

The Old North State



News Quarterly of the North Carolina Society of the Sons of the American Revolution • Vol. 29 No. 3 • July 2026

250th Anniversary Commemoration of the Halifax Resolves PAGE 11



Chartered on February 22, 1911, the NCSSAR has Honored the Memory of Patriots and Supported Compatriots in the Old North State for One Hundred Fifteen Years



President's Message

Stephen P. McKee
NCSSAR President



My fellow Compatriots,

Over the course of this year, I have traveled across the State and taken part in many events planned by our Chapters to celebrate America's Semiquincentennial. From 250th Commemorations of Moore's Creek Bridge and the Halifax Resolves, to other National SAR events such as Cowan's Ford and Ramsour's Mill, to a Cherry Point Air Show, and on to Independence Day celebrations in High Point, Raleigh, and Waxhaws—

the Spirit of '76 is alive. But so is the Spirit of '26. My words will not do justice in expressing how humbled and proud I am to serve as your State President during this time.

At this time, I ask that we all reflect on these familiar words: *We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.—That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.*

With those 55 words, a nation unlike any to come before or after was born. Not a country of kings and princes, or of peasants born to be beasts of burden, nor an aristocracy to drive them. But a nation conceived in freedom where no overbearing hand of power would guide or control mankind's every act.

Have we been perfect in execution? No, and no human endeavor ever truly is. Were there glaring contradictions between expressed ideals and lived reality? Absolutely. So, it is with every human endeavor.

Importantly, this 55-word creedal statement has provided us with something toward which we can constantly strive. It beckons us closer and closer to realizing the palpable truth—Liberty truly is the Cause of All Mankind.

A fellow reenactor, spending time at Fort Ticonderoga on the Fourth, reflected deeply on the wholly *ordinary* nature of the men and women who won our independence. They were not mythical heroes carved from marble. Rather, they were farmers, shopkeepers, merchants, tradesman, house wives, and slaves. Some were highly educated and affluent. Others had little formal education, if any, and were poor.

The American Revolution was successfully won because *ordinary* people did extraordinary things, and because they

believed in something larger than themselves. They persisted until the day was won and Independency secured.

The 250 years of Independence we are celebrating in 2026 shall not be the end of such enduring principles. It will require that we all rededicate ourselves to the notion that each and every one of us are Created equal, and that we all have God-given Rights inseparable from our shared humanity, and that government's only just and moral power is in protecting those Rights. How far the principles of Freedom and Independence have taken us is absolutely worth celebrating, and it is fitting to resolve that these principles will continue to guide our journey.

Hosting the recent 2026 National Sons of the American Revolution Annual Congress in Greensboro allowed us to highlight the strength of our State Society. We gave our Brothers from across the Republic a Congress that they will always remember. Thank you for the important part you all played in making it a success.

Happy 250th, America! Happy 250th, North Carolina SAR! God Bless you, your families, and these United States! Here's to Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness for the next 250 years.

Yours in Liberty,
Stephen

In This Issue

2. President's Message
3. Membership Update; NCSSAR Officers
4. Cross Creek
5. Chapter News: Andrew Jackson Chapter; Blue Ridge Chapter
6. Catawba Valley Chapter
9. Gen. George Washington Chapter; Le Marquis de Lafayette Chapter
10. Mecklenburg Chapter; New Bern Chapter
11. 250th Commemoration Halifax Resolves
12. NC Delegates and Signers of the Declaration of Independence
14. Third Quarter Patriotic Days 2026
15. Revolutionary Book Shelf
16. NC Gov. Josh Stein Inducted into the SAR
17. Elementary Students Learn about the American Revolution
18. The SAR President General Issues Proclamation on the Semiquincentennial
19. The SAR State Awards
21. From the Pulpit; New Book on the Liberty Resolves
22. Dr. Ralph Nelson Delivers Talk; Historic Sites
23. Editorial Committee: SAR Meetings & Events

NCSSAR STATE OFFICERS 2025-2026

STEPHEN P. MCKEE
State President

JAY DELOACH, RDML, USN, RET.
2026 Congress Chairman

GEORGE STRUNK, SMSGT, USAF, RET.
National Trustee

PAT J. NIEMANN, COL., USA, RET.
Alternate National Trustee

STEVE A. VAN PELT
Immediate Past State President

P. ANTHONY "TONY" ZEISS, EDD
Senior Vice President

FRANK H. AIKMUS
Foothills Region Vice President

CRAIG S. ISAACSON
Mountain Region Vice President

STEVEN F. AVENT
Northeast Region Vice President

MICHAEL SAULNIER
Piedmont Region Vice President

MICHAEL T. AYCOCK
Southeast Region Vice President
Assistant to the State Secretary

CHRIS GRIMES
Assistant to the State President

REV. RODERIC J. MULLEN
State Chaplain

GARY C. SPENCER, SGT, ARNG
State Color Guard Commander

A. ROBERT 'BOB' SIGMON
State Secretary

SAMUEL C. POWELL, PhD
State Treasurer

BOBBY JAY ERVIN
State Registrar

DAVID A. ALLS
State Genealogist

ROY C. LIGHTFOOT
State Historian

TO BE NAMED *State Webmaster*

WILLIAM "JOSH" TATE
Assistant State Webmaster

JOHN ELLIOTT
State Color Guard Adjutant East

NCSSAR Membership Update

NCSSAR welcomes 54 new members (3.20.26 - 6.20.26)

New Member

Richard Todd Dellinger
Charles Edward Rosenberry III
Donald Charles McMullan
David George Nutter
David Brian Proctor
Steven David Young
Michael Roger Deal
Gary Edward Lewallen
Joshua Lowery Webb
Bruce Nelson Hershock
Matthew Dean Hershock
Robert Irvin Hooks
Brian Steven King
Clay Steven Nelson
William Bradley Shanks
Dustin Lane Matthews
Isaac Charles McCown
Dennis N. Harper
Conrad E. Paysour III
Elburn Hugh Daughtery III
Shelton Koger Watts
Kyle Andrew Lingafelt
Stefan David Perrine
Edward R. Schowalter Jr.
Sidney Thompson Butz
Sean Gregory Endres
Steven Richard Endres
Michael Ryian Enzor
Harriman Harding Jett
Jacob Adam Mazur
Douglas Linn Miller
Julius Roy Richardson II
David Alan Crow
Scott Addison Hinshaw
Matthew Scott Benyon
James Allen French II
Brent Matthew Hornor
Colin James Lee
Douglas Craven Jones
Matthew John Rever
Philip Colt Rever
Stowe Monroe Spivey
Joshua Stein
Richard Yates Stevens
Blair Anthony Tanner
Paul Anthony Tanner
Joel Dean Weems
James Robert White III
James Robert White Jr.
James Brooks Myers
Justin Brooks Myers
Mark Brooks Myers
Daniel Joshua Mathis

Chapter

Battle of Kings Mountain
Battle of Kings Mountain
Blue Ridge
Blue Ridge
Blue Ridge
Blue Ridge
Bethabara
Bethabara
Bethabara
Col. Alexander Erwin
Col. Alexander Erwin
Col. Alexander Erwin
Col. Alexander Erwin
Col. Alexander Erwin
Col. Alexander Erwin
Gen. Francis Nash
Gen. Francis Nash
Gen. George Washington
Gen. George Washington
Lower Cape Fear
Lower Cape Fear
LTC John Phifer
LTC John Phifer
Marquis de Lafayette
Mecklenburg
Mecklenburg
Mecklenburg
Mecklenburg
Mecklenburg
Mecklenburg
Mecklenburg
Mecklenburg
Mecklenburg
Nathanael Greene
Old North State
Raleigh
Raleigh
Raleigh
Raleigh
Raleigh
Raleigh
Raleigh
Raleigh
Raleigh
Raleigh
Raleigh
Raleigh
Raleigh
Raleigh
Raleigh
Raleigh
Salisbury
Salisbury
Salisbury
Yadkin Valley

Patriot Ancestor

George Dillinger
Francis Dover
John McMullan
Jesse Moore
William Flint
Johan Rupley
Jonas Rudisill
Martha Bell
Simon Wooldridge
Adam Kendig
Adam Kendig
Benjamin Farmer
Hiram Pendleton
Moses Taylor
Benjamin Bradshaw
Matthew McCauley
John McCown
Joshua Goodson
Elias Alexander
Ralph Regan
William Turner
Paul Hertzog
James Anderson
John Chew
Samuel Woodson Ve
Henry Flook
Henry Flook
Summers Enzor
Daniel de Saussure
George Whorter
Jacob Westervelt
Arthur Smith
Richard Godfrey
Martha MacFarlane
Joel Chambliss
Matthew French
John Hornor
Jacob Hoots
James Swan
Peter Harvey
Thomas Ridgeway
Christian Manny
Aaron Wilson
William Goodwin
John Hoyle
John Hoyle
George Prickett
Charles McLaughlin
Charles McLaughlin
Peter Hedrick
Peter Hedrick
Peter Hedrick
Ichabod Churchill



NCSSAR Membership Inquiries

Since March 10, NCSSAR has received 106 inquiries about SAR membership that included the following chapter counts: Albemarle (1), Alexander Erwin (1), Alexander Lillington (2), Andrew Jackson (3), Battle of Kings Mountain (3), Bethabara (3), Blue Ridge (2), Catawba Valley (3), Colson Mills (1), Col. Daniel Boone (5), Gen. Francis Nash (3), Gen. George Washington (2), Halifax Resolves (1), Lower Cape Fear (4), Lt. Col. Felix Walker (4), Lt. Col. John Phifer (1), Marquis de Lafayette (7), Mecklenburg (16), New Bern (2), Raleigh (18), Salisbury (3), Sandhills (1), and Western Waters (1).

Membership Recruitment Reminders

Individual inquiries have the potential for recruiting multiple new SAR members. The SAR Family Plan covers a broad range of family members—sons, fathers, grandsons, even nephews. Member inquiries are automatically forwarded to chapter Presidents and Registrars for action.

The *DAR Finder Form* should be completed and submitted with every SAR application for which assistance has been provided from a member of the NCSDAR.

PAT J. NIEMANN, Chairman
Membership Committee NCSSAR

Cross Creek's Role in the Revolution

**By David L. Mann, Consulting Editor ONS &
Chris Ackiss, President, Le Marquis de Lafayette**

After the Battles of Lexington and Concord, communities across the colonies were deciding where they stood. In 18th century Cross Creek, NC (part of Fayetteville today), a group of local citizens made a bold and early stand for liberty. Cross Creek was a diverse settlement of merchants, tradesmen, and farmers. The region also had a strong Loyalist presence, especially among Scottish Highland immigrants. Despite this divided atmosphere, many residents believed British policies threatened their rights as Englishmen.



On June 20, 1775, fifty-five men gathered at a local tavern near a landmark known as Liberty Point. There, they signed a document officially titled the *Cumberland Association*, now commonly called the *Liberty Point Resolves*. The Resolves expressed three key ideas. The first idea was loyalty to the King. The signers still hoped for reconciliation and did not yet call for independence. The second idea was condemnation of British oppression. They declared that Parliament's actions violated their natural and constitutional rights. The third idea was a pledge to defend liberty. Most importantly, they vowed to "*go forth and be ready to sacrifice our lives and fortunes*" to protect those rights. This was one of the earliest public commitments in the South to resist British authority by force if necessary.

The *Liberty Point Resolves* were not a declaration of independence per se, But they were a powerful step toward it. They showed that, even in a region with strong Loyalist influence, many North Carolinians were prepared to stand with the Patriot cause. Just one year later, North Carolina would become the first colony to officially call for independence through the *Halifax Resolves* of April 1776.

The men who signed the *Liberty Point Resolves* demonstrated courage at a moment when the future was uncertain and the risks were real. Their pledge at Cross Creek helped lay the foundation for North Carolina's role in the American Revolution and remains a testament to the power of local action in shaping national history.





Chapter News

Andrew Jackson Chapter

Lt. James Siefert received the *SAR Law Enforcement Award* on May 26 in Jacksonville, N.C., for his nine years of service in keeping Onslow County citizens safe and rendering many other services. The award was presented by Chapter President Danny Hilton and Chapter Vice President Clarence Collins, III. In addition to his wife, the Onslow County Commissioners were present for the ceremony.



On Memorial Day, Compatriot Jack L. Sides joined Danny Hilton in placing a Bess Ross Flag at the grave-stone on Col. William Cray, Onslow County Militia Commander, part of the N.C. Wilmington District during the American Revolution. Also present, but not pictured, was Chuck Collins, III.

DANNY HILTON, President
Andrew Jackson Chapter NCSSAR

Blue Ridge Chapter



The Chapter Color Guard presented the colors at the welcome home event for the veterans' honor flight that arrived at the Asheville, N.C. Airport on April 18. Chapter Compatriot and Veteran David Gunther was on the flight. Color Guard members who participated included Craig Isaacson, Garry Linton, and Ken Weglarz. Approximately 700 people, including veterans, attended the event.



Chapter members Craig Isaacson and Dr. Garry Linton developed and coordinated the UNC Asheville (UNCA) Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) eight-week course, *The American Revolution: Overlooked Histories*. Delivered weekly from March 24 through May 12, various topics on the Revolution were presented. In addition

to Craig and Garry, Chapter members Ron Chapman and Tom Rightmyer served as speakers for the course.

DR. GARRY LINTON, President
Blue Ridge Chapter NCSSAR



Catawba Valley Chapter



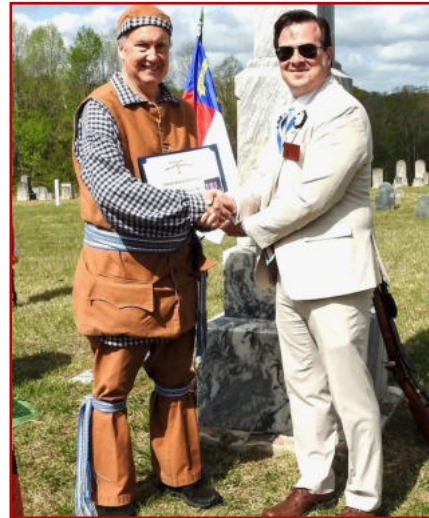
On March 29, Catawba Valley Chapter participated in the chartering ceremony of the new Maj. Gen. Benjamin Lincoln Chapter of the NCSSAR. Special thanks to Regent Anna Sutton and members of the

Jacob Forney Chapter NCSDAR, for inviting us to take part in this wonderful event. Catawba Valley Chapter Members participating were Chapter President Roy Lightfoot, Chapter Registrar Kyle Smith, and Compatriots Jody Avery and Thomas Smith. Representatives from several other NCSSAR and NCSDAR chapters were also present. This new chapter will allow future collaborations between the NCSSAR and the NCSSAR. Pictured are Chapter Registrar Scout Liaison and the son of Chapter Historian Thomas Smith.

Catawba Valley Chapter partnered with the Bethabara Chapter in a grave marking ceremony honoring five Revolutionary War Patriots on April 4 at the Pilgrim Reformed Church Cemetery in Lexington, N.C. The Patriots were George Clodfelter (1757-1783), Michael Easter (1760-1821), Michael Leonard (1750-1827), Col. John Lopp (1715-1801), and Friedrich Michael (1721-1780). The ceremony was moderated by Fred Learned (pictured), Bethabara Chapter President and Past President NCSSAR.

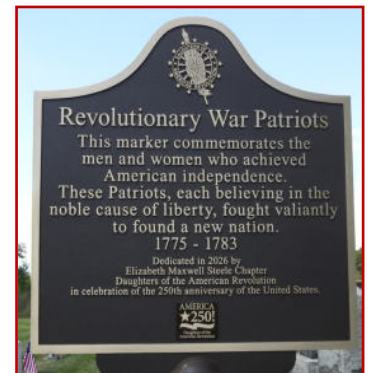


Participating Chapter members included Roy Lightfoot, Chapter Vice President Rick Hubbard, Chapter Secretary-Treasurer Dan Beal, and Compatriots Kyle Smith, Bob Clark, and Jody Avery. A sixth and final grave marking was held at the SAR Congress in Greensboro.



Also present at the grave marking ceremony was Jack Johnson, a West Virginia SAR member who will soon join the Catawba Valley Chapter. Rick Hubbard (pictured left) was presented with the *SAR Grave Marking Medal* from State SAR President Stephen McKee.

The Chapter participated in a Daughters of the American Revolution Patriot Marker Dedication hosted by the Elizabeth Maxwell Steele Chapter NCSDAR of Salisbury on April 11 at the Third Creek Presbyterian Church Cemetery in Cleveland, N.C. Patricia Dance, America 250 Committee Chair, and the Chapter Daughters presented an outstanding program. Joining various Chapter officers and compatriots was Lisa Pupkiewicz of the Vesuvius Furnace Chapter NCSDAR. The NCSSAR will need to turn its attention to planning grave marking ceremonies for numerous Patriots buried in this cemetery.





Catawba Valley Chapter Secretary-Treasurer Dan Beal traveled to Halifax, N.C. on April 12 to participate in the 250th Anniversary Commemoration of the Halifax Resolves. Dan marched with the Color Guard and fired three volleys with the Firelock Detail. The Halifax Resolves authorized N.C. delegates to attend the Second Continental Congress to vote for Independence. At the Commemoration, N.C. Gov. Josh Stein was inducted as a SAR member with the Raleigh Chapter.

Chapter Registrar and Assistant Scoutmaster Kyle Smith presented the *SAR Eagle Scout Certificate* to Harrison Cadwallader on April 12. Harrison is the 52nd Eagle Scout of Troop 383. The Eagle Court of Honor was held in the Chapel of Concordia Lutheran Church in Conover which sponsors the troop.



On April 16, Roy presented the story of his Patriot ancestor titled, "Jacob Parkerson: The Accidental Ancestor Patriot," at the Col. Alexander Erwin Chapter meeting. Sharing the story of Patriot ancestors at every opportunity should be a lifelong goal of all SAR mem-

bers. Roy received a *SAR Certificate of Appreciation* from their Chapter President Tom Lesser (pictured right).



Chapter members Roy Lightfoot and Dan Beal were joined by Lisa Pupkiewicz (pictured above) of the Vesuvius Furnace Chapter NCSDAR and Paulette Garner of the Lincoln County Hearth Cooks at the 31st Annual Loch Norman Highland Games at Historic Rural Hill in Huntersville on April 18-19. Tasty dishes and treats, prepared by Lisa and Paulette, were thoroughly enjoyed by all. Regent Pamela Lentz Speight and Historian Dawn Dale of the Carolina Emerald Chapter NCSDAR were also in attendance.

Catawba Valley Chapter participated in the Lincoln County Veterans Services Grand Opening and POW-MIA Flag Dedication Ceremony in Lincolnton on May 1. Other 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. Roy Lightfoot and Lisa Pupkiewicz both delivered presentations about the SAR, the DAR, 18th Century woodcarving and firelocks, the Battle of Ramsour's Mill, and several other topics. Roy joined members of the American Legion Post #30 Color Guard, under the command of District Commander Chris Duschel, in raising the National Colors.





Throughout the spring, Catawba Valley Chapter Compatriots Rick Hubbard and Jim McCauley worked together to present the *SAR Bronze JROTC Medal* to nine deserving recipients and the *SAR Certificate of Appreciation* to seventeen instructors. Among those who received medals was Cadet Capt. Cecelia Hayes (above), pictured with Jim. Included in the instructors that Rick recognized were Col. Andrew Weatherstone, USA (Ret.), pictured left, and 1st Sgt. William Thiel, USA (Ret.).



Catawba Valley Chapter President Roy Lightfoot attended the 246th Anniversary of Buford's Massacre and Commemoration of the Battle of the Waxhaws in Buford, SC, on May 23. The event was sponsored by the Gen. Frances Marion Chapter of the SCSSAR. Also in attendance were Brooks Lyles, National SAR Treasurer General; Diane Ungvarsky, First Vice President, National Ladies Auxiliary SAR; Dr. Sam Powell, NCSSAR Treasurer; and Darrin Schmidt, VASSAR State President. Members of at least twenty SAR, DAR, and CAR Chapters, including Lisa Pupkiewicz, Vesuvius Furnace Chapter NCSDAR. The VASSAR brought soil from Virginia, where Buford's men originated and placed it on the mass grave there to represent the connection these men still have to their home state. The volley was fired by the New Acquisition Militia (NAM) Reenactors.



ROY LIGHTFOOT, President
Catawba Valley Chapter NCSSAR





Gen. George Washington Chapter

At the April 16 Chapter meeting, high school student Aireanna Collock read her essay on the American Revolution. Presented by Chapter President George Strunk, she was the Chapter's winner of the *SAR George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest* award.



The April 16 meeting also welcomed three new SAR Compatriots. George administered the SAR oath to the Jones family—Rylan, Jonathon and Gary—adding to the Chapter's growing membership.



GEORGE STRUNK, President
Gen. George Washington Chapter NCSSAR

Le Marquis de Lafayette Chapter



The Chapter was well represented at the 250th Anniversary of the Moore's Creek Battlefield in Currie, NC, in February. Leading the combined Color Guard were Chapter Treasurer John Elliott (pictured left) and Chapter Past President Dan Jutson (center). Other Chapter Compatriots who participated or in attendance were Robert Guenther, Mike Aycock, David Mann, Greg Conner, and Chris Ackiss.

Flag Chairman Jack Hurley presented a *SAR Flag Certificate* to the Hope Mills living Center. Five Veterans, all from different periods of our Armed services and branches, were present, the youngest from the Korean War.



James Cain Grave Marking on March 21 at the Cain Family Cemetery in Garland, N.C. James Cain and his three brothers were members of the Bladen Militia.



CHRISTOPHER ACKISS, President
Le Marquis de Lafayette Chapter NCSSAR



Mecklenburg Chapter

The Chapter has experienced strong membership growth during America's Semiquincentennial year. Various activities, including monthly luncheons, provide opportunities for members, prospects, and guests to connect and strengthen the bonds of patriotism and service.

- The Chapter participated in the 250th Anniversary Commemoration of the Halifax Resolves on April 12, which recognized North Carolina's historic role as the first colony to officially authorize its delegates to support independence from Great Britain.
- In May, the Chapter Color Guard assisted the NCSDAR during the Patriot Ruben Boswell grave marking ceremony and the dedication of a new DAR historical marker in Charlotte's Independence Park.
- Chapter Compatriots (pictured) also hosted historians Sarah Sue Hardinger and Laura Alexander Elliott, authors of a book examining the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, for an engaging presentation at its May dinner meeting.



- In March, Chapter President Chad Lloyd presented a pro-gram on the American Revolution to approximately 150 fourth-grade students at Providence Spring Elementary School, Charlotte. In addition, the Chapter awarded the *SAR Certificate* to numerous local ROTC and JROTC cadets for their leadership, scholarship, and patriotism.
- The Chapter also launched Hornet History, a new educational series exploring the War for Independence in the Carolinas and beyond through on-location presentations and historical storytelling. Visit the channel at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/@HornetHistory75>.

CHAD LLOYD, President
Mecklenburg Chapter NCSSAR

New Bern Chapter

The New Bern Chapter and the Richard Dobbs Spaight Chapter NCSDAR joined efforts with the MCAS Cherry Point Air Station to bring an America 250th Theme to the 2026 Air Show on May 9-10. The event included a Colonial procession down the flightline and educational presentations and displays that interested adults and children alike. Attendance for the weekend was estimated to be 80,000 to 100,000. The John William Pope Foundation provided funding for the event. Pictured are a few team members standing in the rear section (ramp) of a C130 plane on display at the Air Show.



The New Bern and Richard Dobbs Spaight Chapters also conducted a grave marking on May 17 for Patriot Abner Nash who served as the second Governor of North Carolina. Held at his gravesite at Amelia Grove (the Old Pembroke Plantation) in New Bern, a highlight of the ceremony was Evan Parson, sixth great-grandson of Abner Nash, who discussed his Patriot ancestor. He was assisted by his mother,



Sara Parsons, in the unveiling of the plaque. The John William Pope Foundation assisted with funding the event. Danny and Jenny Strange helped with arranging for the ceremony to be conducted at Amelia Grove. Pictured (L-R) are Gary Gillette, New Bern Chapter President; Sara Parsons, Evan's mother; Evan Parsons; and Tammy Gillette, Richard Dobbs Spaight Chapter Regent.

GARY GILLETTE, President
New Bern Chapter NCSSAR



250th Anniversary Commemoration of the Halifax Resolves

by Denny Colvin
Gen. Francis Nash Chapter NCSSAR



The 250th Anniversary Commemoration of the adoption of the Halifax Resolves was held on April 12 at the State Historic Site in Halifax. With the signing of the Resolves on this date in 1776, North Carolina became the first colony to direct its representatives in the Continental Congress to vote for Independency. Viewed in light of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence that was penned almost a year earlier on May 20, 1775, North Carolina was "First in Freedom," a tradition the Old North State maintains to the present day. Delegates would insist upon a Bill of Rights to the proposed Constitution in 1787 before the State would agree to its ratification.

The SAR President General (PG) Michael Elston was on hand for the festivities. Renowned historical artist Dan Nance was present to publicly unveil his magnificent painting of the Halifax Resolves, commissioned by the

NCSSAR as part of our lasting gift to the State and to the Nation in celebration of the Semiquicentennial. The first print of the painting, presented at the Saturday reception, will be on display at the 2026 SAR Congress in Greensboro. Pictured (L-R) are Dan, PG Elston, and State SAR President Stephen McKee. A special highlight of the weekend was the induction of Gov. Josh Stein into the SAR (see article on p. 16). The Saturday evening reception was held in his honor. Included in the celebration was a volley of muskets. President McKee (pictured below) addressed a standing-room only audience at the Sunday ceremony. Special thanks are extended to Mark Pace, Halifax Resolves Chapter President, and Bill Riggan, Immediate Chapter Past President, for organizing the outstanding event.





Historian's Herald

North Carolina Delegates and Signers of the Declaration of Independence

Roy C. Lightfoot
State Historian NCSSAR

With the signing of the Declaration of Independence on 4 July 1776, the United States of America was born, and the colonies broke with their allegiance to Great Britain. The delegates and signers from the thirteen colonies, which were renamed states with this document, came from all walks of life and were selected by their respective State Provincial Congresses to represent the thoughts and wishes of the populace. Although they convened from all the Colonies, the 56 delegates included 48 born in America and eight immigrants from the United Kingdom including England, Ireland, Scotland, Northern Ireland, and Wales. They represented the Colonial elite with 23 lawyers, 12 merchants, 12 plantation owners, and the remainder from such vocations as farmer, physician, scientist, and minister.

The fledgling nation grew and flourished under the leadership of the signers. Two—John Adams and Thomas Jefferson—each held the Offices of President and Vice President. Dr. Benjamin Franklin continued to invent, write, and advocate for diplomacy negotiating and signing the Treaty of Paris (1783). At 70 years of age, he was the oldest delegate to sign the Declaration of Independence. Also the oldest delegate to sign the United States Constitution (1787), he died at 81.

Signers from North Carolina are certainly noteworthy and of particular interest to NCSSAR Compatriots. They include Joseph Hewes, William Hooper, and John Penn. These three Patriots served our State with distinction. Brief biographical sketches of each one are provided here.



Joseph Hewes (1730–1779), the most well-established of the three, was born in Princeton, NJ, to Quaker parents. After working as an apprentice for a mercantile business in Philadelphia, he traveled by cargo ship with visits to Boston, New York, Edenton, NC, Charleston, SC, and Tortola in the British Virgin Islands. After completion of his apprenticeship and realizing the potential for the area, he moved to Edenton in 1755 where he became a successful merchant. Hewes quickly made close connections with the elite of the colony by starting business relationships and became engaged to Isabella Johnston. She was the daughter of a prominent colonial leader, Samuel Johnston, who was the first non-royal governor (1775), United States senator, judge, attorney, and planter. Isabella passed away just days before the scheduled wedding. Hewes, heartbroken, remained a bachelor for the rest of his life with no children. Hewes, who was selected to the Colonial Legislature (1766), went to the Continental Congress in 1774 and served on the Naval Committee. Instead of initially choosing sides as a Loyalist or a Patriot, he was known as a moderate who wanted reconciliation with Great Britain. In North Carolina, he became a member of the Provincial

Assembly (1775) and was appointed to the Committee of Correspondence, which led the opposition to Great Britain in the Colonies, and made connections with the Patriots in the other Colonies. Indisputably a Patriot by March 1776, Hewes supported independence. After signing the Declaration of Independence, he returned home to North Carolina where he died in 1779 at age 49, shortly after his resignation from the Continental Congress. On July 22 of that year, Hewes wrote to Richard Caswell, Governor of North Carolina, "I have been much distressed with a continual head ach [sic.] attended with a kind of stupor which renders me unfit for business of any kind and altho [sic.] I do attend Congress yet I cannot pay that attention to business which the urgency of our affairs seem to require." Hewes was a member of Unanimity Lodge No. 7, which he had visited in 1776, and was buried with Masonic honors in the Christ Church Burial Ground, Philadelphia, PA.



William Hooper (1742–1790) was a politician and lawyer who represented Eastern North Carolina. Like Hewes, Hooper was also originally from New England. Born in Boston, he moved to the Wilmington, NC area in 1766. A graduate of Harvard with honors, he rose quickly in the Colonial Government and was eventually targeted and attacked by the Regulators at one point. He built a respected reputation among the wealthy farmers and fellow lawyers. He increased his influence by representing the Colonial Government in several court cases. He married Anne Clark, the daughter of a wealthy, early settler to the region and sheriff of New Hanover County. They had three children. Hooper quickly rose in the ranks and was appointed as the Salisbury District's Deputy Attorney (1769) and eventually was appointed Deputy Attorney General of North Carolina (1770). Initially supporting the British Colonial Government in this post, he worked closely with then-Colonial Royal Governor William Tryon to suppress the Regulators. The Regulators, a rebellious group who had participated in the War of the regulation, had been operating in the area for some time. In 1770, reports stated that a group of Regulators had dragged Hooper through the streets of Hillsborough

during a riot. He subsequently advised Tryon to use as much force as necessary to stamp out the rebels. He even accompanied troops to the Battle of Alamance (1771). Hooper was the youngest delegate to the First Provincial Congress (1774) and became known for his wisdom and ability to predict future developments. Despite his Loyalist father, a Scottish minister, Hooper argued that the colonies were "striding fast to independence, and ere long will build an empire upon the ruins of Great Britain." During his time with the Continental Congress, he excelled at making speeches and worked closely with leading delegates like Franklin and Adams. His home, in the Lower Cape Fear area, was a hotbed of Patriot activity. He only began to support independence a few months before the Declaration was adopted, possibly a result of influence by Adams. After the American Revolution, Hooper moved inland to Hillsborough, where he returned to his career in law. However, he lost favor in the public eye because of his political stance with the Federalist Party, because of his influential connections and his mistrust of the lower class. He was widely criticized for his dealings with Loyalists, to whom he was generally forgiving. In 1787 and 1788, he campaigned heavily for the ratification of the United States Constitution. But by that time, he had become quite ill and died at the age of 48. Hooper was buried in the Presbyterian Churchyard in Hillsborough. His remains were later reinterred at Guilford Courthouse National Military Park (1894). His home, the Nash-Hooper House in Hillsborough, was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1971.



John Penn (1741–1788), born near Port Royal in Caroline County, VA, attended common school for two years as his father did not believe formal education had any use. At age 18, after his father's death, Penn privately read law with his uncle, Edmund Pendleton, and became a lawyer in Virginia in 1762. Penn married Susannah Lyne the next year. Their union produced three children. Moving from Virginia in 1774 to Stovall, NC in Granville County, near the VA border with Virginia, he differed from Hewes and Hooper in several ways. Penn was a more recent arrival to the colony, did not live in or represent the Eastern part of the colony, and was not from New England. His main focus was the Western part of the colony at the Continental Congress, and supported independence a month before the other two delegates did. Selected to the Continental Congress in 1775, he was reelected and returned in 1777, 1778, and 1779. It is said that he served with distinction and during his time with the Congresses, he not only signed the Declaration but the Articles of Confederation as well. In 1780, Penn was appointed to the North Carolina Board of War. And following his appointment to Congress, he practiced law, and became a substantial landowner and politician

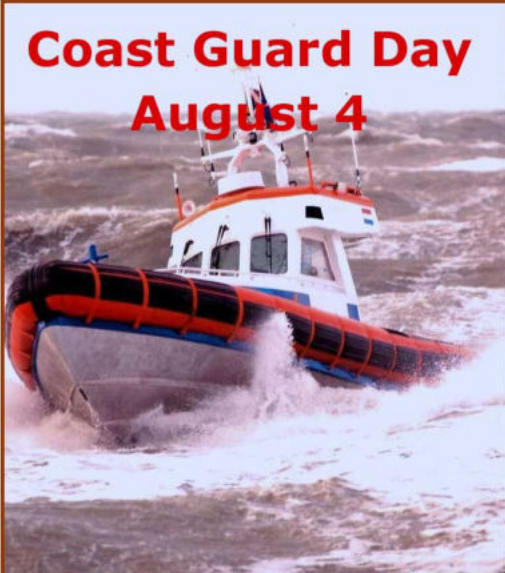
until his death in 1788. Like Hooper, Penn was initially buried at his homesite near Island Creek, Granville County, and reinterred in the Guilford Courthouse National Military Park (1894). The only ship in her class, the USS *John Penn* (APA-23) was an attack transport named for Penn which served during World War II.

Roy is President of the Catawba Valley Chapter NCSSAR and also serves as NCSSAR Historian. Ideas for future articles are welcomed. Contact Roy at capn_roy@hotmail.com.



Third Quarter National Patriotic Days | 2026

Coast Guard Day
August 4



Patriot Day
September 11



Purple Heart Day
August 7



Independence Day



July 4



U.S. Air Force Day
September 18



Constitution & Citizenship Day
September 17



POW-MIA Recognition Day
September 18



From the Revolutionary Bookshelf

By **Lowell M. Hoffman**, *Contributing Author ONS*

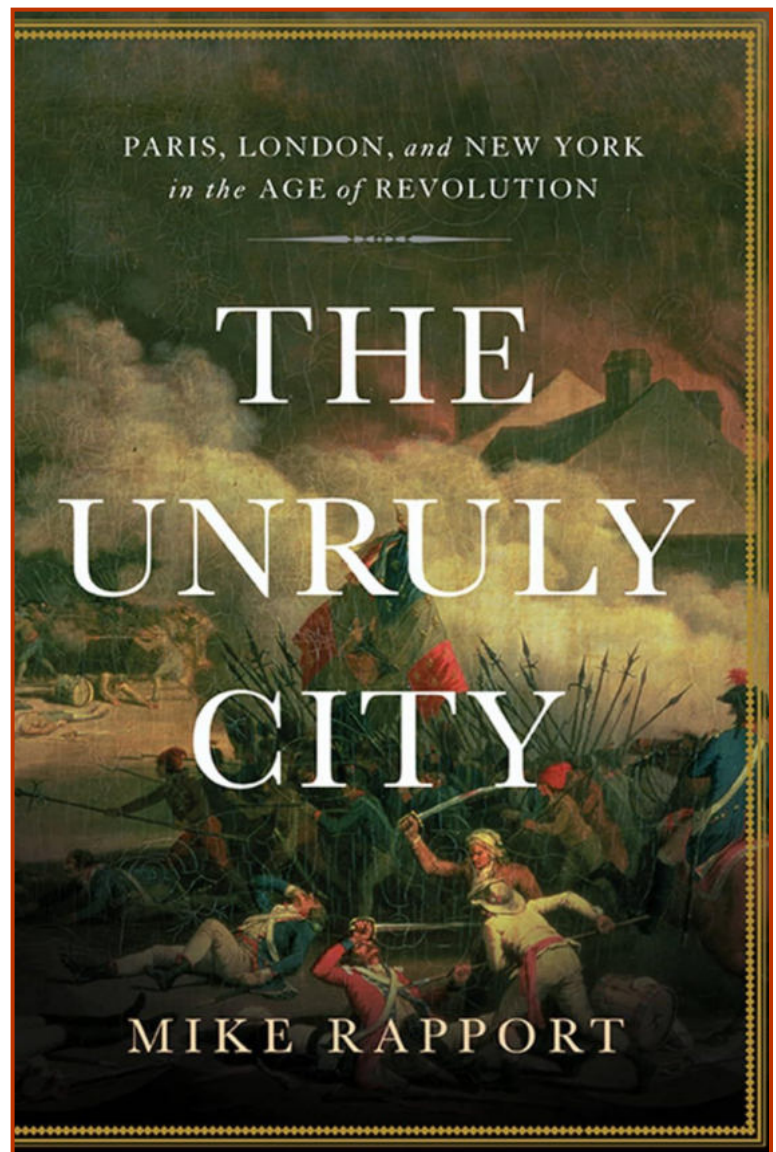
Rapport, Mike. (2017). *The Unruly City: Paris, London and New York in the Age of Revolution*. New York: Basic Books. 416 pages. ISBN-13 978-0465022281.

A focus on the events of Boston and, thence, up and down the Atlantic seaboard is a reasonable area of study in order to understand the root cause and events of the American Revolution. However, despite long lag times in trans-Atlantic communications, the political and economic conditions in London and in Paris and their governments are essential to understand more fully our own Revolution. Ideas have legs; an ideal of liberty travels but with a different focus in each situation. The outcomes are built upon citizen action and government's strong response. It may not be pretty.

Author-historian Mike Rapport weaves a fascinating story of interaction and reaction in this compelling book. His focus is on the three capital cities, their citizens, and their leaders; of parliaments, Kings, ministers and revolutionary leaders. Chapter Two, *London Defiant: Wilkes and Liberty 1763-1776*, is particularly recommended.

This same John Wilkes, who was a persistent thorn in King George's side as he instigated a struggle for English liberties, is also the namesake of North Carolina's Wilkes County and the town of Wilkesboro. This sequence of Wilkes-stories will reveal new understandings of just how unruly the city of London was in the decade following the end of the French and Indian War. As an aside, testimony to "Wilkes and Liberty" was etched by Paul Revere into the obverse side of "The Liberty Bowl," a sterling silver bowl hallowed by the Boston Museum of Art as a treasured artifact of the American Revolution.

Chapter Five is titled *London Burns: Reformers and Rioters 1776-1780*. Actions in America, including Thomas Paine's statement in *Common Sense* that "the cause of America is in a great measure the cause of all mankind," reverberated among the downtrodden of London. The Declaration of Independence that followed with its 'all men are created equal with its claims to God-given rights' language fueled a growing fire of protests in London. All was not peace in the streets and alleys of this great capital city. Increasingly, King George and his minions had opposition in the pubs and papers as well as in Parliament. As taxes rose, and the invincibility of Red-coat armies was demonstrably impaired, life in London became unruly indeed.



The book juxtaposes events and highly personal vignettes of New York, London, and Paris extending midway through the French Revolution. It leaves the battles and military strategy to others. This reviewer likes this book and its stories and believes it is a lively and insightful addition to one's Revolutionary Book Shelf.

Lowell M. 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 for future book reviews to lmhglobal927@gmail.com.



Gov. Josh Stein Inducted into the SAR



The Governor of North Carolina, the Honorable Josh Stein, was officially inducted into the SAR on April 12. The ceremony was held at the Halifax State Historic Site in Halifax, NC, as part of the 250th Anniversary celebration of the Halifax Resolves. A video is available at <https://bit.ly/4fo6l5u>.

Assisted by NCSSAR Alternate Trustee Pat Neimann, State SAR President McKee, and sponsor Joe Sam Queen, President, NCSSAR Western Waters Chapter, the National SAR President General (PG) Michael Elston administered the *SAR Oath* to Gov. Stein: "It is my privilege today," declared PG Elston, "to induct the Governor of North Carolina into membership in the Sons of the American Revolution. Governor Stein, do you as a descendant of one of the patriots

and heroes of the American Revolution reaffirm your ancestor's faith in the principles of liberty and our constitutional Republic? If so, say 'I do'," to which Gov. Stein replied the same with a proud smile.

Immediately shaking the hand of Joe Sam Queen, the Governor said, "I appreciate you, brother." President McKee followed with his handshake of congratulations. The Governor's matted-and-framed SAR member certificate was presented to him by Pat Niemann.

Accepting, the Governor graciously said, "Oh, my God, that's awesome!" He then delivered a brief address to those in attendance:

"Two hundred and fifty years ago, internal division was one of the greatest threats to our nation's success. Two hundred and fifty years later, I would venture that that is still true. There are so many forces seeking to divide us that profit from our distrust from one another. There are so many forces making the American dream feel out of reach, telling us that our success requires others to fail. And, too often, we hear crudeness, not civility. And experience division, not decency. It does not have to be this way. Just like our forbearers in Halifax, we can chart a different course, a patriotic course right here. After all, we are not red. We are not blue. We are red, white, and blue."





Elementary Students Learn About the American Revolution

By Roy C. Lightfoot
Catawba Valley Chapter President

Catawba Valley Chapter collaborated with the Vesuvius Chapter NCSDAR in delivering a presentation to enthusiastic first graders at the G. E. Massey Elementary School in Lincolnton on May 15. The program focused on American Revolution flags, continental and militia Revolutionary War attire, women's dress and role in the Revolution, the Battle of Ramsour's Mill, firelocks and safety, concluding with a volley firing.

The Chapter is thankful for the support of Teacher Hollen Brady Carpenter for extending the invitation to present. Additional support came from Teachers Amanda Best, Gigi Rochford, Heather Fisher, Valerie Flanigan, and Alyx Williamson along with Principal Holly Skibo and Assistant Principal Kyle Pierce. All were presented with *SAR Certificates of Appreciation* for their support.

Chapter members who participated were Chapter President Roy Lightfoot, Chapter Secretary-Treasurer Dan Beal, Chapter Registrar and Eagle Scout Liaison Kyle Smith, and Compatriot Bob Clark. They were joined by Assistant Historian Lisa Pupkiewicz of the Vesuvius Furnace Chapter NSDAR.





The SAR President General Issues Proclamation for the Semiquincentennial 250th



Proclamation Recognizing the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence

WHEREAS July 4, 2026, marks the 250th Anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence and the founding of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution honors the service and sacrifice of our Revolutionary War Patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities, and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our Nation; and

WHEREAS members of the Sons of the American Revolution from across the Nation will gather in Philadelphia, the birthplace of American independence, to commemorate this historic anniversary, and chapters and state societies will celebrate America 250 in communities throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS the enduring principles of liberty, self-government, individual responsibility, and equal rights proclaimed in 1776 remain as relevant today as they were 250 years ago;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael J. Elston, President General of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, do hereby proclaim July 4, 2026, to be **Independence Day 250** and a special day of celebration within the Sons of the American Revolution, and I call upon all members, chapters, and state societies to commemorate this historic anniversary through patriotic observances, educational programs, public ceremonies, and community celebrations.

As we celebrate America's Semiquincentennial, let us honor the courage and sacrifice of the Revolutionary generation and renew our commitment to preserving the freedoms they secured. May the ideals of 1776 continue to inspire and guide our Nation for generations to come as we continue to strive toward an ever "more perfect Union."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution to be affixed on this 29th day of June 2026, in the 250th year of the Independence of the United States.



Michael J. Elston
President General



SAR Individual Awards

Leadership proudly awarded medals and certificates to the following compatriots at the recent 2026 NCSSAR Annual Meeting in Greensboro on March 28. Congratulations to all who are advancing the mission of SAR.



Patriot Medal

J. GREGORY CATLEDGE
Mecklenburg Chapter

GARY L. GILLETTE
New Bern Chapter

GARY S. HORNE
Raleigh Chapter

KENNETH C. LUCKEY
Bethabara Chapter



Distinguished Service Certificate

JAMES H. WOOD
Mecklenburg Chapter



State Distinguished Service Medal

STEVE VAN PELT
Alamance Battleground Chapter

Silver Meritorious Service Medal

***Oak Leaf Cluster**



P. ANTHONY (TONY) ZEISS
Col. Daniel Boone Chapter

A. ROBERT (BOB) SIGMOND
Raleigh Chapter

Silver Roger Sherman Medal

***Oak Leaf Cluster**



JAMES ROBERT AINSLEY
New Bern Chapter

SCOTT T. BRICK
New Bern Chapter

DENNY W. COLVIN
Gen. Francis Nash Chapter

JAY A. DELOACH
New Bern Chapter

JOHN L. ELLIOTT
Le Marquis De Lafayette Chapter

GARY C. SPENCER
Raleigh Chapter

ROY C. LIGHTFOOT
Catawba Valley Chapter



Silver Henry Knox Medal

***Oak Leaf Cluster**

JACK H. ALBERT, JR.
Lower Cape Fear Chapter

J. GREGORY CATLEDGE
Mecklenburg Chapter

CRAIG S. ISAACSON
Blue Ridge Chapter

DAVID W. DOWLESS, JR.
Le Marquis de Lafayette Chapter

CHALRES G. LINTON
Blue Ridge Chapter

THOMAS A. LESSER
Col. Alexander Erwin Chapter

STEPHEN MORRIS
Raleigh Chapter

WILLIAM H. RIGGAN, III
Halifax Resolves Chapter



Color Guardsman of the Year

ROY C. LIGHTFOOT
Catawba Valley Chapter

This award is a feather for the recipient's Revolutionary tricorn hat



Youth Education Medal

+3rd Oak Leaf Cluster

KEN WILSON⁺
Old North State Chapter



Caleb Gibbs State Color Guard Commanders Medal



GARY GREENE

Lower Cape Fear Chapter

GEORGE STRUNK

Gen. George Washington Chapter

STEPHEN MCKEE

Mecklenburg Chapter

Certificates of Appreciation

ALL NCSSAR REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

See Recipients at <https://ncssar.org/about/leadership/>

ALL NCSSAR CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

See Recipients at <https://ncssar.org/chapters/>

SAR Ladies Awards

The **NCSSAR Ladies Auxiliary** were recognized with *SAR Certificates of Appreciation* for their service to the NCSSAR.

Cricket Crigler and **Tammy Gillette** were presented with the *SAR Martha Washington Medal* for her out-standing service to the SAR.

Francis Lynne Smith was awarded the *SAR Lydia Darragh Medal* for her service to the NCSSAR President.

SAR Chapter Awards

Flag Streamers

This streamer is presented to chapters who award 10 or more *SAR Flag Certificates* or *SAR Flag Retirement Certificates* to individuals, companies, or organizations who correctly fly or dispose the U.S. flag during the calendar year (number of certificates in parentheses):

Sandhills Chapter (257)

Le Marquis de Lafayette Chapter (26)

Raleigh Chapter (17)

Lower Cape Fear Chapter (14)

Salisbury Chapter (14)

Col. Daniel Boone Chapter (11)

NC Americanism Streamers

First place and honorable mention (HM) streamers are awarded based on highest scores achieved by a chapter in the NCSAR Americanism scores (in parentheses):

Small Chapter, 1-40 members:

Catawba Valley Chapter—1st (21,648)

Col. Daniel Boone Chapter—HM (5,449)

Medium Chapter, 41-90 members:

Col. Alexander Erwin Chapter—1st (11,308)

Sandhills Chapter—HM (8,599)

Large Chapter, 91/more members:

Mecklenburg Chapter—1st (28,550)

New Bern Chapter—HM (19,775)

NC President's Streamers

First place and honorable mention (HM) streamers are awarded and based on the highest scores achieved by a chapter in the President's Cup (scores in parentheses):

Small Chapter, 1-40 members:

Catawba Valley Chapter—1st (3,450)

Albemarle Chapter—HM (3,000)

Medium Chapter, 41-90 members:

Sandhills Chapter—1st (8,205)

Col. Alexander Erwin Chapter—HM (7,315)

Large Chapter, 91/more members:

Mecklenburg Chapter—1st (12,120)

Raleigh Chapter—HM (8,780)

Thomas 'Nat' Clark Outstanding Chapter Streamers

First place and honorable mention (HM) are awarded based upon combined scores for the NC Americanism and President's Streamer divided by the number of members in the chapter (scores in parentheses):

Small Chapter, 1-40 members:

Catawba Valley Chapter—1st (865.4)

Albemarle Chapter—HM (450.4)

Medium Chapter, 41-90 members:

Col. Alexander Erwin—1st (365.2)

Sandhills Chapter—HM (357.5)

Large Chapter, 91/more members:

New Bern Chapter—1st (272)

Mecklenburg Chapter—HM (262.4)



From the Pulpit

We Hold These Truths

By Roderic L. Mullen, NCSSAR Chaplain

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. Those words should be familiar to every responsible American, and as we approach our Nation's 250th,

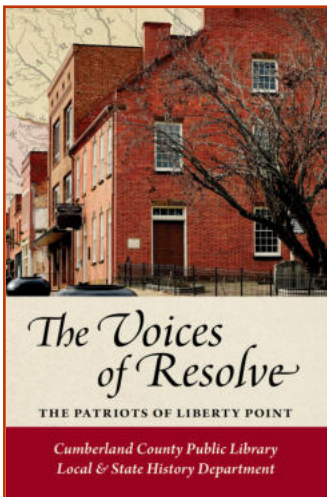
The concept of *Liberty* is the point of discussion in this article. What does Liberty mean? In part, it means that all are free to live according to the dictates of one's own conscience, as long as the liberties of others are not infringed upon. Therein is the rub, as Hamlet would say. It is fair to ask, "Where does one's rights end and another's rights begin?"

This may not be the best question, though. Perhaps it is better to ask, "In a free society, what responsibilities does one have toward to others?" Specifically, "Does one have a responsibility to treat others with respect?" Yes. Also, "Does one have a responsibility to care for others?" Again, yes, inasmuch as one is able, for the same care is hoped for ourselves. Further, "Does one have a responsibility to keep others from harm?" Once more, yes, inasmuch as one is able.

Compatriots may wonder why "yes" is the answer to all these questions" Simply, because all are created equal, as stated in our Declaration of Independence states. All have the same standing before God, and before each another. All are God's children. All are brothers and sisters. And all hope to be treated by others as they would treat them. This is true, whether within one's home, in places of work, in houses or worship, or among the wider public. Our Liberty comes from God, and God expects that it be used wisely and well.



New Book Focuses on the Liberty Point Resolves



Westendorf, J., Dykhouse, A., Santos-Porter, K., & Morgan, M. (2026). *The Voices of Resolve: The Patriots of Liberty Point*. Fayetteville, NC: Cumberland County Public Library. 210 pp. ISBN 9781469698809.

This new publication is about the Liberty Point Resolves and its signers. A plus is that it also mentions the Le Marquis de Lafayette Chapter NCSSAR, some NCSSAR and NCSAR grave markings, and various NCSSAR Compatriots.

DAVID DOWLESS, JR., Past President
Le Marquis de Lafayette Chapter NCSSAR

"It ought to be commemorated, as the Day of Deliverance by solemn Acts of Devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with Pomp and Parade, with Shews, Games, Sports, guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other from this Time forward forever more. You will think me transported with Enthusiasm but I am not. I am well aware of the Toil and Blood and Treasure, that it will cost Us to maintain this Declaration, and support and defend these States. Yet through all the Gloom I can see the Rays of ravishing Light and Glory. I can see that the End is more than worth all the Means. And that Posterity will triumph in that Days Transaction, even altho We should rue it, which I trust in God We shall not." ~John Adams

In a Letter to Abigail Adams, referring to the day the Declaration of Independence was signed, July 3, 1776



Dr. Ralph Nelson Delivers Talk About the Declaration of Independence



Dr. Ralph Nelson, Consulting Editor for ONS, delivered a timely presentation at The Forest at Duke Continuing Care Retirement Community in Durham on May 13. Titled, "Standing up for Independence, One by One," his talk focused on the 13 Declarations of Independence of the individual colonies that led up to the Continental Congress' Declaration on July 4, 1776. He explained how each colony's declaration was developed, and he read key portions from several of the colony declarations.

Eight PowerPoint slides summarizing the main points accompanied his 40-

minute presentation. In the last few minutes Dr. Nelson responded to the several questions from the audience: What did you think of the Ken Burns' video series on the Declaration of Independence (aired on PBS television)? Why did it take so long (after Lexington and Concord) for the colonists to write a united Declaration of Independence? Why did King George III establish the Proclamation Line of 1763, barring the colonists from settling on land west of the crestline of the Appalachian Mountains? The presentation was videotaped with closed captioning and is available for viewing at <https://bit.ly/4w1xU9O>.

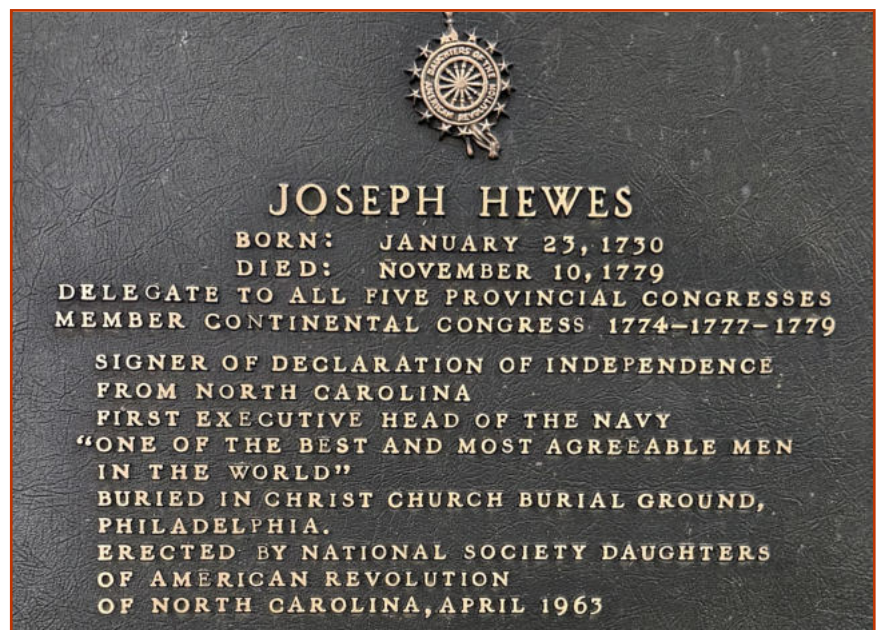
Historic Sites

Christ Church Burial Ground

By David L. Mann, *Consulting Editor ONS*

Christ Church is located near Independence Hall in Philadelphia where the Declaration of Independence was signed. Inside the burial ground of Christ Church, Joseph Hewes is laid to rest. He is one of the three signers of the Declaration of Independence from North Carolina, along with William Hooper and John Penn.

Joseph Hewes, a native of Princeton, NJ, established a prominent mercantile trade in Edenton Bay, NC. He became active in the political affairs of the colony, the center of which was along the coastal settlements during that period. Not far from the Hewes site is buried another prominent figure and signer of the declaration, Benjamin Franklin. Readers may be interested in a brief biographical sketch of Joseph Hewes on page 12 in this issue.





THE OLD NORTH STATE

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

Vol. 29 | No. 3
July 2026

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

EDITOR

JOE P. SUTTON, PHD
Gen. George Washington Chapter
jpsutton56@gmail.com

CONSULTING EDITORS

DAVID L. MANN, CPA, PC
Le Marquis de Lafayette Chapter
Historic Sites
DavidLMannCPA@gmail.com

RUSS H. MCCULLOUGH
Mecklenburg Chapter
Board of Manager Minutes
archdalecoc@gmail.com

RALPH D. NELSON, JR., PHD
Gen. Francis Nash Chapter
General Contributions
depatriot@aol.com

GEOFFREY S. PITTARD
Halifax Resolves Chapter
National & State News
geospittard@gmail.com

A. ROBERT "BOB" SIGMON
Raleigh Chapter
Bylaw Updates & Events
robert_sigmon@yahoo.com

PAT J. NIEMANN, COL., USA, RET.
Sandhills Chapter
Membership
niemannpat@gmail.com

SUBMISSION DEADLINES

January Issue: December 20
April Issue: March 20
July Issue: June 20
October Issue: September 20

SAR Meetings & Events

July - October 2026

Updates Available:

<https://rb.gy/l9e7l>

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

^Semiquincentennial Event

NATIONAL EVENTS

July 10-16: 2026 Annual SAR Congress, The Koury Convention Center/ Sheraton Hotel, Greensboro. Hosted by the National Sons of the American Revolution.

STATE EVENTS

August 22: 252nd Anniversary Commemoration New Bern Resolves, Tryon Palace, New Bern, NC, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Co-hosted by the New Bern Chapter NCSSAR and other organizations.

September 26: 2026 Summer Board of Managers Meeting, Location TBD, Burlington, NC, 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

CHAPTER & LOCAL EVENTS

July 8: Reading of the Declaration of Independence to the Troops, Location TBD, 7:00-7:30 p.m. Hosted by the Le Marquis de Lafayette Chapter NCSSAR.

July 16: Multiple grave markings for Patriots Capt. John Lopp (abt. 1743-aft. 1830), Phillip Leonard (1756-bef. 1830), Joseph Essig (1742-1842), Christopher Eddinger (1720-1803), and Michael Link/Sink (1757-aft. 1843), Pilgrim Reformed Church, Lexington, N.C., 2:00-3:00 p.m. Hosted by the Catawba Valley Chapter NCSSAR.

August 1: Battle of Rockfish Commemoration, Wallace, NC, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Co-hosted by the Col. Alexander Lillington Chapter NCSSAR and the Battle of Rockfish Chapter NCSSAR.

August 20: Edward O. Schowalter, Jr. Medal of Honor Ceremony, First Presbyterian Church, Fayetteville, NC, 7:00-8:00 p.m. Hosted by the Le Marquis de Lafayette Chapter NCSSAR.

August 29: 245th Anniversary Commemoration of the Battle of Elizabethtown, Tory Hole Park, Elizabethtown, NC, 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Hosted by the Le Marquis de Lafayette Chapter NCSSAR.