" of their "Mother Country". Yes, we can read journals and research events, but to truly know what they were thinking we would have had to have lived it as they lived it, day in and day out, sometimes not knowing what the next day would bring and not finding out events until months later. Imagine, not knowing what had happened during the war in the North, in the next state, or even in your neighboring town until much later than we received our information today. We know what the Declaration of Independence did. We know they would eventually come up with the Constitution. We know what amendments were passed to correct the items they had not thought of. BUT in the years of the American Revolution, they lived this, and they had NO idea how it would turn out. They pledged their liberty, property, and lives to each other. In closing, I simply ask you to take a few moments during this holiday season to take stock of your history, your family, and your commitment to all you are involved in.

As always, the Chapter Leadership is always open to suggestions, so, if you have any, please do not hesitate to suggest them! We look forward to seeing as many of you are able to attend any and all of our events in the future! Please be thinking of how you can get involved with our 2026 National SAR Congress in Greensboro! July will be here before you know it!

Sincerely, Respectfully, and Patriotically Yours,
Roy C Lightfoot, Chapter President





LOGISTICS

SAR & DAR Happenings – All events are FREE unless otherwise indicated.

- 6 December – Pearl Harbor Day/Flag Retirement w/American Legion Post #30, Lincolnton, 10 AM.
- 13 December – Wreaths Across America w/Carolina Emerald NSDAR, Taylorsville Cemetery, Taylorsville, 12PM
- 10 January 2026 – Chapter Meeting, Palermo’s Family Italian & Greek Restaurant, Conover NC, 12 Noon.
- 10 January – Color Guard Training, McDowell House, Morganton, 10 AM – 12 noon.
- 31 January – 245th Anniversary - Battle of Sherrills Ford, Hopewell Presbyterian Church, Huntersville, 10 AM.
- 31 January – NCSAR Board of Managers Meeting, Hopewell Presbyterian Church, Huntersville, 12 noon.
- 7 February – “Burning of the Baggage”, Ramsour’s Mill Cabin, Lincolnton, 10 AM – 3 PM.
- 27 February - 250th Commemoration of the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge, Currie, NC, 10 AM.
- 28 February – Color Guard Training, Fort Defiance, Lenoir, 10 AM – 12 noon.
- 28 February - 1 March - 250th Reenactment of the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge, Currie, NC
- 27-28 March - NCSAR Annual Meeting, Time / Location TBA
- 4 April – Pilgrim Reformed Church, Multiple Grave Marking, 797 Pilgrim Church Road, Lexington, NC, 2 PM
- 10-16 July – 136th NSSAR National Congress, Greensboro, NC.
- 16 July – Pilgrim Reformed Church, Multiple Grave Marking, 797 Pilgrim Church Road, Lexington, NC, 10 AM

Our next regular **Chapter Meeting** will be **Saturday, 10 January 2026**. 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 and enjoy some fellowship.

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 descend 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!



Compatriot Birthdays for December

- Jim McCauley (1st)
- Austin Allran (13th)
- Brandon Mosteller (18th)

HUZZAH!!



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

Please send them to cat.val.ncssar.1776@gmail.com

or capn_roy@hotmail.com



Henry Knox and the “Noble Train of Artillery”

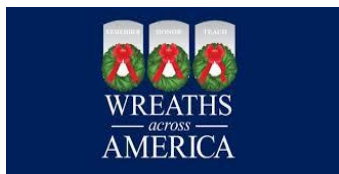
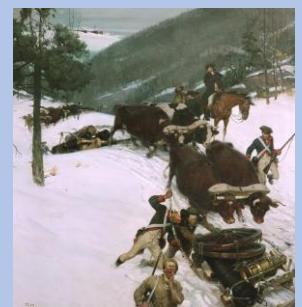
In late 1775, Henry Knox, a young bookseller and artillery officer, undertook the "Noble Train of Artillery" to move heavy cannons and mortars. The trail they took follows roads and paths through the Hudson River Valley, marking the path from Fort Ticonderoga/Crown Point, New York through Albany, to the Massachusetts border, and onward to Cambridge.

Over a period of three months, his men dragged the massive artillery on sleds across frozen lakes, rivers, and rough terrain for about 300 miles pulled by oxen and sheer determination and resolve.

The successful delivery in January 1776 to General Washington helped him to fortify Dorchester Heights, thus forcing the British evacuation of Boston in March 1776.

Without this man and his plan to get the cannons needed for the struggling Continental Army, the war could have turned out very differently.

Think about what they did in the snow and ice and all of the cold. Hopefully, you will marvel at this amazing act.



Saturday, 13 December, 12 noon
Taylorsville City Cemetery, Taylorsville
Co-Sponsored with
Carolina Emerald Chapter, NSDAR

