



# The Fife & Drum

The official publication of the  
**The Sons of the Revolution**

in the State of North Carolina

A 501(c)(3) Non-profit Corporation

**Don't Forget!**  
**Yorktown Luncheon**  
**November 18, 2017**  
**Raleigh, North Carolina**

know if you can make this and I will add your name to the list. I can loan you a musket for the session if you have not yet acquired one.

I have attached our 2016/2017 Annual Report to the General Society. Please read it over. You can be very proud of our society.

## From the President

Compatriots, our society continues to be very busy. Since our last newsletter, we have had quite a number of events and our Color Guard has been very busy. This issue will give you an update on some of these events as well as cover our upcoming events.



In the 2016/17 fiscal year, the SRNC has grown by ten percent. Our goal is to grow faster and try to double our size by 2021. We are a small, very active society. Our biggest challenge is that our North Carolina members are spread across 500 miles and state meetings are difficult to arrange. We have members who live outside North Carolina, but they rarely participate in our society since they are dual members in other societies. I would like to challenge each of you to bring in one new member.

Please consider becoming more active in the society and maybe joining the Color Guard. The National Park Service will hold a Firelock Certification and training Program on November 4<sup>th</sup> at Cowpens Battlefield at 9:00 am. Let me

## Yorktown Luncheon Banquet

Saturday, the Eighteenth of November, 2017

Our annual Yorktown Luncheon will again be at the State Club on the University of North Carolina South Campus.



**THE STATE CLUB**  
**2450 ALUMNI DRIVE**  
**RALEIGH, NC 27606**

**10:30 AM** BOARD MEETING  
**11:30 AM** FELLOWSHIP WITH CASH BAR  
**12:15 PM** BUFFET LUNCH  
PROGRAM AND SHORT MEETING

**DRESS: SUIT AND TIE, BLAZER OR UNIFORM WITH DECORATIONS**

Please get your reservations in early we will need a count for the Luncheon.

**PROGRAM:**

**Preserving Your Family Documents**

By Jennifer Blomberg

Head, Collections Management, Division of  
Archives and Records  
North Carolina Department of Natural and  
Cultural Resources

Jennifer will discuss the conservation, environment, housing and storage of antique documents. Most of us have documents and photos that have been handed down in the family for generations. We want these documents to survive for our future generations. This presentation is very important for us to meet that goal. She will also discuss finding a conservator and will bring housing samples to show. If you want to bring things to ask her questions about, she is happy to look at them and give advice.



Jennifer is the Head of the Collections Management Branch for the State Archives of North Carolina. She oversees the preservation programming for the Archives including disaster response, environmental monitoring, collection assessment, and policies regarding care, handling, and the storage of records. She received her Masters of Information and Library Science (MILS) with a specialization in Archives, Records Management, and Preservation from the University of Pittsburgh. Previous to working at the State Archives of North Carolina, she worked at various cultural institutions including Duke University Libraries, University of Delaware, and the Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts in Philadelphia.

**Remembrance: “The American Soldier Through the Ages”**

Each year on the Memorial Day Weekend, the Bennett Place NC State Historical Site holds a Memorial Remembrance to honor the American Soldier through the ages. And each year the SRNC hosts a Sons of the Revolution recruiting

booth at the entrance to the event. It’s also in the shade and out of the rain, but that’s beside the point. The event draws over a thousand visitors from all over.



The display draws the crowd and if they have small children we offer the parents a Tootsie Roll Pop to give to their children. This gets them to stay longer and be friendly. While we are discussing the display, we ask if they had a relative in the Revolutionary War. If they say yes we ask for their contact information and try to follow up to get them to join. If they are from out of state, we get the information to the correct state society.



The event features a parade of all the reenactors in the order of the time period they represent. Our Color Guard always leads the parade since we represent the first of the US military forces. The event has period correct reenactors for each of the major military time periods of the United States including Rev War, War of 1812, Mexican War, Civil War, Spanish American War, WW I,

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WW II, Korean war, Viet Nam and the middle Eastern wars.



The parade also fires a volley with the arms of all the time periods. We make the most noise and smoke.



The parade ends up at the unity Monument where we lay a wreath for the soldiers lost in the Revolutionary War.



We also give short seminars on the soldiers of the Revolution which includes firing a volley. This is a fun two day event and helps to raise awareness of the Sons of the Revolution. Our booth got a lot of attention and our seminars drew a large crowd.

Please plan to attend next year's event and join the fun. You do not have to be in a military uniform. A blue blazer with patch is a great SRNC uniform.

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## North Carolina Society 2017 Annual Meeting

The North Carolina Society held our 2017 annual meeting in the Historic Holly Inn in Pinehurst North Carolina. The hotel was the first of the Pinehurst resorts and was built in 1895 when the North Carolina Society held its first annual meeting. Our Society President at that time was the Honorable Elias Carr, the sitting Governor of the great State of North Carolina.



We had one of our largest attendance records with great food and fellowship. We introduced four new members and elected officers for the coming year.



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Our program was provided by John Braswell speaking on: "A Colony Divided- The Whigs vs. Tories". The Revolutionary War went on for eight years. The first three years were mostly fought in the north and the last five years were mostly fought in the south. North Carolina had forty seven named battles of which only two seem to get any publicity. There were another almost 350 skirmishes, incidents and raids that made some authors refer to our brand new state as having a 'civil war' that went on well past the Yorktown surrender. This was between the North Carolina Whig Militia and the British supplied Tories such as David Fanning.



Scholarship winner Jordan Dickerson with President Emeritus Jim Ebert.

Ms. Jordan's winning paper is entitled "*The American Anomaly: How the U.S. became the First Modern Democracy*". Jordan has been accepted at the University of Virginia Law School.

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**General Society**  
**2017 Board of Managers Meeting**  
**Francis Marion Hotel**  
**Charleston, South Carolina**  
**Sept. 28-Oct. 1**

By Allen James, Delegate

The General Society holds a Board of Managers (BOM) Meeting each year, except each third year when a Triennial General Society Meeting is held. This year the Annual BOM was held in

Charleston SC, with the SC state society hosting.

Unfortunately, with overall meeting cost and length, less than half our member states were represented, although the total attendance was nearly 50 with guests. The BOM met on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning, with social events following. A late afternoon reception was held on Friday and an evening formal banquet was held on Saturday. Sunday morning the General Society conducted a Worship Service and Memorial Service to remember our departed members, followed by a farewell sherry toast.

As one expects, the Board Meeting consisted of the posting of colors, Salute and Pledge, followed by an Invocation. Greetings were extended by the General President, Mitchell Bush (Georgia), and the host, South Carolina President Ivan Bennett. Following a normal agenda for opening the business meeting (Roll Call, Quorum, Minutes, etc) the excitement of the day unfolded. The General Treasurer presented a proposed 2018 budget indicating a deficit of nearly \$100,000, based on income of about \$90,000 and expenses of \$190,000. The overall assets of the Society are less than \$1,000,000. Such deficit budgeting cannot be sustained by a small organization, as the prior year also had a deficit of over \$100,000. Your Delegate raised questions and objections until the General President tabled the budget approval until the next day, promising adjustments. It can be reported that an amended budget was approved on Saturday that cut expenses sufficiently to bring income and expenses into balance, without any loss of essential services.

Numerous other reports were presented from committees and states. Of interest to our Society, the investments of the General Society have been moved from Vanguard to Ameri-Trade, due to rising expense cost at Vanguard. The NC Society may want to review our investment costs, as well.

Two interesting announcements were made during reports:

1. Creation of a new Society recognition, the Society of '83 (reflection our establishment in 1883). The primary purpose will be to raise

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additional funds for the General Society.

2. The consideration of dropping minimum age requirements for General Society membership. GSSR does not currently recognize state Junior Members. Under the study proposal, a new member could join GSSR at birth, sponsored by a father or grandfather, and immediately become a fully recognized GSSR member. The state classification of Junior Member would be discontinued. Such a change could bring younger members into active status. A By-law change will be required.

Among the numerous reports, the NC Annual Report gained attention for its many pictures and interesting content, while the written Technology Committee Report prepared by GSSR Committee Chair, Dan Hopping, provided needed guidance for updating HQ operations and marketing.

It was an honor to represent SRNC at the 2017 GSSR BOM Meeting. Jeff Lambert, GSSR Executive Director, provided for a smooth meeting. The 2018 Triennial Meeting will be in Nashville, TN.

## Overmountain Victory Trail

Photos by Cay Posey

The SRNC has become a Sponsor and Partner of the Overmountain Victory Trail Association (OVTA). The OVTA reenacts the 330 mile, two week march the patriots of four states took to chase down Major Ferguson and catch him on Kings Mountain. The Kings Mountain battle only took an hour and completely defeated the Loyalist force under Major Ferguson.



The SRNC received a great deal of publicity from our relationship with the OVTA. The SRNC Color Guard participates each year on the March. The patriot forces were on horseback across extremely rugged terrain in order to make 330 miles in only two weeks. We can't do this

on horseback so we drive to each site that the original patriots camped and put on a living history program for the 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in the surrounding area. The OVTA pays for the bus driver and the gas for the busses or the kids would not get to attend. Since the teachers know this is coming, they teach the Revolution for the week before we get there. This means over 10,000 kids hear the story of the Revolution where otherwise it would not be covered.

This year's March had perfect weather right up until we got on top of Kings Mountain when the rain came. We still fired a volley on the Mountain in the rain and make much smoke.



**A scruffy lookin bunch of patriots**

We had a march up the mountain with a wreath laying at the top. This year there were over 150 wreaths from organizations as far away as Alaska.. That is an all time record. The afternoon program was held indoors due to the rain.

At the Cowpens the day before Kings Mountain we had hundreds of school children in with a dozen stations. Compatriot Hollis Posey drilled the cadets to turn them into viable patriots ready to take on the evil Tories.



OVTA President, RG Absher provided the period music to teach the young patriots to dance like they did in the 1770s. Compatriot Cay Posey joined in the dances.



Our own Curmudgeon welcomed the kids and told the Story of the March to Kings Mountain.



We also did a grave marking at Brittain Church near Rutherfordton where over 20 patriots are buried.



All in all, we had a grand outing and helped educate the younger generation about the Revolutionary War. I really admire the core OVTA marchers who spent from September 9 to October 8 on the road doing 77 programs in 20 counties in 5 states and reaching over 15,000 kids, parents and teachers. This group matches our mission and objectives. I'm proud that we are a Partner.

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## Chapter News

### Gen. Wm. Lee Davidson Chapter

Plans are now being finalized for the Charlotte Chapter, Gen. Wm. Lee Davidson, to co-sponsor a holiday social. Although the location of the holiday social has yet to be determined, chapter members and friends look forward to enjoying seasonal cheer in the good company of a number of local patriotic groups. For detailed information, please contact Chapter President Gus Succop (704-554-5714; gus@qhpc.org).

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### “33 Patriots”

#### November 2018

The Centre Presbyterian Church, Mooresville, NC, is one of the original five churches in the area between Salisbury, NC, and Charlotte, NC. The church was centrally located, hence its name. In its cemetery lay 33 patriots. Those patriots are known by many for their ardent service in the Revolutionary War. Only one grave has been marked by the SAR. Those Patriots participated in battles like Kings Mountain, Cowpens, Cowan's Ford, Ramsour's

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Mill, Torrance Tavern, Colson's Mill and Guilford Court House, major campaigns in the surrounding areas.



In a collaborative effort to honor those 33 patriots, the Gen. Wm. Lee Davidson Chapter, NCSR, and the Mecklenburg Chapter, SAR, plan to honor the 33 Patriots with a grave marker, a large stone monument with their names engraved, and a lighted flag pole with the American Flag and the Betsy Ross flag. The marking will take place on Saturday, Nov. 10, 2018, at Centre Presbyterian Church.

On Friday evening, Nov. 9, a formal "33 Patriots" dinner and gala will be held at Trump National Golf Course, Charlotte. Key VIPs have been invited to attend both ceremonies. The weekend will be Veterans Day weekend, marking the 100th anniversary of the WWI Armistice. It will be the single largest grave marking of Revolutionary War Patriots at one time in the history of America and the two societies.

If you cannot attend but would like to support the tribute, please consider giving \$33.00 to "33 Patriots." Donation information is available at the website: [www.33patriots.org](http://www.33patriots.org)

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### **Colonels William Polk and John Hinton Chapter**

The Colonels William Polk and John Hinton Chapter of the Sons of the Revolution met on Tuesday, August 15, 2017 at Chow Pizza and Wings in Raleigh at 7 PM.

The chapter discussed undertaking a project and/or projects for the benefit of the community and chapter. Discussion focused on the graves of Revolutionary War soldiers buried in and around the Triangle. The City Cemetery in downtown Raleigh was identified as a possible location of such graves, as was a site on the campus of NCSU. The town of Hillsborough was mentioned, as well. A couple of members were

tasked with some preliminary research and report their findings back to the chapter. Additional conversation focused on developing a SRNC grave marker.

Chapter President Frank Powell presented a program on a little known Revolutionary War soldier and post-war politician, Nathaniel Macon, of Bute County (now Warren County). Nathaniel Macon was one of the most fascinating of the many characters who made up our Founding Fathers. Almost unheard of and unknown to historians and the general public today, Macon stands as one of the most, if not the most, important figure in North Carolina's rich history.

The chapter is seeking assistance with programs for future meetings. Please, contact any chapter officer if you have a program or know of someone locally, who can speak to the chapter on a relevant topic.

Our next regular meeting will be Tuesday, November 14, 2017, at Chow at 7 PM. Compatriot Bill Jarrett will present a program on the background of Veteran's Day with an explanation of the difference between Memorial Day and Veteran's Day.

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### **Wreaths Across America**



The SRNC will again participate in the Wreaths Across America at the Raleigh National Cemetery this December 16<sup>th</sup>.

We do this to REMEMBER our fallen U.S. veterans, HONOR those who serve and TEACH your children the value of freedom.

You will find the sponsor form sent with this Newsletter.

#### **Why give?**

It's simple. Your gift of \$15 honors a fallen hero by placing a wreath on his or her grave. That's a nice lunch out, or three lattes. It's a small gift that

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has a great impact to remember our heroes, honor their sacrifice and teach future generations the price of our freedom.



Each year we lay a Wreath to honor the fallen soldiers of the Revolutionary war and our Color Guard fires a volley as taps start to play. Our own Retired Navy Pilot, Paul Conway provides the Invocation and the Benediction.



The SRNC Color Guard provides a volley and Morn Arms at the start of the playing of Taps. Hundreds of local JROTC students lay out the wreaths on the over 5,000 graves.



**Paul Conway, Dan Hopping, Hollis Posey and Scott Kennedy**

## Upcoming events

- Nov 4 NPS Firelock Certification at Cowpens
- Nov 11 Veteran's Day Parade
- Nov 14 Raleigh Chapter meeting
- Nov 18 Yorktown meeting at the State Club in Raleigh
- Dec 2 Davidson Chapter Holiday Social
- Dec 3 Christmas Parade in Roanoke Rapids for Color Guard
- Dec 16 Wreaths Across America at Raleigh National Cemetery
- Jan 13 237<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Cowpens
- Jan 27 237<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Cowan's Ford Battle
- Feb 24 Moores Creek Bridge Battle Anniversary
- Mar 10 George Washington Dinner
- Mar 17 Guildford Court House Battle Anniversary

## Colonels Hinton & Polk Chapter

The Colonels Hinton and Polk Chapter is making Sons of the Revolution Shirts available to the SRNC membership. The order form is included with this Newsletter.

Once you fill out the order, send it to Bill Jarrett at the address on the form with your check. You can pick up the shirts at the next meeting. There

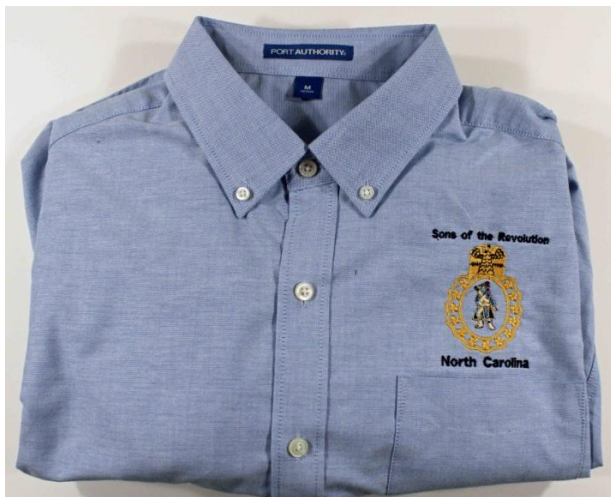


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will be a small shipping charge if you want it sent to you.



The shirts are high quality Port Authority polo and oxford shirts than can be ordered in several colors and sizes. The order form will accompany this newsletter.



## Consider a Bequest to the Sons of the Revolution in North Carolina

A bequest is one of the easiest and most meaningful ways to make a gift to the SRNC. Gifts of any size made through a bequest help ensure that the society receives valuable ongoing support that will benefit future generations far into the future.

The SRNC is a 501(c)(3) Corporation and all donations and bequests are tax deductible.



Donors can make a bequest by simply including a provision for the Society in their wills or trusts. Donors can choose to give the society a specific dollar amount, specific property, or a percentage of their estates. Your bequest is a gift to the future of the society and to the preservation of the story of our ancestors who fought to create this nation as well as to your own posterity.

For more information about bequests, please contact our Treasurer, Allen James.

### Preamble from our By-Laws

The Society of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of North Carolina, Inc. has been chartered and organized to perpetuate the memory of the men who, in military, naval, or civil service, by their act or counsel, achieved American Independence.

### Objectives of our Society are:

- To keep alive the spirit of patriotism
- To foster devotion toward the institutions of our country
- To encourage historical research in relation to the Revolution
- To preserve documents, relics and individual records of the Revolutionary period
- To promote the celebration of patriotic anniversaries
- To impress the importance of these subjects upon the rising generation



## Like us on Facebook

Sons of the Revolution  
in the State of North Carolina  
*And receive periodical updates*  
Our Facebook group is at 157 members

### Article submission Guidelines

Font	Arial
Font size	11
Space before paragraph	None
Space after paragraph	None
Line spacing	1.0
Columns	one
Alignment	left
Images	prefer .jpg
Title	Bold 12 point center
Author	10 point center

Please do not use a low resolution phone for the images.

We will resize the images to fit the format.

Please send the photos separate from the text rather than in-line with the text. Attach them to the note. I can rarely do anything with an imbedded image.

Please send the article with "SRNC Newsletter" in the subject line.

Articles are due by the Friday evening after the monthly board meeting.

Please send submissions to Dan L. Hopping, at [hopping@nextretailgroup.com](mailto:hopping@nextretailgroup.com)