



Raleigh Chapter NEWSLETTER

Winter 2011

Grant Mark Peterson, Editor

Raleigh, NC

105 Hardaway Court, Cary, NC 27513

gmpeter@mindspring.com

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*Compatriots Norm Gilman, Mike Taylor, Grant Peterson, Dan Hopping, Ed Phillips and Glenn Sappie at the NC Museum of History GW Event—
Revolutionary weapons collection courtesy of Dan Hopping*

Upcoming Event

*George Washington Dinner,
February 12, 2011 at the Clarion
Hotel in Raleigh*

Our chapter will be celebrating the George Washington's Birthday on February 12, 2011 at the Clarion Hotel in Downtown Raleigh. Our guest speaker that evening is Ken Howard—Director of the NC Museum of History. Deadline for reservations is February 5, 2011. See page 7 for your reservation form.





Raleigh Chapter

Website: <http://www.ncssar.com/chapters/raleigh/Ralchap1.html>

Officers:

President.....H. Edward Phillips III
 919-562-1945 edward.phillips@phillipslawpractice.com
 Vice PresidentJames Becker
 919-269-7489 jab109@nc.rr.com
 Secretary.....Bob Sigmon
 919-349-8245 robert_sigmon@yahoo.com
 TreasurerScott W. Kennedy
 919-789-4080 swkennedy@wcpss.net
 Registrar John R. Harman
 919-818-0154 jrharman1@hotmail.com
 ChaplainPaul B. Conway
 919-787-9458
 Historian.....James Hill
 919-847-6129 jimh7000@nc.rr.com

Committee Chairmen:

C.A.R. LiaisonGary S. Horne
 919-846-9582 garyshorne@bellsouth.net
 Color Guard/Newsletter/Webmaster
Grant M. Peterson
 919-319-1401 gmpeter@mindspring.com
 DAR Liaison Haynes Rhodes
 919-772-2706 del141@aol.com
 Eagle ScoutHolmes P. Harden
 919-781-1189 hharden@maupintaylor.com
 Gatton Essay.....Scott W. Kennedy
 919-789-4080 swkennedy@wcpss.net
 Membership John R. Harman
 jrharman1@hotmail.com
 ROTC/JROTC James D. Hill
 919-847-6129 jimh7000@nc.rr.com
 2011 State Con. Com..... Glenn Sappie
 919-821-3711 glennsappie@gmail.com
 N.C. History Museum Liaison
 Michael W. Taylor, PhD.
 919-767-3761 michaeltaylor50@gmail.com

Upcoming Events *(continued)*

2011 Raleigh Chapter meetings and events:

Noon *Informal Luncheons, Natty Greene's Pub, 505 W. Jones St. Raleigh— 1/22, 3/26, 5/7, 7/2, 8/6, 9/17 and 11/12*

February 12, 6 PM *George Washington Birthday Celebration Dinner Clarion Hotel, Raleigh, NC*

April 15—17 *SAR State Conference Clarion Hotel, Raleigh*

June 11, Noon *SAR/DAR/CAR Annual Picnic, Tara Farm*

July 4 *4th of July Celebration at the State Capital Building, Ring the Liberty Bell State Capitol Grounds, Capitol Square, Raleigh, NC*

July 9 – 13 *SAR National Congress—Winston Salem*

October 17 6 PM *Yorktown Victory Celebration Dinner Clarion Hotel, Raleigh, NC*

December 11, Noon *Wreath's Across America and Informal Luncheon Simultaneous ceremonies at the Raleigh National Cemetery and the State Capitol Building*

If you wish to receive e-mail reminders and updates in advance of Raleigh Chapter meetings and events, please send your e-mail address to Com-patriot John Harman at jrharman1@hotmail.com.

Welcome New Members

Name Member No: Ancestor Information:

Edward Joseph Hanks III 178241 ancestor - Pvt. Nathaniel Foster, of the NJ, PA and VA militias

Newsletter Deadlines

The submission deadlines for publication in the Raleigh Chapter newsletter are: January 1, 2011, April 1, 2011, and September 1, 2011.

Send articles and pictures for publication and requests for e-mail distribution to Grant Peterson at gmpeter@mindspring.com.

Message from President Phillips

Compatriots – Warm wishes to you and your families. Despite the onset of a very cold winter, the Raleigh Chapter has been busy and has taken time to honor our ancestors and our nation’s current veterans during the past several months.

First, let me call your attention to the Chapter’s involvement with the North Carolina Museum of History. Because of the efforts by Compatriot Michael Taylor, who serves as a docent at the museum we have made a number of strides into programs and involvement with the museum and the greater Raleigh community. The first foray was the presence of the Color Guard to escort President and First Lady Martha Washington into the museum for the opening gala of the Washington exhibit – *Discover the Real George Washington: New Views from Mount Vernon* on September 16, 2010.

In addition, members of the Chapter participated in the museum’s program *North Carolina Family Colonial Days* on September 25th at the museum and most of our officers and board members met with Ken Howard, the Director of the Museum for a business lunch to map out mutual goals of our involvement with one another. I cannot be more happy or pleased by the Chapter’s involvement with the museum. I truly believe it is a win-win situation for the Society and for the North Carolina Museum of History as both organizations seek to preserve and present the history of the Revolution and War for Independence to our community at large.

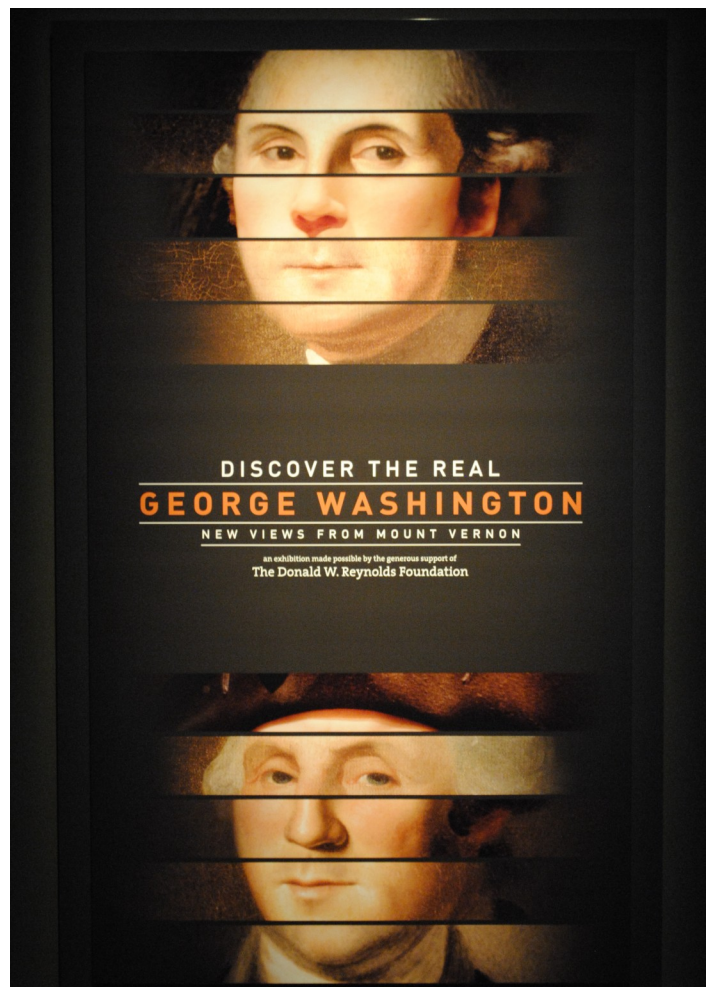
The month of October saw us celebrating the 229th Anniversary of the Victory at Yorktown on the 19th. Compatriot Neal Rowe was scheduled to be our guest speaker and he was involved in a near fatal car accident. Compatriots Jim Becker and Paul Conway visited Neal while he was in the hospital and brought him well wishes from the Raleigh Chapter.

As those who attended will recall, Compatriot Glenn Sappie arranged for an impromptu guest speaker, author and archivist with the State

of North Carolina – Josh Howard. Mr. Howard who was struggling with an illness at the time presented a great discussion of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse from the book that he co-authored with Professor Lawrence Babits: *Long, Obstinate and Bloody – The Battle of Guilford Courthouse*. Of course, the battles at Guilford Courthouse, Cowpens and Kings Mountain and the race to the Dan were key linchpins in the defeat of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown.

We were also graced with the presence of Mrs. Harry Gatton at the dinner and a good time was had by all who were present. Further, I cannot thank our fellow Compatriots enough for all of their help and support.

Also, on October 7, 2010, Compatriots Glenn Sappie and Dan Hopping participated in the 230th Anniversary



Message from President Phillips (cont.)

Celebration of the Battle of Kings Mountain on October 7, 2010. In addition, representing the Chapter's Women's Auxiliary at this wonderful event was Ruth Sappie.

The month of November saw Chapter participation in the Raleigh Veterans Day Parade on the 6th followed by an informal gathering at Compatriot Sappie's home in Historic Oakwood. December saw the Chapter's continued participation in the *Wreaths Across America* program at the Raleigh National Cemetery and another wonderful luncheon at Compatriot Sappie's home. The activities on December 11th brought us together to support the veteran community and also to enjoy an informal holiday gathering.

After the holidays, the Raleigh Chapter dusted off our color guard uniforms, our knowledge of history and the wonderful workmanship of Compatriot Dan Hopping for a display at the North Carolina Museum of History on January 15, 2011. We participated in the events at the North Carolina Museum of History marking the last full weekend of the George Washington exhibit. The Compatriots who participated in this event were – Dan Hopping, Michael Taylor, Scott Kennedy, Jim Becker, Glenn Sappie, Grant Peterson, Norm Gilman and your Chapter President. In addition, a number of our members were present at the Chapter display and helped make the event all the more memorable. My hats off to all of those who made this happen!

I also call your attention to several important upcoming events – first, the informal luncheon at Natty Greene's in downtown Raleigh on Saturday, January 22nd. This event will be held in the private room upstairs away from the hustle and bustle of the downstairs dining area as was our previous meeting at this venue. Secondly, we will be participating in the Museum of History's 10th Annual African American Cultural Celebration in which participants from the Raleigh Chapter will underscore the contribution of over 3,000 Black North Carolinians in the War for Independence. On February 12, 2011 we will be celebrating the birth of our Nation's first President George Washington. This event will take place at the Clarion Hotel in downtown Raleigh at 6:00 p.m. and our guest speaker is Ken Howard – Director of the NC Museum of History.

The last piece of news I will share involves the celebration of the North Carolina Society's 100th anniversary. As you know, the State Convention celebrating this wonderful event will be held in Raleigh on April 15th-17th. We are the hosting Chapter and will bear a large amount of the responsibility to make this event memorable for all of our guests. Further, I want to thank Compatriots Glenn Sappie, Jim Hill, Bob Sigmon, Jim Becker and Jay Joyce of the Mecklenburg Chapter for their diligent efforts to bring the State Convention to Raleigh.



President Edward Phillips

Finally, as I reflect upon the recent Christmas season – all I can truly say is that I hope each and every one of you and your loved ones were filled with God's peace and joy during this most holy of seasons. Further, it is my heartfelt prayer that God's peace and joy be yours throughout this New Year. May God Bless and keep you all.

*With my most warm regards, I remain your humble
servant,*

Compatriot H. Edward Phillips

Raynham (MA) Revolutionary War hero's bloodline lives on

While America was fighting its war for independence from Britain, a Raynham slave took up arms, not only aid the revolution,

Tobias "Toby" Gilmore, a local Revolutionary War hero whose bloodline was once believed to be extinct, actually has more than 100 living descendants, recent research shows.

"Toby Gilmore is my 6th great-grandfather," said Chaz Moore, a 28-year-old Sturbridge native who is now a firefighter in Raleigh, N.C.

Old church records and census documents support that claim.

Gilmore, an African-born slave who won his freedom by fighting in the American Revolution, will be the subject of a presentation at 7 this evening at the Old Colony Historical Society in Taunton. The event is being held in conjunction with Liberty and Union Weekend, an annual celebration of Taunton's role in America's war for independence.

"Toby is an amazing figure," said Andrew Boisvert, an archivist with the Old Colony Historical Society. "It's a strong story. It's a success story. Here's a gentleman who went from being a slave to a free man and may have been connected to George Washington."

Genealogical discovery

Until about two years ago, it was assumed that Gilmore, father to eight children, had no living descendants. An item in the Oct. 24, 1921, edition of the Taunton Daily Gazette stated that Caroline J. Gilmore, the last member of the family's line, had passed away that morning.

New genealogical research, however, revealed a previously unknown bloodline, Boisvert said.

"Nobody knew," he said. "Everyone assumed the family had died off."

Moore is a descendant of Gilmore's daughter Delia, who married a man named Thomas Davis. "The line that Chaz follows, they had moved away and people lost track of them," Boisvert said. "It's this one Davis family that had descendants."

That was discovered when Moore's cousin, Milah Pasto, visited to Old Colony Historical Society to research information about her 3rd great-

grandmother, a woman named Elmira Sullivan. Records showed that Sullivan's father was a man named Toby Gilmore Davis, a grandson of Toby Gilmore and a member of the branch of the family that had previously been lost to history.

She had never previously heard of her locally famous forebear.

"It was one of those moments," Boisvert said. "I was looking at microfilm and staring at a descendant of a man I'd been researching for the past seven years."

Moore said Pasto is the "big family genealogist" and got him interested in tracing his roots.

"We've been doing a lot of family research," he said.

It has been exciting, Moore said, to learn about his family's history.

"To find out you're a descendant of a person who fought for the freedom of his nation and was granted his own freedom for his service, it made me feel so honored and humbled," he said.

The Gilmore legend

Born in coastal West Africa as Shibodee Turry Wurry, Gilmore was about 16 years old when he was captured by slave traders in 1757.

Shackled below deck with dozens of other African men, Shibodee Turry Wurry was taken from his homeland across the Atlantic on a slave ship bound for Virginia. After the ship was battered in a storm, the slave traders changed their course for Rhode Island and auctioned off some of the captives to pay for repairs to the vessel. A Raynham man named Capt. John Gilmore attended the auction and purchased Shibodee Turry Wurry, giving him the name Toby Gilmore.

According to popular lore, Capt. Gilmore and his wife were an elderly couple and raised the young slave like the son they never had, teaching him to read and write.

"The legend said that when the revolution broke out, Toby enlisted in his master's stead" Boisvert said.

"What we've been able to figure out through research is that Capt. Gilmore had many children and Toby most likely enlisted to gain his freedom."

Records indicate that there was as little as a 15-year age difference between Toby Gilmore and his master, disproving the story that Capt. Gilmore was an elderly

Raynham (MA) Revolutionary War hero's bloodline lives on (cont.)

man.

War records indicate that Gilmore fought three separate tours of duty and participated in the Battle of Fort Ticonderoga and the Continental Army's bitter winter encampment at Valley Forge.

After earning his freedom, Gilmore purchased land in North Raynham that had been confiscated from a British sympathizer.

According to legend, Gilmore served directly under Gen. George Washington, who gave him a cannon as a gift. Every year on Independence Day, the story goes, Gilmore brought his cannon to Taunton Green and fired 14 shots - one for each of the 13 original colonies and one for Gen. Washington.

Although Gilmore would have seen Washington at Valley Forge, his military records don't indicate that he ever served directly under him.

"In the African tradition, I think he was a great story teller," Boisvert said.

The Gilmore family was given a cannon, which now resides at the Old Colony Historical Society.

"One theory is it belonged to the Bristol County regiment and that Toby was an artilleryman, but there's no proof of it," Boisvert said.

Gilmore died in 1812 at age 70 and is interred at the Hall and Dean Burial Ground in Raynham. The Sons of the American Revolution placed a marker on his grave in the 1920s, but it was stolen years ago, Moore said.

"The Sons of the American Revolution will be putting marker on his grave site early next summer," Moore said. "There are only about 30 African-Americans in the group, so when myself and my family members join, we'll bolster the numbers quite a bit."

Discovering his lineage has been a source of inspiration and pride for Moore.

"America was founded by people of all backgrounds and faiths," he said. "We are effectively a nation of immigrants, and everyone was trying to carve out their freedom. To go from slave to American hero is something to be proud of. I think it's great."

Contact Gerry Tuoti at gtuoti@tauntongazette.com.

Chaz Moore is a prospective member of the Raleigh Chapter



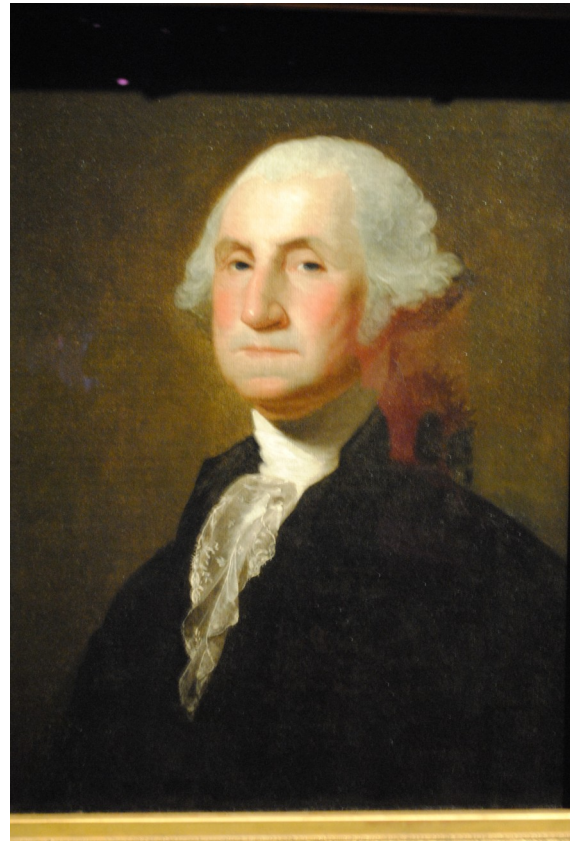
Inspirational Quotes

“Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn’t pass it to our children in the bloodstream.”

“It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children’s children what is was once like in the United States where men were free.” President Ronald Reagan

Member Notes: Ken Nye—recovering from knee replacement, wishing you a speedy recovery!

Stan Caton is in our prayers and thoughts with the passing of his wife Jean



*The Raleigh Chapter Newsletter
has won*

“The Carl F. Bessent Award”

To the editor of the most outstanding multiple sheet chapter newsletter 2009—2010

George Washington Dinner Reservation Form

Date: February 12, 2011

Time: 6:00 PM

Place: Clarion Hotel
320 Hillsborough Street
Raleigh, NC, 27603
919-832-0501

Cost: \$31 per adult

Send to: Scott Kennedy
2809 Anderson Dr.
Raleigh, NC 27608

Or, call or e-mail your reservation to Scott on (919) 789-4080, or swkennedy@wcpss.net

Member/Guest Name	Amount
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
Total Enclosed	\$

Make check payable to “Raleigh Chapter, NCSSAR”
Deadline for Reservations: February 5, 2011

Sons of the American Revolution
North Carolina Society Annual Convention
April 15 & 16, 2011
Raleigh, NC

Compatriots,

The Raleigh Chapter cordially invites you to attend the 2011 annual convention of The North Carolina Society, SAR in the Capitol City. The convention hotel is the Clarion Capitol, located at 320 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh, NC. Registration check-in will be from 2 PM to 6 PM Friday or between 8:00 AM and 11:30 AM Saturday. The SAR table will be off the main lobby. Your convention registration packet will be provided to you at the check-in table. It will contain tickets for the events for which you have registered, the itinerary, and information and maps on the points of interest in Raleigh, as well as shopping and dining.

A hospitality room will be available Friday thru Sunday in Suite 1801 for relaxation and informal gatherings.

The President's Reception on Friday evening will be held at the home of Glenn Sappie (6 blocks East of the hotel at 117 N. Bloodworth St.), beginning at 6:30 PM. It will include heavy hors d'oeuvres, and beverages.

A breakfast is planned for Saturday morning in the Four Sisters - Clambake room on the main floor of the Clarion between 8:00 and 9:30 AM.

Officer training sessions for presidents, secretaries, and registrars will be held on Saturday morning between 10 and 11:00 AM in the Clambake room after the hotel has refreshed the room set-up. The hospitality suite 1801 may also be used if additional space is needed.

For those not attending the training sessions the morning is open time for you and yours to visit the sites of our city, however, we suggest that you be back in the hotel not later than 11:45 AM.

The Ladies Auxiliary will be hosting a Victorian tea and luncheon at the Sappie home (address above) beginning at 10AM and lasting until about 2 PM. Refreshments will be followed by a garden walk of historic Oakwood (weather permitting). All ladies not attending the Youth Awards Luncheon are invited to join the SAR Ladies Auxiliary for this unique event.

The SAR Youth Award luncheon will begin at 12:00 noon on the top floor of the Clarion. The winners of the NCSSAR Youth Contests (Eagle Scout, Essay, Outstanding JROTC Cadet & Americanism Poster) will be recognized and presented with their awards.

Following the luncheon, all Society members will convene for the annual general business meeting in the Four Sisters - Clambake room on the main floor. We anticipate this meeting will begin at or about 2:30 PM.

The Saturday evening banquet will be held on the top floor of the Clarion, with its magnificent view of the city. "Thomas Jefferson of Williamsburg" will be attending and will share some of his views and perspective on the times. The official party's receiving line forms at 6:00 PM - initiating the evening banquet festivities. A cash bar will be available in the adjoining room. Dress is tuxedo, uniform (modern or 18th century), or business suit. The Official Party's Processional to the head table begins at 7:00 PM.

For out-of-town members - The group room rate for this convention is \$75 per day (plus room tax), if reservations are made on or before March 31. After that date rooms are provided space-available only. To obtain the group rate, ensure that you identify your party with the North Carolina Society (SAR) Annual Convention. Check-in time is 3 PM, or later, and check-out time is 12 Noon, or before.

The telephone number for reservations is (919) 832-0501 or reservations can be made using the Internet by accessing: <http://www.raleighclarion.com>, but be aware that the online reservation system doesn't permit association with the convention - so the rate adjustment will need to be made at check-in. We recommend making your reservations by phone so we can get an early indication of the number of rooms credited to the convention.

The convention hotel is the Clarion Capitol, located at 320 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh, NC. The telephone number for reservations is (919) 832-0501. To obtain the group rate of \$75.00, ensure that you identify your party with the North Carolina Society (SAR) Convention (Reservations made on the internet don't permit identifying the reservation with the SAR convention, but adjustments may be made at check-in). Check-in time is 3PM and check-out time is 12 Noon. ***The cut-off date for the group room rate of \$75.00 is March 31, 2010.***

Please complete the attached form on the next page and return it with your check no later than March 30th. Make your checks payable to NCSSAR and mail to: Scott Kennedy, 2809 Anderson Dr., Raleigh, NC 27608

**Sons of the American Revolution
ANNUAL CONVENTION
April 15 & 16, 2011 in Raleigh, NC**

REGISTRATION FORM

Name of Compatriot: _____ Title/Office _____

Name(s) of Spouse & Guests: _____

Address: _____ Street/Apt. _____

: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone Numbers: _____ Daytime _____ Evening _____

Chapter: _____ Email Address: _____

Indicate below the events and activities in which you will be participating. Please note that Convention Registration applies to Members only. If you are attending only one of the SAR fee events, use the single event rate. Also, please indicate if your guest(s) will be attending the SAR Ladies Auxiliary Tea.

The convention hotel is the Clarion Capitol, located at 320 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh, NC. The telephone number for reservations is (919) 832-0501. To obtain the group rate of \$75.00, ensure that you identify your party with the North Carolina Society (SAR) Convention (Reservations made on the internet don't permit identifying the reservation with the SAR convention, but adjustments may be made at check-in). Check-in time is 3PM and check-out time is 12 Noon.

The cut-off date for the group room rate of \$75.00 is March 31, 2010.

Please complete and return no later than March 30th. Make checks payable to **NCSSAR** and send to: Scott W. Kennedy, 2809 Anderson Dr., Raleigh, NC 27608 For Questions call Glenn Sappie, Ph: 919-821-3711 or E-mail at glennsappie@gmail.com Or E-mail Jim Hill at jimh7000@nc.rr.com

Event	Date	Event Cost (Per Person)	Number Attending	Total Enclosed
Registration (Multiple Events) <i>Or</i> Registration (Single Event)	Friday 2-6 PM And Sat. 8-11:30 AM	\$20.00 Or ----- \$10.00		
President's Reception (Guests Welcome)	Friday, April 15 6:30 - 8:30 PM	\$22.00		
President's Breakfast	Saturday, April 16 8 - 9:30 AM	\$13.00		
Ladies Auxiliary Victorian Tea, luncheon, & garden walk	Saturday 10 AM To 2 PM	\$25.00		
NCSSAR Luncheon (Guests Welcome)	Saturday Noon - 2 PM	\$23.00		
Annual Business Meeting	Saturday abt. 2 PM	No Charge		///////// ////
NCSSAR Banquet & Evening Entertainment (Guests Welcome)	Saturday, April 16 Reception 6:00 PM Dinner 7:00 PM	\$35.00		
			TOTAL	