



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



After a very busy month of July, it did not feel like the Chapter did very much in terms of activities in August, however, there were still plenty of activities and events we attended.

On 11 August, Members of the Catawba Valley Chapter, NCSSAR; Vesuvius Furnace Chapter, NSDAR; and the Major General Benjamin Lincoln Society, NSCAR presented the colors and were presented with a proclamation from Commissioner Allen Fraley, Cherryville Township, Gaston County Board of Commissioners honoring our 250th Anniversary of the United States. In attendance were Chapter President Roy Lightfoot, Chapter Vice President Rick Hubbard, Chapter Secretary / Treasurer Dan Beal, Compatriots Bob Clark, Jody Avery, and Eddie Miller; Assistant Historian Lisa Pupkiewicz, Vesuvius, and Society Member Cale Hartman, Lincoln Society. Special thanks to Commissioner Fraley, Chairman Chad Brown and the Board, and especially Donna Buff, Clerk of the Board and wife of the late Robert "Robby" Sloan Buff III, Chapter Color Guard Commander, and dear friend.



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/@CatawbaValleyChapterNCSSAR>

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

10 September 2026

Volume 7 Issue 9

Chapter Officers

President / Historian /
State Historian
Roy C Lightfoot

Vice President /
Chaplain / Webmaster
Rick Hubbard

Secretary / Treasurer
Dan Beal

Registrar / 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



The Catawba Courier

Catawba Valley Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution

On 15 August, Chapter Members partnered with the Battle of Kings Mountain Chapter, NCSSAR, in support of the host chapter Tryon Resolves, NSDAR to celebrate the 251st Anniversary of the Tryon Resolves at the Tryonota Volunteer Fire Department, Bessemer City, NC. They were all joined by members of the Alamance Battleground, the Colonel Alexander Erwin, the Colonel Daniel Boone, & the Lt Col John Phifer Chapters, NCSSAR; Carolina Emerald, Colonel Frederick Hambright, Major William Chronicle, & the Vesuvius Furnace Chapters, NSDAR; and the Major General Benjamin Lincoln Society, NSCAR. Ms. Audrey Ramseur-Edwards of the Colonel Hambright Chapter served as our master of ceremonies and was the featured speaker. Edwards shared the story of the Tryon Resolves as well as the stories of some of the men who signed it pledging their lives and liberty to the cause of Independence. Chapter President Roy Lightfoot brought greetings from the State Society. And, while there, Lightfoot took the opportunity to present Compatriot Eddie Miller with his 250th Anniversary Bronze Medal. In addition to Lightfoot and Miller, Chapter Members participating were Chapter Registrar / Scout Liaison Kyle Smith, and Compatriots Bob Clark & Jody Avery; and Cale Hartman, Lincoln Society.



On 20 August, Catawba Valley Chapter held its first chapter meeting since May! North Carolina Society, SAR President Stephen McKee addressed the group. Chapter President Roy Lightfoot presented the group with the Gaston County Board of Commissioners' Proclamation; the First-Place President General's Cup and the Second-Place Liberty Bell Americanism Award for Small Chapters; and the 246th Battle of Ramsour's Mill Ribbon and the 246th Battle of the Waxhaws Ribbon. In addition, McKee presented Compatriot Eddie Miller with the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution Silver Medal. Also, a new prospective member, Randy Graves, signed his SAR application.



The Catawba Courier

Catawba Valley Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution

On 22 August, members of the Catawba Valley, NCSSAR; Vesuvius Furnace Chapter, NSDAR; and cast members of "Liberty Mountain - The American Revolution Drama" traded in their 18th Century garb for Pirate Gear for the "NC Beach Blast Festival" at Patriots Park, Kings Mountain, NC. Chapter Members participating were Chapter President Roy Lightfoot and Compatriot Eddie Miller, Catawba, and Lisa Pupkiewicz, Vesuvius.



On 23 August, members of the Catawba Valley Chapter, NCSSAR, and Vesuvius Furnace Chapter, NSDAR, were invited to speak at Miss May's Tea for the Rural Hill Auxiliary's 15th Annual Tea. Chapter President Roy Lightfoot spoke about the American Revolution in North Carolina and the six Resolves sent to the King from the Colony. In addition, Lisa Pupkiewicz served as armorer. Special thanks to Paulette Gardner for inviting us to come and everyone for their hospitality!



The Catawba Courier

Catawba Valley Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution

On 9 August, Chapter Registrar/Scout Liaison and Assistant Scoutmaster Kyle Smith presented the SAR Eagle Scout Certificate to Eagle Scout Isaac Nolte. Isaac is the 53rd Eagle Scout of Troop 383. The Eagle Court of Honor was held in the Chapel of Concordia Lutheran Church in Conover who sponsor the troop.

On 15 April, Smith presented the SAR Eagle Scout Certificate to Eagle Scout Will Barton. Will is one of the Lone Scouts in the nation who did all of the work all on his own to earn his Eagle Rank. Anyone who has earned the Eagle Scout Rank knows exactly how much gratifying work and commitment it takes to attain this level of Scouting. Will is also a member of the Catawba Valley Chapter. In addition to Smith, Chapter President Roy Lightfoot, and Compatriots Bob Clark and Eddie Miller were in attendance for this important event.

Anyone who has earned the Eagle Scout Rank knows exactly how much gratifying work and commitment it takes to attain this level of Scouting and can be recognized the SAR. Please reach out to Kyle Smith if you know of any who are deserving of our recognition.

HUZZAH, ISAAC AND WILL, HUZZAH!!



From August 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, the NSSAR Application Fee and National Annual Dues will be waived for eligible male members of The National Society of the Children of the American Revolution who are 22 or younger and apply for SAR membership during the eligibility period. This is a great opportunity for the next generation to continue their service and commitment to preserving the legacy of the American Revolution. Learn more and share this opportunity with an eligible C.A.R. member!



It is that time of year again for everyone to think about paying their dues for 2027! More information to come very soon!!

Our next Chapter Meeting will be on **Saturday, 12 September at Palermo's Family Italian & Greek Restaurant 924 Conover Blvd W, Conover, NC 28613 at 12 Noon**. Please join us if you are able. Come early to get your food ordered.

As always, 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!



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

The Catawba Courier

Catawba Valley Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution

Youth Program Scholarship Opportunities

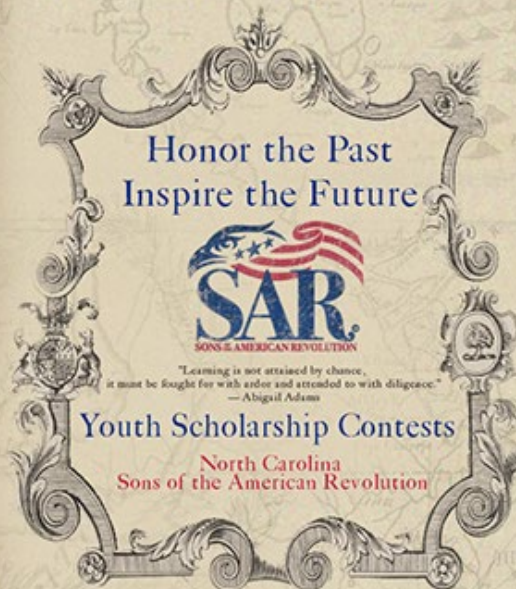
Spread the word to all Elementary, Middle, and High School Students, and History Teachers!!

Across North Carolina, SAR chapters empower students to explore American history through competitive scholarship programs.

Youth use art, essays, and public speaking to connect with our nation's founding ideals.

Local chapters host the first round of contests, sending top winners on a path through the state finals all the way to the national stage!

Open to all public, private, parochial, and home-schooled students.



Youth Scholarship Contests

North Carolina
Sons of the American Revolution

READY TO ENTER OR HAVE QUESTIONS?

Do not submit entries directly to the National SAR headquarters.
All entries must go through your local chapter.
For official rules, application forms, or submission instructions, reach out to:

Contact: Catawba Valley Chapter Registrar Kyle Smith
Email: jkylesmith26@gmail.com
Phone: (828) 455-7208

Elementary School Poster Contest

Students in 3rd, 4th, or 5th grade

(2026-2027 Theme: "Revolutionary War Person or Persons")

Chapter Deadline: March 26, 2027

Awards: Chapter: \$50 State: \$250 (1st), \$150 (2nd), \$75 (3rd)

More info: sar.org/americanism-elementary-school-poster-contest-2/

Sgt. Moses Adams Middle School Brochure Contest

Students in the 7th and 8th grades

Project: Create a tri-fold brochure focused on US foundational documents or 250th Revolutionary Anniversaries.

Chapter Deadline: March 15, 2027

Awards: Chapter: \$50 State: \$250 (1st), \$150 (2nd), \$75 (3rd)

More info: sar.org/sgt-moses-adams-memorial-middle-school-brochure-contest/

SAR Youth Video Contest

Students in 6th through 12th grade

Project: Bring history to life! Create an original 3-to-5-minute video about a person, battle, document, or event from the American struggle for independence.

Chapter Deadline: January 15, 2027

Awards: Chapter: \$100 State: \$500 (1st), \$250 (2nd)

(National 1st Place wins \$1,750)

More info: sar.org/youth-video-contest/

George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest

High school students in 9th through 12th grade

Project: Investigate and write an original 800-to-1,200-word essay on key events, people, or ideals of the American Revolution.

Chapter Deadline: November 23, 2026

Awards: Chapter: \$100 State: \$750 (1st)

More info: sar.org/george-s-stella-m-knight-essay-contest/

Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Orations Contest

High school students in 9th through 12th grade

Project: Write and deliver from memory an original 5-to-6-minute speech honoring the stories of patriotism, courage, and sacrifice of the Revolutionary War.

Chapter Deadline: March 15, 2027

Awards: Chapter: \$100 State: \$750 (1st), \$250 (2nd), \$100 (3rd)

(National 1st Place wins \$8,000!)

More info: sar.org/joseph-s-rumbaugh-historical-orations-contest/

ATTENTION EDUCATORS:

Dr. Tom & Betty Lawrence American History Teacher Award

"The advancement and diffusion of knowledge is the only guardian of true liberty." — James Madison

Are you or do you know an Outstanding Social Studies Teacher?

The SAR wants to recognize middle and high school history teachers whose classroom instruction on the Revolutionary War era (1750-1800) goes above and beyond standard curriculum requirements.

Chapter Deadline: November 23, 2026

Awards: Chapter: \$250 State: \$500 (1st), \$200 (2nd), \$100 (3rd)

(National winners receive a \$3,000 scholarship to attend a premier summer history seminar!)

More info: sar.org/dr-tom-betty-lawrence-american-history-teacher-award/



LOGISTICS

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

- 7 September – Labor Day
- 11 September – Remembrance / Patriots Day, South Newton Elementary School, Newton, 9 AM.
- 12 September – Chapter Meeting, Palermo's Family Italian & Greek Restaurant, Conover NC, 12 Noon.
- 17 September – Iron Station Elementary School, Iron Station, 9 AM.
- 17-23 September – Constitution Week
- 17 September – Bell Ringing for Constitution Day, Old Court Square, Lincolnton, 4 PM.
- 18 September – "Liberty Mountain" Opening Night, Joy Theatre, Kings Mountain, 7:30 PM.
- 25-27 September – 246th Anniversary Battle of Charlotte / Bees, Museum of the Waxhaws, Waxhaw, NC, All Day.
- 26 September – NCSSAR Summer Board of Managers Meeting, Best Western Hotel, 770 Huffman Mill Road, Burlington, NC. 27215, 11 AM – 3:30 PM.
- 3-4 October – Festifall, Walnut Grove Plantation, 1200 Otts Rd, Roebuck, SC, Camp Opens each day at 10 AM.
- 7 October – 246th Anniversary of the Battle of Kings Mountain, Kings Mtn Nat'l Mil Pk, 11 AM.
- 10 October – 246th Anniversary of the Battle of Shallow Ford, 4214 Mt. Sinai Drive, Yadkinville, NC, 10 AM
- 17 October – Lincoln County Apple Festival, Lincolnton, 9 AM – 4 PM.
- 15 October – Chapter Meeting, Court Street Grille, 113 Court Square, Lincolnton, NC, 6:30 PM.
- 24 October – Colonel Alexander Erwin Double Grave Marking, Ft Defiance, Lenoir, NC, 1 PM.
- 24-25 October – Lenoir's Rangers Muster, Ft Defiance, Lenoir, NC, Camp Opens each day at 10 AM.
- 7 November – Chapter Meeting, Palermo's Family Italian & Greek Restaurant, Conover NC, 12 Noon.
- 13-15 November – Battle of Camden Education Day & Reenactment, Kershaw, SC.
- 12 December – Wreaths Across America with the Carolina Emerald Chapter, NSDAR, TBA.

Our next regular **Chapter Meeting** will be until **Saturday, 12 September at 12 Noon** – at **Palermo's Family Italian & Greek Restaurant 924 Conover Blvd W, Conover, NC 28613 at 12 Noon**

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 September
Ben Houser (12th)
David Lambertsen (12th)
Keith Black (18th)
Scott Lightfoot (24th)

Come join us for the
239th Anniversary of the
Ratification of the
United States' Constitution!

Thursday, 17 September 3:45 PM

Old Lincoln County
Court House Square
Lincolnton, NC

HUZZAH!!



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 Battle of Fort George

Most of the British fleet had sailed away with General Sir Henry Clinton and a small garrison of 30 men with only 12 muskets had been left behind at Fort George, Bald Head Island, NC. On the night of 6 September 1776, after learning of the weaknesses of the garrison, Colonel Thomas Polk, who had been placed in command of the 4th NC Regiment, sailed with 150 men across the inlet and landed on Bald Head Island. As they worked their way through the woods, they were discovered, and although the Patriots captured 5 sailors, the alarm had been sounded. The other 25 British sailors began firing on them after taking refuge in the small fort keeping them at bay. After hearing the shots, nearby British ships sent a relief force. The HMS Falcon fired her 6-pounders into the woods at the Patriots to give the relief force a chance to arrive. Polk had one man killed and one man wounded, then decided to withdraw. As they left, the NC Continentals burned a British cutter so that it would not pursue them. The HMS Cruiser quickly mounted four of her 3-pounders on board the sloop HMS Defiance. Lt. Dickerson sailed with five other boats around the island to block any escape by the Patriots. Dickerson discovered two of Polk's boats at 1:00 am at Buzzard's Bay near the mainland. The Defiance and the Falcon fired into the woods, but the Patriots returned fire with a 3-pounder, keeping the ships away. The British were unable to destroy the boats and withdrew before the sun rose.