



The Patriot Journal

Newsletter of the Raleigh Chapter
North Carolina Society Sons of the American Revolution

Spring 2022

President's Corner

Richard A. Peña, President



Our country once again has shown its resolve when faced with adversity such as the likes of COVID-19. Despite our national differences of opinion of the day, our aim of the civil debate is that which makes us a great nation and republic. I hope you embrace all the changes we encounter in the second quarter of the year; the societal changes in our daily lives, the warmer spring weather, and our time with family.

The Raleigh Chapter is a premier chapter that our members can be proud of, but it will take more than 6.6% of the overall membership to help lead and participate in activities. If you cannot lead or participate in chapter activities, please donate what you can afford by buying a wreath from our Raleigh Chapter's Wreath Across America website at this link: [Wreaths Across America](#).

I have committed to buying a minimum of twelve wreaths in 2022 to support both the Wreaths Across America and the Raleigh Chapter, a Win/Win proposition. I purchased five wreaths in 2022, so please join me in donating to the Raleigh Chapter. Also, donations can be made directly to our Chapter Treasurer, Bob Sigmon.

What we have accomplished so far this year is a good start. In January, we had Ernest Dollar, Curator of the Raleigh History Museum as a guest speaker.

Continued on next page

Inside this Issue

- Pg. 1) President's Corner
- Pg. 1) Registrar's Report & New Members
- Pg. 3) Chaplain's Prayer
- Pg. 3) Secretary's Report
- Pg. 4) New Members' Biographies
- Pg. 6) Vice President's Honors Committee Report
- Pg. 7) Raleigh Chapter News
- Pg. 13) SAR Calendar
- Pg. 14) NC Society Logo Contest
- Pg. 15) Veteran Smiles Foundation
- Pg. 16) Patriot's Spotlight
- Pg. 19) Book Review—
Winning Independence
- Pg. 20) Road Trip—Halifax Resolves
- Pg. 21) Getting Involved

Registrar's Report, May 1, 2022

Bob Whitehead, Registrar

Since the last Registrar's Report, January 22, 2022, four New Member Applications and one Supplemental Application have been approved by NSSAR. They are listed below on the next page.

There are currently five New Member Applications and eleven Supplemental Applications under review at the National Society.

Continued on next page

President's Corner– Continued

Laney Hubbard, Director of the Joel Lane House, was our guest speaker in March, and in April, we had our very own Gary Spencer, Curator of the North Carolina National Guard Museum, give us a tour.

At the NC SAR State Conference in Greensboro, North Carolina, the NC SAR Leadership recognized many of the NC SAR Chapters across the state for their efforts in the Americanism and USS Stark activities. I am pleased to report that the NC SAR Raleigh Chapter was recognized and awarded as follows:

- **FIRST PLACE: NC SAR 2021-22 THOMAS "NAT" CLARK OUTSTANDING, VERY LARGE CHAPTER**
- **FIRST PLACE: NC SAR 2021-22 PRESIDENT STREAMER, LARGE CHAPTER**
- **FIRST PLACE: NC SAR 2021-22 AMERICANISM STREAMER, VERY LARGE CHAPTER**
- **FIRST PLACE: NC SAR 2021-22 MEMBERSHIP RETENTION GREATER THAN 95%**
- **FIRST PLACE: NC SAR 2021-22 USS STARK MEMORIAL AWARD, LARGE CHAPTER**
- **HONORABLE MENTION: NC SAR 2021-22 NEW MEMBERSHIP GROWTH, LARGE CHAPTER**
- **NC SAR 2021-22 FLAG CERTIFICATE STREAMER**

I would like to thank the following Chapter Officers and members who have made a difference in 2021-2022.

Bob Whitehead for his diligence and hard work as Chapter's Registrar and for mentoring new members.

Russell Chafin for his administrative skills in pulling the Veterans Affairs Committee together and organizing the VLC Clothing Drive.

Gary Spencer for his work on the Veterans Affairs Committee, ROTC Committee, and Color Guard activities.

Registrar's Report– Continued

New Member Applications Approved

Joseph Charles Deaton, Patriot: Richard Tubman

Donald Edward Hoskins, Patriot: John Phillips

Dash Almanzo Javier, Patriot: Abijah Brigham

Cullen Patrick Lewis, Patriot: Edward Lewis

Supplemental Applications Approved

Robert August Whitehead, Patriot: Wiatt Powell



Tom Davis for his work in leading and organizing the Raleigh Chapter Color Guard and attending many of the NC SAR and VA SAR events in militia uniform.

David Bamford for his work as Chapter Secretary, Newsletter Editor, and Wreaths Across America Chair

Karl Feld for his social media communications and press release skills and ROTC Committee work.

Jeremy Hodges for his impressive programming work and outcomes as the Rumbaugh Oration Committee Chair.

Stephen Morris for his work as the Knight Essay Committee Chair and the many successful contests under his tenure.

Ken Van Valen for taking on the Eagle Scout Committee Chair on a moment's notice.

Bob Sigmon for all the hard and dependable work he performs for the Raleigh Chapter and NC SAR State Leadership ExCom and for stepping in as the Acting Color Guard Commander.

Continued on next page

President's Corner— Continued

Jim Becker has been a big part of the **success** of the Raleigh Chapter over the years. We cannot thank Jim enough for what he has done for the Raleigh Chapter and NC SAR .

I am proud of the membership of the Raleigh Chapter and what our membership has accomplished. The Raleigh Chapter is growing and exceeding the “Large chapter” threshold and is now in the “Very large chapter” category as assigned by NC SAR. Our growth is not by luck but by the collaboration and teamwork of our officers, committee chairs, and members making a difference as leaders in the NC SAR Society and our community. I ask the Raleigh Chapter members for their help and to join us in our journey. Doing the right thing never goes out of style.

Get your children and grandchildren involved !

Your children or grandchildren qualify for membership in the **National Society of the Children of the American Revolution (C.A.R.)** if they are ages 0 to 21. This is an excellent youth program for them to gain valuable life skills and leadership experiences. They also learn American heritage, history, and patriotism. Many C.A.R. members have moved on to become leaders in the S.A.R. and D.A.R. Membership is open to descendants of patriots of the American Revolution. Encourage them to join today. More information can be found at this link: [N.C.S.C.A.R. – North Carolina Society of the Children of the American Revolution .](#)



Chaplain's Prayer

Van Jones, Chaplain



Painting By Arnold Friberg

Thank you God,

For the many events to celebrate, that have happened which have had an effect on us as individuals, a people and a nation.

And for the deaths of our compatriots, we pray for the best for their families left behind.

For the deaths of all of our ancestors, we remember.

AMEN

Secretary's Report

David Bamford

The chapter currently has 178 primary members and 7 dual members. These dual members have their primary SAR memberships elsewhere but filed the necessary forms to join us as their secondary chapter home. Raleigh chapter members can also have a dual or secondary membership with another chapter or state society if they have interest. Email me if interested. [Click here.](#)

On that note, since January we processed 2 dual memberships for compatriots of other chapters to join us.

We also processed membership transfers for 4 compatriots who moved out of the area or out of state and who are leaving us.

These have not been finalized yet, but we are also assisting with 3 membership reinstatements and another dual membership request.

Lastly, please update your mailing address and contact info if there has been any changes. This ensures you get your SAR magazine and our communications.

Contact me with questions.

dmbamford71@icloud.com

NEW MEMBERS' BIOS

Donald Edward Hoskins

Born in Rochester, NY, in 1959, Compatriot Hoskins came to North Carolina in February of 1990. Don is a machinist at OPW and works in the clean energy department. His wife, Rosalyn, is a registered nurse and is the facility administrator at a leading dialysis center. Between them, they have six adult children from previous marriages: Deidra, Donald, Amber, Jordon, Mary and Travis.

When Don and Rosalyn aren't working, they enjoy traveling. Recent vacations have included everything from luaus in Hawaii and tram rides in New Mexico to four-wheeling in Tennessee and South Carolina.

Compatriot Hoskins's membership in the Sons of the American Revolution is based on his bloodline descent from Patriot John Phillips of Pennsylvania. John enlisted to support the fight for independence several times from three different states, including Vermont, New York and Pennsylvania.

John first enlisted in January of 1776 following the defeat of the American forces at Quebec. As one of the famed "Green Mountain Boys", John marched to Quebec and participated in the siege until the arrival of British reinforcements resulted in the retreat of the Americans. John also served stints at Fort Independence, Fort Ticonderoga and Fort Pittston. Following the Battle of Wyoming (Pennsylvania) and the massacre that followed, John removed his family to New York State – where he enlisted once again, from New York, to help in the fight for freedom. Following the war, John returned with his family to Pennsylvania, eventually settling in Abingdon, Lackawanna County, dying there in 1846 at the ripe age of ninety-four.

Beyond John Phillips's service in the cause for Independence, he was also a descendent of Mayflower passenger George Soule. Don looks forward to further

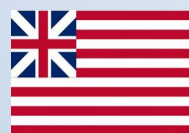
celebrating his heritage when he submits his application to the General Society of Mayflower Descendants in the weeks to come.

Cullen Patrick Lewis

Compatriot Lewis was born and raised on the shores of Newport Beach, California. As a teenager he served as a student ambassador, where he and lived with host families in Okazaki, Japan and Antibes, France. In 2013, Cullen pursued an education in wilderness leadership by taking part in an expedition through an un-mapped part of the Aysen XI region of Chilean Patagonia through NOLS. He returned in 2015 as a student researcher, where he spent a year throughout South America studying Andean proglacial pioneer species in cooperation with CONAF. In 2017 Cullen received his bachelor's in chemistry from The Evergreen State College in Olympia, WA.

Cullen moved to Raleigh this September to expand his career in property management and development while temporarily helping his family manage their local prosthodontic practice. Additionally, he is pursuing a M.S. in Biochemistry at California State University Long Beach where his thesis is based on the engineered enzymatic production of novel biofuels from biomass waste. Some of Cullen's passions include vintage automobiles, boating, backpacking, adventure travel, history, and sport shooting.

Compatriot Lewis's membership in The Sons of the American Revolution is based on his bloodline descent from Patriot Edward Lewis Jr. who served as a soldier in Basking Ridge, New Jersey. His aunt Jacqueline Rae Lewis is an active member of DAR's Orange County, CA Chapter, and they meet regularly to discuss family history and make new discoveries on their ancestry.



NEW MEMBERS' BIOS

Dash Almanzo Javier

Compatriot Dash was born in Raleigh, North Carolina in 2013 to Andrea Lynn Butterworth and Hector Relativo Javier. Dash attends the elementary school at Triangle Math and Science Academy in Cary along with his younger sister Lilyana. He and his family are parishioners at St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church in Raleigh. His outside-school activities and hobbies include karate, the Cub Scouts, and video games such as Roblox and Minecraft. He also has membership in the Children of the American Revolution and junior hereditary membership in the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and the Military Order of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Compatriot Dash's membership in the Sons of the American Revolution is based on his bloodline descent from Patriot Lt. Abijah Brigham, a blacksmith and selectman of Sudbury, Middlesex County, Massachusetts. This Patriot was a minuteman at the Lexington Alarm of 1775 and joined the militia's march from Sudbury to Cambridge, as a Sergeant in Captain Haynes' Company. In July 1776, he became a Lieutenant under Captain Asahel Wheeler's Company, under Colonel Ezekiel Howe's Regiment (the 4th Middlesex Regiment). The company served at Fort Ticonderoga to support the defenses against General Guy Carleton's army advancing from Canada. In October 1776, Lieutenant Brigham served in Captain Amasa Cranston's Company, in Colonel Samuel Denny's Regiment that fought in the Battle of White Plains.



Fred Trace

Compatriot Trace was born in Kittanning, Pennsylvania yet has spent most of his life and time in St. Louis, Missouri. He attended high school at Subiaco Academy in Subiaco Arkansas and went on to receive his degree in Engineering at Truman State University in Missouri. Fred has worked for a variety of engineering companies which led him to live in many states including Georgia, Missouri, Tennessee, Indiana, Kentucky and North Carolina. Fred's work has also led him to travel to many countries including Japan, Italy, China, and India. When Fred isn't working, he enjoys cheering on the St. Louis Cardinals and St. Louis Blues, working on typical home projects, listening to Jimmy Buffet and spending time with his family.

Joseph (Joe) Charles Deaton

Compatriot Deaton was raised in Baltimore Co, Maryland. He received his BS in Chemistry from Purdue in 1981 and his PhD from Stanford in 1987. He was a research scientist at Eastman Kodak in Rochester, NY, for 23 years and then conducted university research (no teaching) at Bowling Green State and lastly at NC State. He published articles in leading scientific journals and patented new materials, including 3 that were adopted in world-wide production of photographic films. Compatriot Deaton's membership in The Sons of the American Revolution is based on his mother's paternal bloodline descent from Lt Richard Tubman, Jr, of Dorchester Co, Maryland. Lt. Tubman served in Capt. Keen's Bucks Co and in Capt. Staplefort's Co, Lower Battalion. In addition to the principles of the American Revolution, compatriot Deaton has interest in tracing the development of those principles including universal human rights through ancient and medieval times as an important part of more general interest in early Christian writings.

Final Honors Committee Report

Gary Spencer, Vice President

The State Society EXCOM met recently to discuss the Final Honors Certificate we had created to honor our members that have moved “to that house not built with hands, eternal in the heavens” and be presented to the family of the compatriot. It was decided not to adopt this, as there is already a similar certificate available in the SAR store. Sadly, the certificate in the store is more like a death certificate than honoring a life well lived and does not really give any impression that the compatriot meant anything to us. Nothing could be farther from the truth.

Despite the “higher ruling” the Raleigh Chapter is going to use the Final Honors Certificate that we developed going forward. We want our compatriots to know that they are valued and important to us as a chapter. We also want the families to know this as well, and perhaps even spark an interest in them to learn more about their own ancestry.

I understand that there could potentially be some members that simply do not wish for their families to receive one of these when that unfortunate time comes. That is perfectly fine, and we will honor that preference. If you do not wish the chapter to do this in your honor, please send me an email at gspencer1861@hotmail.com. Put “Memorial Certificate” in the subject line. No explanation is expected or required. Just know that your memory will not be forgotten, and we are grateful for the time we had with you. I have already received one such message.



National Number: 945852

Raleigh Chapter, North Carolina Society Sons of the American Revolution
Mourns the Passing of Compatriot

Joe Snuffy, Sr.

HIS BROTHERS IN ARMS, HONOR AND WILL FOREVER HOLD HIM IN SACRED REMEMBRANCE FOR PRESERVING THE TRADITIONS OF HIS ANCESTOR, A FAITHFUL PATRIOT IN THE WAR THAT SECURED OUR INDEPENDENCE AND FORGED A NEW NATION WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL.



Chapter President _____

Chapter Secretary _____

Chapter News

Chapter Veteran Awards Available

Our chapter actively seeks to recognize its veteran members for their service as one of our missions. If you are a veteran Compatriot, we want to recognize you!

The SAR recognizes its veteran members with two types of medals. The **Military Service Medal** is presented to a Compatriot who served in: (1) the armed forces of the United States, (2) the military forces of a country allied with the United States, or (3) a United Nations Peace Keeping Force. A Purple Heart Pin is worn on the full-sized Military Service Medal by a Compatriot who received the Purple Heart from one of the United States' Armed Forces.

The **SAR War Service Medal** recognizes veterans who met the conditions for the Military Service Medal while serving against a common enemy in a war or action recognized by a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States and who received a campaign medal, combat ribbon or badge. Bronze Service Bars or Oak Leaf Clusters are worn to indicate that a Compatriot received an authorized campaign medal.

For either medal a Purple Heart Pin is worn by a Compatriot who received the Purple Heart from one of the United States' Armed Forces.

If you are willing to be recognized by your fellow Compatriots for your service, please let us know by emailing our Chapter President Richard Pena at richardapena@hotmail.com .



SAR War Service Medal for veterans who served in a U.S. military operation



SAR Military Service Medal for veterans who were honorably discharged from U.S. service

Raleigh Chapter Compatriot Tom Davis Involved in Crossing of the Dan Ceremony

February 14th marked the 241st Anniversary of American General Nathaniel Green's crossing of the Dan River to escape pursuit by Generals Cornwallis and Tarleton. Compatriot Tom Davis was part of the North Carolina Color Guard present at the commemoration. The event was hosted by the Dan River Chapter of the Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Enraged by their loss at Cowpens on January 17, 1781, Cornwallis and Tarleton were chasing the American army and their hundreds of British prisoners. General Greene's strategy was to avoid battle and draw the British further away from their supply lines. The Americans headed to Virginia to escape the British and get additional recruits and supplies by crossing the Dan River.

Greene sent 700 men away from his main army as a decoy towards the upper fords of the river upstream from Dix's Ferry (Danville). Meanwhile, the slower moving main army, with artillery and supply wagons, took the shorter route and crossed the swollen river on February 14, 1781 with boats at Irvin's Ferry (near Turbeville) and Boyd's Ferry (South Boston). As the last Americans finished crossing the river, the first British troops arrived. Without boats they were unable to cross. Greene had won the race to the Dan River.

Greene's American army enjoyed a weeklong rest north of the Dan River at the Old Halifax Court House (Crystal Hill). His troops reinforced and his provisions refreshed, Greene considered an attack against the British. With Cornwallis removed from his supply lines, and his men exhausted from their fruitless pursuit, the advantage was Greene's. During the next month the British moved back towards Guilford Court House, North Carolina while suffering many ambushes and skirmishes with the Americans. The two armies finally met at the Battle of Guilford Court House.

Read more at halifaxcountyhistoricalsociety.org/about-the-crossing.

The commemoration events from Feb. 17-19, 2022 were sponsored by the @danriversar, the Berryman Green Chapter of the Virginia DAR, the Halifax County Historical Society, the South Boston-Halifax County Museum of Fine Arts and History, the Town of South Boston, the Town of Halifax, and Halifax County Middle School.

The North Carolina Color Guard present at the 2022 Crossing of the Dan ceremony. Compatriot Tom David is pictured third from the left.



Veterans Life Center Receives \$10,000 Donation On George Washington's Birthday

On February 21, the Raleigh Chapter presented the newly opened [Veterans Life Center](https://vlcnc.org) (VLC) in Butner, NC with a donation of \$10,000. A ceremony was held at the new VLC facility (<https://vlcnc.org>). The Raleigh Color Guard presented three United States of America flags as gifts in a formal ceremony. The keynote speaker was North Carolina State SAR President, Jay A. DeLoach, a retired US Navy rear admiral. Raleigh Chaplain Reverend Van Jones gave the invocation.

John Turner, Executive Director of the VLC, explained "The Veterans Life Center is a residential program designed to help at-risk 21st Century male and female veterans. Its mission is to provide each of our residents with the prospect of strengthening their mental fitness and physical health, improving life skills, and providing vocational training and career opportunities." The VLC works to prevent veterans from experiencing homelessness, incarceration, suicide, and premature death. It helps 21st century veterans experiencing difficulties reintegrating into civilian life. Chapter President Richard A. Peña presented Mr. Turner, himself a veteran, with the SAR Silver Good Citizen Award for his tireless work helping 21st-Century veterans at risk become self-reliant.



Chapter Donates Clothing to Veterans Life Center

At the March 19 meeting, the Raleigh Chapter organized a clothing drive for the Veterans Life Center. Donated items were brought to the parking lot at MoonRunners in Garner with Compatriot Russell Chafin collecting the items.



Cleveland High School Cadet Awarded SAR JROTC Medal

On March 4, 2022 the Raleigh Chapter awarded JROTC Cadet Michael Carter of Cleveland High School in Johnston County, NC the [Outstanding Cadet Medal and Award](#) for superior leadership qualities, military bearing, and excellence in volunteer service that exemplifies the high ideals and principles which motivated and sustained our patriot ancestors. The

award was presented by his Senior Army Instructor, retired Lieutenant Colonel Glenn McNorial.



LTC Glenn McNorial presents the SAR JROTC Bronze Outstanding Cadet Award to Cadet Michael Carter.



Color Guard Participates in Museum

Ribbon Cutting

The Raleigh Chapter Color Guard participated in the dedication of the North Carolina National Guard Museum on April 7. The Color Guard was invited to participate by the museum curator, Compatriot and Chapter Vice President Gary Spencer. The museum opening was attended by Adjutant General of North Carolina National Guard Major General M. Todd Hunt and other North Carolina state government officials.

The North Carolina National Guard Museum represents the Army and Air National Guard. It collects, preserves and displays artifacts, documents and memorabilia that have historical significance. The museum also includes a research library, interactive displays and a theater. The mission of the museum is to preserve and explain the military heritage of North Carolina and enhance public understanding of how armed conflicts and military institutions have shaped our state and national experience. It is located on Blue Ridge Road across the from NC Museum of Art. It also accepts donations of North Carolina National Guard artifacts which date back to 1663. Learn more about the museum at <https://nc.ng.mil/publicaffairs/historian/Pages/default.aspx>.

Watch the news coverage at [North Carolina National Guard honored with new museum in Raleigh \(msn.com\)](https://www.msn.com)



Chapter Vice President SGT Gary Spencer holding a donated WWI-era German machine gun.



Color Guard members Tom Davis, Tom Floyd and Bob Sigmon accompanied by North Carolina SAR Color Guard Commander George Strunk present the Colors.



NCNG Museum Curator and Raleigh Chapter Vice President SGT Gary Spencer walks a tank to its new home at the museum.

Raleigh Chapter Flag

The Raleigh Chapter now has its very own named chapter flag. The “North Carolina Society” is at the top, and “The Raleigh Chapter” is at the bottom. Beautifully embroidered and double sided. Having seen many other chapter flags firsthand, I can say without a doubt that our new flag is far and above all the others.

Gary Spencer, Vice President



Raleigh Chapter Wreaths Across America Fundraiser Now Open

More info will be sent out over the next several months leading up to Wreaths Across America Day on December 17, 2022. Wreaths Across America is a non-profit organization that coordinates wreath-laying ceremonies at cemeteries across the country every December to honor and remember our veterans who have passed. This is an annual event.

The Raleigh Chapter’s sponsorship page is active at this link: [Wreaths Across America](#) where you can order / purchase wreaths on-line that will go directly to Oakwood Cemetery to be placed on veteran graves in downtown Raleigh on December 17. Wreaths are \$15 each, and for every wreath ordered, the chapter will get back \$5 for our treasury as a fundraiser. Please contact [David Bamford](#), Secretary, with questions.

Patriots are the foundation...

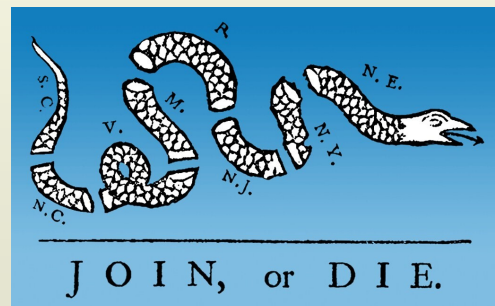
Each member is very important to the Raleigh Chapter, North Carolina Society and also the SAR National Society. Thank you for your continued membership during this time. Please visit the [NC SAR website](#) to keep informed, and thank you for keeping your 2022 membership renewal up to date.



“American Revolution Podcast”

Each Sunday Michael Troy posts a new episode, approximately 30 minutes in length, that covers a specific topic on the American Revolution. These free audio shows are available at this link for both IOS and Android. Or you can play the episodes directly from your computer by clicking this link: [American Revolution Podcast \(amrevpodcast.com\)](#) .

Episode 245– [ARP245 San Juan Expedition \(amrevpodcast.com\)](#)



Upcoming 2022 SAR Events

Event Description	Dates - 2022	Calendar URL
Raleigh Chapter Meeting	May 21	Click Here
242nd Anniversary of the Battle of Ramsour's Mill	June 3—5	Click Here
Patriot Grave Marking – Adam Johannes Setser/ Setzer	June 11	Click Here
Raleigh Chapter Color Guard Event– NC Capitol	July 4	Click Here
242nd Anniversary Battle of Colson's Mill	July 23	Click Here
241st Anniversary Battle of Rockfish Creek	July 30	Click Here
241st Anniversary of the attack at the House in the Horseshoe	August 6	Click Here



Next Chapter Meeting Saturday, May 21

You are invited to the NC SAR Raleigh Chapter May 21, 2022 Meeting - Once again let's get together in comradery.

Gary Spencer will give us an overview/tour of the NC National Guard Museum.

When:

Saturday, May 21, 2022

The meeting will start at 12:00 PM sharp, please arrive 15 minutes prior to the meeting start time.

Where:

North Carolina National Guard Museum
2109 Blue Ridge Road, Raleigh, NC 27607

Email RSVP to dmbamford71@icloud.com - Raleigh Chapter Secretary before May 16th, 2022
BYOL - Bring your own lunch. The chapter will provide drink refreshments.

We need your input!

Gary Spencer, Vice President

The State Society has no logo for itself. Given that the NC Society has been in existence since 1911, it's way past time to create a state society logo (and one for the Raleigh Chapter, too!). Please give it some thought, and send your submissions to Gary Spencer's email, gspencer1861@hotmail.com, and put "logo" in the subject line. Pictured here are the only statewide submissions so far. I know we can come up with something better!

The site of the 2026 Congress has been decided! It will be Greensboro at the Khoury Center. Now that this has been hammered down, we need to come up with a 2026 National Congress Medal design. My design is pictured, but was less than enthusiastically received at the state's annual meeting. Therefore, we ask that you put your creativity to work and submit a design for the medal. Send your design to the same email noted above for the logo.

Be sure to provide your name and national number so I can make sure you get the credit if your design is selected.

North Carolina Society hosting the 2026 Sons of the American Revolution National Congress Medal and Coin submissions



← Proposed ribbon drape for medal

The Veteran Smiles Foundation

The Veteran Smiles Foundation (VSF) is a non-profit organization headquartered in Wake Forest, North Carolina which provides educational and financial support to at-risk veterans to improve their dental and oral healthcare. Most of these veterans do not qualify for free care at VA hospitals and clinics and cannot afford dental care on their own. VSF founder David E. McCracken, COL, U.S. Army, Retired, became aware of the gap in veterans' services through his work with the Veterans Affairs Council and created a solution with VSF.

VSF's year-round Vet Smiles initiative is in partnership with the East Carolina University (ECU) School of Dental Medicine, NC Serves, and county Veteran Services Offices throughout the state. ECU's School of Dental Medicine has eight satellite dental clinics located around the state in rural and under-served areas including Brunswick, Robeson, and Davidson Counties, and also in the communities of Elizabeth City, Ahoskie, Lillington, Spruce Pine, and Sylva.

After a veteran is determined eligible for services, the program begins with an oral exam and X-rays to outline a dental plan specific to their oral health needs. Dental plans include routine checkups, annual cleanings, and minor and major dental work. VSF provides financial support when the veteran enrolls in the program. The level of assistance is subject to funds available under VSF financial policies and agreements.

For the current fiscal year, the VSF has spent about \$10,700 for 21 veterans. The VSF's funding and day-to-day operations are dependent on grants, donations, individual dentists volunteering their services, and the ECU School of Dental Medicine.

How can you help? The VSF needs partners for funding and donations to expand the "Vet Smiles" program to help more veterans with gaps in their oral healthcare throughout North Carolina.

For more information on how to volunteer or to make a tax-deductible donation, please contact Ret.

Colonel David E McCracken at davide@vetsmiles.org or at 984.233.3350, or go to the VSF website at <https://vetsmiles.org>

Editor's note: Retired COL David E McCracken is a member of the Raleigh Chapter, North Carolina Sons of the American Revolution.

The two veterans pictured below, one an Iraq War Veteran and the other a Vietnam War Veteran, received needed dental services through the VSF "Vet Smiles" Program.



Antonio Gil Y'Barbo - Pioneer, Dealmaker, and Father of Nacogdoches

Antonio Gil Y'Barbo, known as the Father of Nacogdoches, Texas, was born in 1729 at the Presidio of Los Adaes, New Spain. His parents, Spanish colonists, Matheo Antonio Y'Barbo (b. 1698) and Juana Luzgarda Hernandez (b.1705), both born in Spain, were early arrivals to the Los Adaes Presidio, located on the northeastern frontier of New Spain from 1729 to 1770. Serving in the Spanish military, Brevet Lieutenant Matheo Antonio Y'Barbo was deployed to Los Adaes to defend New Spain against French expansion by the Spanish Royal Crown.

The Presidio of Los Adaes also included a mission, Nuestra Señora del Pilar de Los Adaes. Now a historic national monument, Nuestra Señora del Pilar de Los Adaes is located in present-day Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana. The marriage registry of San Antonio de Valero (the Alamo) documents the date of marriage for Matheo Antonio Y'Barbo and Juana Luzgarda Hernandez as April 28, 1723.

Following his father's example, Antonio Gil Y'Barbo served in the Spanish military and became involved in cattle ranching. He established a cattle ranch near Lobanillo Creek, located in present-day Sabine County, Texas. Antonio Gil Y'Barbo married Maria Davila Padilla, his first wife, having four children. Antonio Gil Y'Barbo stated in his will dated May 19, 1800:

"I had two male children and two female children by my first wife, namely Mariano, Marcos, Maria Antonia, and Maria Josefa, of the following, are now dead; the first two, and the last, who have a legitimate issue as she is still living."

The Los Adaes Presidio, established initially to counter French intrusions into Spanish territory, and at the close of the French and Indian War, 1767, the Los Adaes outpost became nonessential. Louisiana then ceded to Spain in terms included in the Peace of Paris in 1763, which terminated the Seven Year' War. In the same year of the 1763 Peace of Paris agreement, Marques de Rubi became appointed to oversee the inspection of the northeastern frontier of New Spain.

Marques de Rubi executed the Royal Order of 1772 by the King of Spain, the closing of the presidios, and missions of the northeastern frontier. With little time to prepare, the military garrison, their families, and other colonists, numbering around 500, were ordered by the Spanish Royal Crown to abandon the post and relocate to San Antonio de Bexar. However, Antonio Gil Y'Barbo emerged as the *de facto* leader of the colonists even before the departure from Los Adaes. He had the confidence of Baron Juan Maria Vicencio de Ripperda, Governor of Tejas, who entrusted him with the administration of government funds for purchasing supplies for the Presidio of Los Adaes.

In 1773, the departure to San Antonio de Bexar posed extreme hardships for the colonists and their families. Lieutenant Jose Gonzales, the commander leading the expedition back to San Antonio de Bexar, died on July 30, 1773, from such hardships of harsh three-month walk imposed upon the colonists. The colonists, at this point, appointed Antonio Gil Y'Barbo to lead them for the remainder of the withdrawal back to San Antonio. After harsh conditions, exposure to famine, and fatigue, Antonio Gil Y'Barbo successfully led 167 disheartened, tired, and health broken colonists into San Antonio de Bexar by summer's end.

Continued on next page

Patriot's Spotlight -Continued

The arrival of the Los Adaes colonists was just the beginning of their discontent with their new location. Antonio Gil Y'Barbo made repeated efforts on behalf of the colonists petitioning authorities at Bexar to return to the northeastern frontier. Finally, Baron Juan Maria Vicencio de Ripperda, Governor of Tejas, suggested that Antonio Gil Y'Barbo carry their petition to Viceroy of New Spain, Antonio Bucareli, for approval. As a result, the Viceroy approved the colonists to move to a new site on the Trinity.

The Trinity site appeared to be a suitable location for a new outpost. Trinity provided a way station between Bexar and the then-Spanish presidio at Natchitoches. In addition, it would provide a base for relations with friendly Bidai Indians in the area, providing the disenchanting colonists a haven, as it would serve as a check-point against illicit trade. Potentially, this was also a strategy to prevent the British from freebooting Spanish ships from the upper coastal bend of Texas. However, a factor that loomed was Spain's alignment with the American Revolutionaries' cause against Britain, which had developed.

During this period of the American Revolutionary War, Spaniards like Y'Barbo raised and sold cattle in Tejas to feed Bernardo de Galvez's army (b.1746). General Bernardo Gálvez sent his emissary, Francisco García, in hand with a letter to Tejas Governor Domingo Cabello y Robles requesting the delivery of Tejas cattle to Spanish forces in Louisiana. General Galvez was instrumental in supporting the American Revolutionaries and providing food provisions and other necessary supplies delivered up the Mississippi River to feed and arm the American Revolutionaries in the East.

Without the support of the Spanish crown as a silent partner in the American Revolutionary War, the outcome of the American Revolutionary War would have been bleak for American Revolutionaries in Yorktown and the Southern region. The Spanish crown provided much-needed provisions, money - lots of Spanish silver reales to turn the wheels of the revolution, bankrolled trade, payrolls, uniforms, arms, ammunition, supplies, and the Spanish's numerous engagements to fight the British on behalf of the American Revolutionaries.

The American Revolutionary War battles fought under the Spanish General Bernardo de Galvez are notable in British West Florida; Capture of Fort Bute, Battle of Baton Rouge, Battle of Fort Charlotte, and Battle of Pensacola. Galvez's Louisiana army consisted of Native Americans, freed slaves, redbones, and Spaniards.

In August 1774, Antonio Gil Y'Barbo and the colonists left San Antonio, arriving in their new settlement location six months later in February 1775. By June of 1775, fifty wooden houses with corrals, fields, roads, and improved river crossings came to fruition at the Bucarelli settlement.

This new settlement, according to the Spanish census, at the time, recorded 347 inhabitants. All went reasonably well until 1779 when a series of Comanche Indian raids and a devastating Trinity River flood significantly diminished the opportunity to occupy the settlement any longer.

Sometime in late Spring of 1779, Antonio Gil Y'Barbo again seized the initiative, reasserted his leadership abilities, and set out for East Texas without official sanctions. Captain Antonio Gil Y'Barbo led 300 to 350 weary former Adaesanos into the little valley between two flowing streams in East Texas, which later became known as Nuestra Señora del Pilar de Nacogdoches. It was here that the former Adaesanos found a sense of place among the pines of East Texas. Again, Antonio Gil Y'Barbo's persistence, action, and diplomacy succeeded in mitigating the Royal Order of 1772.

Continued on next page

Patriot's Spotlight -Continued



Statue of Antonio Gil Y'Barbo in Nacogdoches | Courtesy [Nacogdoches Convention and Visitor's Bureau](#)

With the establishment of Nacogdoches, a new page was created in the history of Spanish settlements in Texas, as Nacogdoches became the center of trade rather than Los Adaes. The request for trading with the Native Americans was sanctioned, and Y'Barbo quickly became among the Indians of Northeast Texas the most influential Spaniard of the day. San Antonio de Bexar and Mexico City officials recognized his unique talents, holding the colonists together during the difficult transition, establishing successful relationships with the Native Americans of the region, and keeping good diplomatic correspondence with both the French and the Americans to the East. These accomplishments led to his promotion to Lieutenant Governor of Nacogdoches.

Antonio Gil Y'Barbo quickly went to work in the region, credited for establishing a commodity-based economic system with the Native Americans. He developed a blueprint of the town of Nacogdoches with blocks and streets following the traditional Spanish pattern of a central plaza surrounded by religious, government, military, and other centers. Nacogdoches became a viable trading center point on the El Camino Real, a vibrant town and culture; on special occasions, residents, "*walked around the square speaking an assortment of languages, and wearing clothing designating various ethnic backgrounds.*" By

the beginning of the 1800s, Nacogdoches became the second-largest Texas settlement.

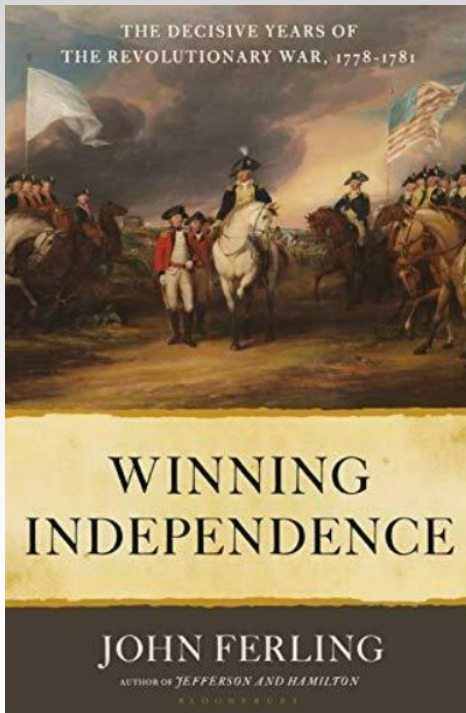
Antonio Gil Y'Barbo governed Nacogdoches for ten years and tendered his resignation as Governor in 1790. In 1791, formally accused of smuggling contraband, and trading with the Indians for horses stolen from the Spanish, Antonio Gil Y'Barbo was acquitted and cleared of all charges brought against him. In his eightieth year, about 1809, Antonio Gil Y'Barbo died at Rancho La Lucana and was buried in the Old Spanish Cemetery in Nacogdoches. The distinguished historian of Spanish Texas, Carlos E. Castaneda, describes Antonio Gil Y'Barbo as "*one of those remarkable leaders of men which pioneer communities sometimes engender.*"

Credits and Primary Sources:

1. Carolyn Reeves Ericson and Linda Ericson Devereaux, Antonio Gil Y'Barbo, The Father of Nacogdoches, 1995, pages i-xv
2. Linda Ericson Devereaux, Y'Barbo and Mora Families, (Nacogdoches, Ericson Books, 1994)
3. Frederick C. Chabot, With the Makers of San Antonio, (San Antonio; Privately Published, 1937)
4. Carlos E. Castaneda, Our Catholic Heritage in Texas - 1519 to 1936, (New York, Arno Press, 1976, reprint edition, seven volumes, Vos. IV and V).
5. Robert Bruce Blake, B. Blake Research Collection, Texas History Center
6. Ralph W. Steen Library, Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, 85 volumes
7. Shirley Seifert, By the King's Command, (Philadelphia, J.B. Lippincott Company).
8. Bexar Archives, Dolph Briscoe Center for American History, the University of Texas at Austin
9. Barbara A. Mitchell, America's Spanish Savior: Bernardo de Gálvez, HistoryNet
10. Granville W. and N.C. Hough, Spain's Texas Patriots in its 1779-1783 War with England During the American Revolution, Part 5 of Spanish Borderlands Studies SHHAR Press, Society of Hispanic and Ancestral Research. Copyright 2000
11. Texas State Historical Association, Handbook of Texas, <https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/galvez-bernardo-de>

Book Review - by Van Jones

John Ferling's *Winning Independence*



The book that I read last was *Winning Independence* by John Ferling. When I started this book, I failed to realize that the last book that I reviewed was by the same author and the third book that I wanted to read next was also by this same author. But so much for the past and future, on to *Winning Independence*.

Two compliments come to mind in reviewing this book. One is the detail. The author goes to great lengths in giving details of what is happening, not just on the battlefield but in what is happening on the political and personal side of both sides also.

The second compliment is that the author tells what's happening on the British side. He relates both, again, the political and social events of what is happening.

His coverage of the Southern Campaign of the Revolutionary War is in great detail. The actions and personal feelings of both Gen. Clinton and Gen. Cornwallis are given in many of the situations. But the reader is left deciding who was right and who was wrong.

I thoroughly enjoyed this book because of these two facts. At times I thought that the book was too long, but then I remembered that the facts and feelings were part of the story, and in this case made up the whole story.

In fact, the personal side of the story is not one that has made an appearance to me before. Until another book on the American Revolution that has both the fact and feelings of all parties come to my attention, this will be my reference book.



American Battlefield Trust Videos

[Daniel Morgan \(Click\)](#)

[Eutaw Springs Battlefield \(click\)](#)

[Continental Army \(Click\)](#)

Road Trip- Halifax Resolves (April 12)

■ by Van Jones

The trip to Halifax, NC for the Halifax Resolves ceremony turned out to be a full day's event. I left about 0830 for Halifax. It was overcast that Tuesday, and it sprinkled very slightly. It was cloudy enough to make everybody in period dress comfortable. The ceremony began with my invocation and then the Colors were presented. Our guys and the whole Color Guard did a great job. There were several speakers, and then the main speaker, Mark Pace, played the part of John Penn, a NC signer of the Declaration of Independence. He was spectacular! Speaking in the words of the time, he told of our state and nation during that time, and what living here was like. After that we had lunch at the local Methodist church which was great. Then the three of us were off, back to Raleigh to attend the Lt Gov's Halifax Resolve meeting. That was a time in which the flags of our nation and state were presented and then he spoke about what the Resolves meant to us today. Refreshments were available and a grand time ensued. Then we finished with refreshments. You all are welcome to attend any of these gatherings.



Color Guard members present were Gary Spencer, Tom Davis, Stephen Morris, Bob Sigmon, and Van Jones.



AN APPEAL TO HEAVEN



Getting involved!

There are many ways you can get involved in SAR activities and projects. Here are just a few.

Monthly Meeting Programs

Chapter meeting programs are always welcome by members and guests. If you or someone you know would like to speak on a historical battle or figure or other topic of interest, please contact **Gary Spencer** at gspencer1861@hotmail.com so we can schedule this for an upcoming meeting.

Newsletter Submissions

We invite members to submit write-ups or articles for the chapter newsletter. These can be on patriot ancestors, a historical battle or research topic, or anything else that would be of interest to the chapter. Perhaps you are knowledgeable on a particular subject. Please send your submissions to **Karl Feld** at karlfeld@hotmail.com .

SAR Patriot Research System (PRS)

Volunteer

Join hundreds of other compatriots across the country working together on this project by becoming a PRS volunteer. You will receive a special password log-in access to the PRS dashboard on the national SAR web-site. Using your computer, you will transcribe lineage data from approved membership application records into the PRS as well as updating and verifying patriot service and burial info using a variety of on-line tools like "Find A Grave." This PRS database, linking members to their patriots, is searchable on-line for members and the public, and is a great resource for prospective SAR members. Contact PRS Chairman **Gary Green** to assist in this worthwhile effort at garyogreen@gmail.com and visit <https://sarpatriots.sar.org/> for more info.



Getting involved!

Chapter Color Guard

The chapter color guard serves an important ceremonial role at SAR events including patriot grave markings, annual celebrations and memorials, and Revolutionary War battle remembrances. If representing the chapter at these events in period dress interests you, please contact **Bob Sigmon** at rob-ert_sigmon@yahoo.com . Additional resources: **National Color Guard Manual**— [Click here](#) , **Society Color Guard Manual**— [Click here](#) .

State and chapter funds are available to help offset the cost of purchasing an outfit. First-Time Revolutionary War Outfit Reimbursements - On February 1, 2020, the NC SAR Board of Managers approved a \$100 financial incentive to help re-



build the Color Guard of the NC Society by encouraging Compatriots to acquire and wear a Revolutionary War outfit at events. The form is now available to obtain a \$100 reimbursement from the State. Reach out to the Raleigh Chapter leadership. To do so, (1) a Compatriot acquires a complete Revolutionary War era uniform or outfit for the first time; (2) participates in a Color Guard function or other SAR related activity (i.e.,

giving an award, giving a presentation, manning a recruiting table, etc.) wearing the Revolutionary War era outfit, (3) has the form verified with a signature from your Chapter President, Vice President, or Chapter Color Guard Commander; and (4) sends form to our State Treasurer Sam Powell for reimbursement. Reimbursements are retroactive to September 1, 2019.



SAR° **SONS OF THE
AMERICAN REVOLUTION**