



Meeting Minutes for: April 14, 2025
Time: 6:00 pm - Supper 7:00 pm - Meeting
Location: Lizard's Thicket Restaurant
4616 Augusta Road, Lexington, SC 29073

1. Meeting Called to Order - President Nelson McLeod
2. Invocation – Chaplain Hugh Ham
3. Pledges – Cmdr. of Colors Sam Padgett
 - a. Pledge of Allegiance
 - b. Pledge to the Flag of South Carolina
 - c. SAR Pledge
 - d. The American Creed
4. Introduction of Guests and Welcome - President McLeod
5. Officer/Committee Reports
 - a. Vice President for Events and Development –Harold Crawford was not in attendance but Nelson McLeod reported that Gary Blanpied, Woody Carothers, Buck Shuler, Bill Wilson and he participated in the State meeting held two weeks ago in Camden at the Revolutionary War Visitor's Center.
 - b. Vice President for Programs - Gary Blanpied – The guest speaker in May will be Marvin Gootee, a veteran of the Vietnam War (1955-1975), who will give us a personal accounting of his experiences upon the 50th anniversary of the war's end. Additionally, as the new Senior VP Elect for the State SAR, Gary brought greetings to everyone from the State SAR President Mike Monahan.
 - c. Vice President for Technology – James Herritage was not able to attend but the results of the Future Focus Group survey were shared with the group. At May's meeting, Jim would like feedback regarding the initiatives and who would like to participate in each, etc. In addition, there will be a vote taken regarding the need to increase Chapter membership dues from \$25 to \$35.
 - d. Treasurer –Norman Smith reported that in March, the Godfrey Dreher Chapter SAR account started with \$2,281.67. There were \$79.18 in expenditures and no deposits coming in, so the ending balance is \$2,202.49.

- e. Secretary – Carl Epps reported he received no objections to the March meeting minutes he shared by email with members in advance of tonight’s meeting. A vote was taken, and March’s Minutes were unanimously approved.
 - f. Registrar –Mike Gillis reported our newest member, Ryan Kelly, will be present in May and, currently, we have three applications at National under review, six on the way and one in progress.
- 6. New Business – President Nelson McLeod introduced Deborah Blanpied with the Granby Chapter NSDAR who shared a list of 10 items that her Chapter and the Godfrey Dreher Chapter SCSSAR could work together on to accomplish tasks and attend upcoming events. She asked members to contact her. *(See addenda.)*
 - 7. Old Business – Godfrey Dreher Homesite – In May 2024, Guest Speaker Michael Burgess asked for assistance in promoting awareness and access to this historical site. In October 2024, a volunteer committee was formed to include President McLeod, Steven Preston, Aric Bruggeworth, Carl Epps and Terry Gladfelter with the Granby NSDAR. Giving an update at today’s meeting, Steve Corley reported that he and Nelson McLeod met with Mike Burgess that morning and viewed the property. There will be more investigation into ways to provide signage and better access for the public to visit the Godfrey Dreher Homesite in Lexington County.
 - 8. President McLeod introduced Speaker Eric Barnes, The History Man, SCSSAR Member and retired detective sergeant from Richland County. His presentation tonight focused on The Associational Documents and Revolutionary War heroes. These documents around 1774 provided the answer as to why the everyday man in the Backcountry took up arms against Great Britain. They laid the framework for the Declaration of Independence. He received a certificate of appreciation from the Chapter for his presentation. His wife Jennifer was also in attendance.
 - 9. SAR Recessional/Adjournment – President Nelson McLeod

NOTE:

Any discrepancies in the information contained herein, please let me know immediately.

Respectfully submitted by:

Carl L. Epps, Jr., Secretary

May 6, 2025

ADDENDA ATTACHED WHICH ARE HEREBY MADE PART OF THESE MINUTES.

--Meeting Attendee List

--Granby Chapter NSDAR – Godfrey Dreher Chapter SCSSAR Areas of Possible Coordination

Members, please initial. • Godfrey Dreher Chapter • 04/14/2025 Meeting

1	DW Areheart	DWA	27	JB McGill	
2	GA Areheart	GAA	28	JN McLeod III	JN McLeod III
3	GS Blanpied	GSB	29	JN McLeod IV	JN
4	AS Bruggeworth	ASB	30	WS Morgan	
5	PR Burch		31	FK Morrison Sr	
6	RW Cammann		32	FK Morrison Jr	
7	WW Carothers	WWC	33	SB Padgett	SB Padgett
8	J Coleman		34	GA Patterson	
9	S Corley	SC	35	SG Powell	
10	BA Covey		36	SL Preston	SL Preston
11	JH Crawford		37	WW Richardson Jr	
12	RT Creekmore		38	JR Riddle	
13	CL Epps Jr	CEJ	39	EG Shuler III	
14	RB Fong	RB Fong	40	DT Simmons	
15	JE Garrison		41	NM Smith III	NM Smith III
16	MS Gillis	MS Gillis	42	WC Smith	
17	CF Gladfelter	CF Gladfelter	43	WH Spencer	WH Spencer
18	DR Grable		44	DR Stroman Jr	
19	FE Gunter		45	MS Terry	
20	HH Ham Jr	HH Ham Jr	46	CL Williams	
21	HE Harmon		47	SA Williams	SA Williams
22	JM Herritage		48	SL Williams	SL Williams
23	WBD Herritage		49	GS Williamson	
24	CS Hodges	CS Hodges	50	WA Wilson	
25	BR Kennedy	BR Kennedy	51	WP Witherspoon Jr	
26	DG Klaver				

Guests, please print your name.

52	GUEST Mark J. Lynn	66	GUEST River Cooley
53	GUEST Roxann Williams	67	GUEST
54	GUEST Terry Gladfelter	68	GUEST
55	GUEST Miriam Lovett	69	GUEST
56	GUEST CAROLINE SOJOURNER	70	GUEST
57	GUEST Tom Elmore	71	GUEST
58	GUEST Teresa Kennedy	72	GUEST
59	GUEST Rhonda Robinson	73	GUEST
60	GUEST Colleen Preston	74	GUEST
61	GUEST Deborah Blanpied	75	GUEST
62	GUEST Carol L. Fong	76	GUEST
63	GUEST GENE WILSON	77	GUEST
64	GUEST WAYNE CAUGHMAN	77	GUEST
65	GUEST Denise M. Epps	78	GUEST

Granby Chapter NSDAR - Godfrey Dreher Chapter SCSSAR
areas of possible coordination

- 1) Wreaths across America - Dec. 13, 2025 second Saturday in Dec.
- 2) History Of the American Flag Program - In elementary schools / living history programs. Possible days Tartan day 1st weekend in April, and possible schools LEM, Gilbert EMS..
- 3) Liberty Tree Project - National SAR program, I have been in contact with Mike Burgess and he is on board, to plant at RB HS. Cost \$200 + tree. Requires tree, and granite marker carved with both chapters, bringing attention to the Godfrey Dreher patriot. Need both chapters to help with the ceremony, program, guests,...
- 4) Lexington Veteran's Day (November) and Fourth of July Parades. No walking involved, trailers with DAR and SAR members. Flyers / handouts etc.
- 5) On going project of signing "Thank you for your service" cards for active duty veterans. Signings take place at the Lexington County Public Library at the end of August, on going at every Granby and Godfrey Dreher meetings, and other chapter events.
- 6) DAR / SAR Christmas luncheon first Saturday in Dec. usually held at Lexington Country Club or open to suggestions.
- 7) ROTC / JROTC medals - Granby presents to USC, Lex HS, Swansea HS, Pelion HS, White Knoll HS, Batesburg-Leesville HS, Irmo HS we can share/expand connections , present girl and boy awards.
- 8) Good Citizens Essay Contest judging.
- 9) American History Teacher award. Interaction with history teachers.
- 10) Commemorative events. National events : May 24 Buford's Massacre, August 30&31 Battle of Eutaw Springs, October 7 King's Mountain, January 19 Battle of Cowpens.