



Fincastle Resolutions Chapter Pays Tribute to Revolutionary War Soldier

Fincastle Resolutions Chapter President Reverdy Wright, Chancellor Tucker Lemon, and Color Guardsmen Dennis Fritts and John Skillman participated in a ceremony to dedicate the gravesite of Revolutionary War Private George Sower. The ceremony took place on August 15. It was orchestrated by Sr. Master Sgt. Thomas King (USAF Ret.), founder of Fallen Heroes of Floyd, a project to identify and honor veterans resting in Zion Lutheran Church Cemetery in Floyd. (<http://www.fallenheroesoffloyd.org>)

But, the full story is more complex and interesting. Private Sowers' headstone had been stolen and appeared at a yard sale, where it was recognized by a member of the church, who purchased it and returned it to the church. However, no one knew the location of the grave in the old part of the cemetery, so the headstone was placed in the basement of the church. Just before Memorial Day, Tom King received an email from Ken Brown, third great-grandson of Private Sowers, who gave Tom the approximate location of the grave. Probing the area with a four-inch spike, Tom found Private Sowers' bronze foot-marker, which had been furnished some years ago by the Veteran's Administration, buried under two inches of dirt.

After announcing this discovery, Tom then found the headstone in the church basement and placed it in its proper place. He added drainage to the foot-marker to prevent it from disappearing again. The gravesite was rededicated with four generations of Private Sowers' descendants in attendance, all coming from North Carolina for the event. Also attending was Delegate Charles Poindexter of the Virginia General Assembly. The Chapter Color Guard presented and retired the Colors. Chaplain Seco of the Floyd VFW Chapter offered a prayer. Chapter President Wright presented a wreath, and all present gave a salute to honor Private Sowers.



The Overmountain Men Chapter Color Guard participated in the dedication of a plaque to the Overmountain Patriots of the American Revolution. The monument was placed and dedicated by the Fort Chiswell Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution on July 5. It is located in the Cumberland Square Park in downtown Bristol, VA.

Overmountain Men Chapter Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard members present at the service were Charles Fuller, Chapter President Bobby D. McConnell, Chapter Historian Marshall Spears, Wayne McClelland, Sam McLain, and Chapter Registrar and Color Guard Commander Jim Stallard.



Two young Col. Fielding Lewis Chapter members fired a rifle salute to punctuate a solemn grave marking ceremony conducted by the John Weatherspoon DAR Chapter in Stafford County. The Daughters dedicated a plaque to David and Jane McDonald Briggs, Revolutionary War patriots.

