



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



May was another extremely busy month for our Chapter. We finished up the presentation of the JROTC Bronze Medals to several area high school cadets, certificates of appreciation to the JROTC advisors, honored our veterans at three events, presented programs at two area elementary schools and celebrated the Mecklenburg Declaration.

In April, the rewarding task of presenting the JROTC Bronze Medals and Certificates of Appreciation continued and was completed during the month of May. Chapter JROTC and Veteran Liaison Jim McCauley and Chapter Vice President Rick Hubbard travelled to several area high schools presenting the Medals and Certificates. As previously, the Certificates were well received by the advisors.



(Left to Right) 1 May – Cadet Captain Cecelia Hayes, Major Daniel Rhyne and Master Sergeant Daniel Collins, Lincolnton High School; 6 May – Cadet Madison Martin, LTC Joseph "J" Thomas IV and CMSgt Jerry "Lex" Harms Jr – Maiden High School; 7 May – Cadet Petty Officer Maverick Lowman, GySgt Eric Pratt, and MSgt William Cashmore – St Stephens High School.



(Left to Right) 8 May – Cadet Lieutenant Commander Russell Gibson, CDR Mark Smith, and GySgt Daniel Aulth – West Lincoln High School; 8 May – Cadet Sergeant Major Cody Orlando, LtCol Gerald Harper, and MSgt Michael Fisher – South Iredell High School.

More JROTC Pictures on Page 2

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/>

10 June 2026

Volume 7 Issue 6

Chapter Officers
President / Historian /
State Historian
Roy C Lightfoot

Vice President /
Chaplain / Webmaster
Rick Hubbard

Secretary / Treasurer
Dan Beal

Registrar / Boy and
Cub Scout Liaison
Kyle Smith

Color Guard
Commander
Vacant

JROTC / Veteran
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



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Catawba Valley Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution

“JROTC Bronze Medals and Certificates of Appreciation” (cont.)



(Left to Right) 15 May – Cadet Petty Officer First Class Jeremiah Goyco and Chief Petty Officer Matthew Cline – Newton Conover High School:
15 May – Cadet Lieutenant Commander Jacob A Hidalgo, Command Master Chief Scott Haas, and Joel Hollingsworth – Alexander Central High School.



On 1 May, the Catawba Valley Chapter was invited to participate at the Lincoln County Veterans Services Grand Opening and POW / MIA Flag Dedication Ceremony in Lincolnton. Several of the area groups came out in support of this dedication which has been in the planning for years by Director Joey Briggs and his great staff! Chapter President Roy Lightfoot with Assistant Historian Lisa Pupkiewicz, Vesuvius Furnace, NSDAR, attended and spoke with the crowd about the SAR, DAR, 18th Century Woodcarving, 18th Century firelocks, the Battle of Ramsour's Mill, and several other topics. While there, Lightfoot was honored to raise the National Colors and the POW / MIA flag with members of the American Legion Post #30 Color Guard under the command of District Commander Chris Duschel. We wish Joey and his crew all the best!! HUZZAH!!



On 15 May, several of our Chapter members along with the Vesuvius Furnace Chapter presented at G.E. Massey Elementary School to a wonderful group of First Graders!! Program included some of the American Revolution flags, Continental Line and Militia dress and their role in the Revolution, Women's dress and their role in the Revolution, the Battle of Ramsour's Mill, firelocks and safety, and was capped off with the firing of volleys! We are ever grateful for the support of Ms. Hollen Brady Carpenter for inviting us along with all her fellow teachers and staff of the school. All were presented with Certificates of Appreciation and Betsy Ross flags for their classrooms. for their continued support. In return, the group was presented with homemade birthday cards from the students celebrating the 250th Anniversary of our country! Chapter Members presenting were Lightfoot, Chapter Secretary/Treasurer Dan Beal, Chapter Registrar/Eagle Scout Liaison Kyle Smith, and Compatriot Bob Clark along with Ms. Pupkiewicz.

On 19 May, members of the Catawba Valley Chapter went to Battleground Elementary School to present to the Third Graders a story of the American Revolution and the Battle of Ramsour's Mill. In addition, they were joined by the Lincoln County Hearth Cookers and other members of the Lincoln County Historical Association. The Chapter is grateful to Mr. Douglas Clark and his co-workers and staff of the school for allowing us to present this program to these students. All were presented with Certificates of Appreciation for all their hard work and Betsy Ross flags for their classrooms. The Lincoln County Hearth Cookers were also presented with a Certificate of Appreciation. Representing for them were Ms. Paulette Gardner, Ms. Tonya Faulkner, and Ms. Lesly Cortes. Chapter Members representing were Lightfoot and Compatriot/Education Liaison Stu Myers. Also in attendance was Pupkiewicz of the Vesuvius Furnace Chapter, NSDAR and Carole Howell with the Lincoln County Historical Association and the Jacob Forney Chapter, NSDAR. (Pictures on Page 3)

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"Battleground Elementary School Presentation"



On 20 May, our Chapter participated in the Color Guard for the 251st Anniversary Celebration of the Mecklenburg Declaration. There was a great turn out! The Color Guard then traveled to the Old Settlers' Cemetery to honor Thomas Polk with a crowd in tow. In attendance were Lightfoot, Pupkiewicz, State President Stephen McKee, NCSSAR; the Mecklenburg NSSAR and NSDAR; William Chronicle Chapter, NSDAR; Carolina Emerald, NSDAR; and members of the CAR; Liberty Mountain; Kingsbury's Artillery/Locke's Militia; the 6th NC; Lenoir's Rangers; the Mecklenburg Militia, as well as several others.



On 23 May, Lightfoot attended the 246th Anniversary of Buford's Massacre - The Battle of the Waxhaws Commemoration, Buford, South Carolina sponsored by the General Frances Marion Chapter of the SCSSAR. In attendance were also, Brooks Lyles, Treasurer General, NSSAR; Sam Powell, NC State Treasurer; Darrin Schmidt, VA State President, VASSAR; and members of at least twenty SAR, DAR, and CAR Chapters. At this event, the VASSAR bring soil from Virginia, where Buford's men originated and place it on the mass grave there to represent the connection these men still have to their home state. Also in attendance were Diane Ungvarsky, First Vice President, National Ladies Auxiliary SAR and Pupkiewicz.



On Memorial Day 25 May, Catawba Valley Chapter was invited to participate in the program at the American Legion Post #155 by "Liberty Mountain" in Kings Mountain, North Carolina. Our Chapter served in the color guard with one of the local Scout Troops and was a part of a skit written by "Liberty Mountain" depicting a portion of the battle. After the program, the members all fired three volleys in honor of the fallen heroes. Catawba Valley members included Lightfoot, Beal, K. Smith, and future Compatriot Eddie Miller. In addition to members of the Chapter, members of the Colonel Alexander Erwin Chapter Compatriots Eric Minetola and Jordan Lowdermilk; Pupkiewicz; and cast members of "Liberty Mountain" Jeremy Homesley, Ashley Demar, and Bo Pendleton participated.

(More Memorial Day Happenings and Pictures on Page 4)

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Also, on Memorial Day 25 May, Catawba Valley Chapter was invited to participate in the program at the American Legion Post #30. Our Chapter served in the honor guard. Lightfoot read SAR President General Michael Elston's Proclamation and presented Regional Commander Chris Duschel with birthday cards from the First Graders at G.E. Massey Elementary School celebrating the United States 250th Birthday. After the program, the members along with the American Legion's Rifle Team, fired a volley in honor of the fallen heroes. Catawba Valley members included Lightfoot, Beal, K. Smith, Clark and Jody Avery, and Miller. In addition to members of the Chapter, Compatriots Minetola, Lowdermilk, and Kevin Allec and Pupkiewicz participated.



If all this were not enough for one day, and in preparation for the 246th Anniversary of the Battle of Ramsour's Mill Commemoration Wreath Laying in a couple of weeks, on 25 May, members of the Catawba Valley Chapter, Colonel Alexander Erwin Chapter, and Vesuvius Furnace Chapter raised the flags at various places on the battlefield.

Afterwards, Lightfoot, Beal, Pupkiewicz, and Miller travelled to various cemeteries to place Betsy Ross flags on the graves of the Patriots in our area. Included in the cemeteries were the Ramsour/Reinhardt; Keener/Shrum; Machpelah Church; Jacob and Peter Forney gravesites in Iron Station; McCorkle gravesite in Catawba County; Thyatira Presbyterian Church in Salisbury; Houser Family in Vale; and Old St Paul's Church in Newton where the Chapter had placed a monument in 2022. All total, we placed twenty-one flags on the graves of our Patriots.

Our next regular **Chapter Meeting** will not be until **August** because of the Battle of Ramsour's Mill Events, 13 June and 20-21 June and National Congress 10-16 July in Greensboro.

Please be sure to be making plans for attending the SAR National Congress in July. **Information for the 2026 National Congress event in Greensboro, NC 10-16 July 2026 can be found here: <https://ncssar.org/2026-national-congress/>**

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.

- 12 June – 246th Commemoration of the Battle of Ramsour's Mill Reception, Hampton Inn, Lincolnton, 6 – 8 PM.
- 13 June – 246th Anniversary – Battle of Ramsour's Mill, The Mass Grave, Battleground Elem. Sch., Lincolnton, 10 AM.
- "1776", Joy Theatre, Kings Mtn–19-21, 26-28 June–Shows 19, 20, 26, 27 @ 7:30 PM; 20, 21, 27, 28 @ 3:30 PM.
- 20-21 June – 246th Anniversary Battle of Ramsour's Mill Reenactment Weekend, The Reinhardt Cabin, All Day.
- 21 June – Father's Day
- 4 July – Independence Day, 250th Anniversary of the United States, Lincolnton Independence Day Parade, 11 AM.
- 10-16 July – 136th NSSAR National Congress, Greensboro, NC.
 - Grave Markings – Five Grave Markings Per Event
 - 10 July – Buffalo Presbyterian Church, 803 Sixteenth St, Greensboro, NC – 2 PM.
 - 11 July – Alamance Presbyterian Church, 4000 Presbyterian Road, Greensboro, NC – 9 AM.
 - 11 July – Hillsborough Old Town Cemetery, 201 N Churton St, Hillsborough, NC – 1 PM.
 - 15 July – Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, 2332 New Garden Rd, Greensboro, NC – 1 PM.
- 16 July – Pilgrim Reformed Church, Multiple Grave Marking, 797 Pilgrim Church Road, Lexington, NC, 10 AM
- 15 August – 251st Anniversary of the Tryon Resolves, Tryonota Fire Dept, 2577 Tryon Courthouse Rd, Bessemer City, NC – 1 PM

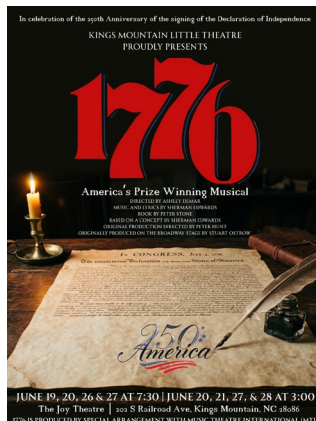
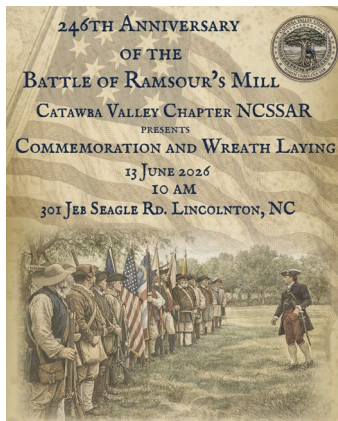
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The Sons of the American Revolution

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 June

No June Birthdays



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

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

or

capn_roy@hotmail.com



The Committee of Five

On 11 June 1776, the "Committee of Five" was appointed by the Second Continental Congress to draft what became the Declaration of Independence. The Committee included **John Adams**, a lawyer from Massachusetts, who later became the second president of the United States; **Thomas Jefferson**, a lawyer and planter from Virginia, who later became the third president of the United States; **Dr. Benjamin Franklin**, a printer and publisher from Pennsylvania, the only person to sign the Declaration of Independence, Treaty of Alliance with France, Treaty of Paris, and U.S. Constitution; **Roger Sherman**, a judge from Connecticut, the only person to sign all four of the U.S. state papers: the Continental Association, the Declaration, the Articles of Confederation, and the Constitution.; and **Robert Livingston**, a judge from New York, who later served as the first United States Secretary of Foreign Affairs, administered the presidential oath of office at the first inauguration of George Washington and negotiated the Louisiana Purchase as the minister to France.

