



# West Virginia DAR News

*National Theme: "Moving Forward in Service to America"*  
*State Theme: "Shining Stars of Service"*

Vol. 42 No. 5

December 2017



## *Message from the State Regent*

Dear West Virginia Daughters,

As we begin this holiday season, I would like to thank you for your kindness and giving to those who have proudly served our nation. Your generous giving to our veterans is appreciated and I know that those who receive your gifts will cherish them. Thank You all for your work during Veterans Day and the 76<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Pearl Harbor.

It has been a busy time of the year for WVDAR and I have been honored to visit with many daughters and have enjoyed being with you. During this time I was also proud to represent West Virginia at the Michigan State Conference, the Kentucky Fall Meetings and the NSSAR Central District Meeting. The Kentucky State Regent, Leslie Miller, honored me with the appointment as an Honorary Kentucky Colonel.

I would like to say that I appreciate all of the work that continues with the State Regent's Projects. As we adjust the project and are making a few changes I hope each of you will support these changes. Please continue to collect the names of those Gold Star Mothers for our Book of Remembrance.

Remember that April 20 - 22, 2018 is our State Conference. The meeting will be held at the Canaan Valley Resort. The ladies of the Central District are busy planning for a wonderful conference. The next Continental Congress will be held June 20 – 24, 2018.

As we begin the new year and you are working on the required paperwork, please keep in mind those deadlines. All of you are hardworking and please remember to report all that you do to your chapter. Just as a friendly reminder remember to report those service hours online for the Service to America Committee.

Wishing all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Shining in DAR,

*Mindy*

Malinda "Mindy" Davis  
State Regent



# Welcome New Members

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## *Anne Bailey Chapter*

Diana Bowsher Schwab  
Firelei Dianne Midkiff Parks  
Daria Jo Weaver  
Cammy Lynn Weaver Radosevich

## *Bee Line Chapter*

Heidi Grace Fromhold Ware  
Penelope Slacum Roberts

## *Blennerhassett Chapter*

Elizabeth Ann Adams  
Catherine Lynn Weimer Hinkle

## *Captain James Allen Chapter*

Margaret Ann Dyer Rusnak \*

## *Elizabeth Ludington Hagans-Col. John Evans Chapter*

Hilary Ruth Oblinger Fredette

## *Elk River Chapter*

Amy Leah Knight Starcher

## *General Andrew Lewis Chapter*

Colleen MacMullin Holliday

## *Ohio Valley Chapter*

Caroline Danielle Bailey \*

## *Old Hickory Chapter*

Robin Shawn Raines Bailey  
Melissa Brent Groves Campbell

## *Pack Horse Ford Chapter*

Jill Lynn Rowland \*

## *William Henshaw Chapter*

Amy Nichole Darling-Kuria \*

## *Woodburn Chapter*

Karen Sue Snyder Kurilko  
Kari Gail Kurilko Moreno

- ◆ The new members listed in this edition of *The WVDAR News* were accepted at the NBOM meetings in November and December 2017.
- ◆ The ones marked with a \* were accepted in May 2017 at the NBOM meeting and were inadvertently omitted from the last newsletter edition of September 2017. The Editor regrets this error!

# IT'S NOT TOO LATE!



CANAAN VALLEY  
RESORT & CONFERENCE CENTER

## 2018 WVDAR STATE CONFERENCE APRIL 20-21, 2018

**In order to make an online booking please send out the following instructions:**

<https://secure.canaanresort.com/V1WebControls/Custom/GroupLogin.aspx>

Enter group id and password

Click "make a reservation"

Click on the actual calendar the dates of stay (the computer will calculate your checkout date in a later screen) – room options will appear to the right, complete information for reservation. **Do not use the drop down boxes to select dates.**

Group ID: 16862

Passcode: 37001813

**MEAL RESERVATION INFORMATION IS NOT AVAILABLE YET and  
WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE SPRING ISSUE!**

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***Before there was an Elf on the Shelf...  
there was the Belsnickel!***

**Belsnickel** a crotchety, fur-clad Christmas gift-bringer figure in the folklore of the Palatinate region of southwestern Germany along the Rhine, the Saarland, and the Odenwald area of Baden-Württemberg. The figure is also preserved in Pennsylvania Dutch communities.

Belsnickel is related to other companions of Saint Nicholas in the folklore of German-speaking Europe. He may have been based on another older German myth, Knecht Ruprecht, a servant of Saint Nicholas, and a character from northern Germany. Unlike

those figures, Belsnickel does not accompany Saint Nicholas, but instead visits alone and combines both the threatening and the benign aspects which in other traditions are divided between the Saint Nicholas and the companion figure. Belsnickel is a man wearing furs and sometimes a mask with a long tongue. He is typically very ragged and disheveled. He wears torn, tattered, and dirty clothes, and he carries a switch in his hand with which to beat naughty children, but also pocketsful of cakes, candies, and nuts for good children.

Belsnickel is the character who visits homes prior to Christmas to check up on the behavior of the children. The traditional Belsnickel showed up at houses 1–2 weeks before Christmas and often created fright because he always knew exactly which of the children misbehaved. He would rap on the door or window with his stick and often the children would have to answer a question for him or sing some type of song. **Each year, the Belsnickel will visit the living historical museum of Fort New Salem in Salem, WV a couple of weeks before Christmas!**

# Notes from the State Officers

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## Friendly Reminder—

TO: State Officers, District Directors, State Committee Chairmen, and Chapter Regents  
FROM: Pat Goodwin, State Recording Secretary

Each year, usually no later than two weeks prior to the State Conference, you should submit a report for the State Conference to the State Regent, State Recording Secretary, and your District Director (Chapter Regents only), and keep a copy for yourself. This report should review your work since the State Conference the year before. (This year's report will include April 2017- March 2018). Please consider using a WORD document (preferred), double-spaced with a 1 ½" left margin in Times New Roman 12 pt. font. According to WVDAR BYLAWS, Regents' reports will have a 500-word limit and other reports will be brief. Emails are preferred also.

Please email your reports to: State Regent, Mindy Davis: [jdavisfamily4@frontier.com](mailto:jdavisfamily4@frontier.com)  
State Recording Secretary, Pat Goodwin: [pmg48dar@gmail.com](mailto:pmg48dar@gmail.com) and District Directors (check WVDAR Directory for addresses). If emailing the documents is a problem, please type your report, using the same directions listed above and mail your document to us.

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## TIPS FOR TREASURERS



If your chapter's fiscal year ends on December 31, you should take the following actions in early 2018:

- ◆ **File** IRS form 990-N with the IRS for 2017. You may begin the process here: <https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/annual-electronic-filing-requirement-for-small-exempt-organizations-form-990-n-e-postcard>  
If you have questions or need assistance, contact the State Treasurer. Please remember that you must file with the IRS by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the 5<sup>th</sup> month after the end of the chapter's fiscal year.
- ◆ Ask your chapter's Regent to appoint a committee to **audit** the financial records for 2017. Prepare the records for the committee to review and make yourself available to answer questions. For additional information see "Instructions for Internal Audits" under the "State & Chapter Finances" section of the Treasurer General's Web page on the Members Web site.
- ◆ If you have not already done so, work with your chapter's Regent and Board to develop and implement a realistic chapter **budget** for 2018. The budget should include expected income and expenses during the period January 1 – December 31, 2017. Voluntary monetary contributions to the chapter should not be included in the budget.

**\*\*Keep in Mind—**Non-profit organizations, to include DAR chapters, must be careful to spend solicited donations as donors have directed. This means that if your chapter has requested donations for a specific purpose – examples: placing wreaths on graves through Wreaths Across America or purchasing gifts for veterans – and a donor has responded with a donation, the chapter must spend the donation for that purpose unless the donor consents to a change.

*Cheryl A. Brown, State Treasurer*

# National and State Committees

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## American Heritage Committee

As a reminder, I am listing the American Heritage Committee Contest below. Please follow the instructions given for each entry.

As you will see the theme for **2017-2018 is: "Exploring America Through the Arts"**

Below is information pertaining to the "**American Heritage**" Committee. The American Heritage Committee was established to preserve our rich American heritage in the fields of art and sculpture, crafts, drama and literature, fiber arts, and music. Members are invited to participate in the various contests conducted by this committee.

### [Evelyn Cole Peters Awards for Excellence](#)

Established in honor of Mrs. Albert G. Peters, the first national chair of the American Heritage Committee, these awards may be given in recognition of excellence in any of the contest categories.

### [Contest Information](#)

Please read all instructions thoroughly. ALL entries must be accompanied by the American Heritage Contest Entry Form. **You MUST send a duplicate Contest Entry Form to your state chair Joan McClelland, WV State Chairman American Heritage, 1933 Decatur Ave., Wheeling, WV 26003.** Entries will not be accepted if transmitted electronically.

**All entries must be postmarked between January 2, 2018 and February 14, 2018.**

· [Art and Sculpture](#) entries are to be sent to: Kathryn Bowling, 1323 Summit Drive #D, Charleston, WV 25302. E-mail: DAR.KathieBowling@yahoo.com

· [Crafts, Clay, Metal Works and Jewelry](#) entries are to be sent to: Julia Gates, P.O. Box 932, Martinsburg, WV 25402. E-Mail: jgates@k12.wv.us

· [Fiber Arts](#) entries are to be sent to: Marjorie Allen, Route 2, Box 22C, Lindside, WV 24951. E-Mail: allenrallen@gmail.net

[Music, Drama and Literature](#) entries are to be sent to: Patricia (Pat) Bills, 204 Sun Street, Belmont, WV 26134. E-Mail: 1967patjoanne@suddenlink.net

### **General Contest Information**

All entries must be completed by a member of the NSDAR, while a member of the NSDAR. No one can submit another person's work or sign a contest entry form on behalf of another Daughter.

Group entries must be the original work created by the family, chapter, or state group members. Groups consist of 2 or more individuals who were all members of DAR at the time the work was created. The entry must incorporate the theme for the 2017 -2018 contest: "**Exploring America Through the Arts.**"

All members should be involved in both the planning and creation of the entry. On a separate sheet of paper list each member of the DAR group and how she contributed to the entry.

Further information can be found on the Members Only DAR website under **American Heritage Committee, the NIP Packet, your chapter regent** or please contact me at JMcclel471@aol.com or phone me at 304 2242-8281 and I will answer your questions.

I am looking forward to receiving a copy of all the 2017-18 entries in our American Heritage Contests.

**Joan McClelland**

**WV State Chairman American Heritage**

# National and State Committees

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## Americanism Committee

### Katherine Johnson DAR Medal of Honor Recipient

On opening night of Continental Congress on June 26, 2017, the National Society presented the DAR Medal of Honor to **Katherine Goble Johnson**, retired NASA physicist and mathematician. The DAR Medal of Honor is NSDAR's most prestigious award presented to a US citizen who has shown extraordinary qualities of leadership, trustworthiness, service and patriotism. Mrs. Johnson was nominated for the award by the West Virginia State Society.



Mrs. Johnson was unable to attend the event but her daughter, **Joylette Hylick**, (pictured at left with **WVDAR State Regent Mindy Davis**) accepted the award for her mother. Mrs. Johnson was born in White Sulphur Springs, WV and is a graduate of West Virginia State College. She was chosen as one of three students to integrate the WVU graduate program in 1939. Katherine Johnson retired from NASA in 1986 after 33 years of service to the agency. Her genius in mathematics and physics helped obliterate physical barriers and greatly contributed to placing the first American astronaut in space. During her tenure and since

her retirement, Katherine has received many prestigious awards. She has been a strong advocate for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education having often spoken to students about her own extraordinary career and encouraging them to pursue STEM careers. Her life has been chronicled in the book and movie, *Hidden Figures*, which is recommending reading. DAR presents the DAR Medal of Honor through its Americanism Committee. The Committee also presents the DAR Americanism Medal to a naturalized citizen of at least five years. In addition to the awards, this Committee encourages members to become involved in the naturalization process and citizenship ceremonies as well as participation in local and state patriotic events.

West Virginia has many "Shining Stars". Let's shine the light on these deserving West Virginians for either award. Contact the Americanism Chairman, Vicky Shears, at [vshears@comcast.net](mailto:vshears@comcast.net) to learn more about making a nomination for these prestigious awards.

# State Regent's Project

## *Update on the Gold Star Mothers Project...Memo from the State Regent*

Upon much reflection and in speaking with members of the National Board at the past National Board of Management meetings with regards to my State Regent's Project of the Gold Star Mothers, I feel that a few changes need to be made to this project. These discussions were initiated by me due to the climate of the country at this time and the sensitivity of some of our citizens pertaining to statues and the erection of new statues.

Those officers that I spoke with expressed to that it might be prudent for me to change the project from a statue to a bronze plaque memorial in which we could still honor the Gold Star Mothers of West Virginia.

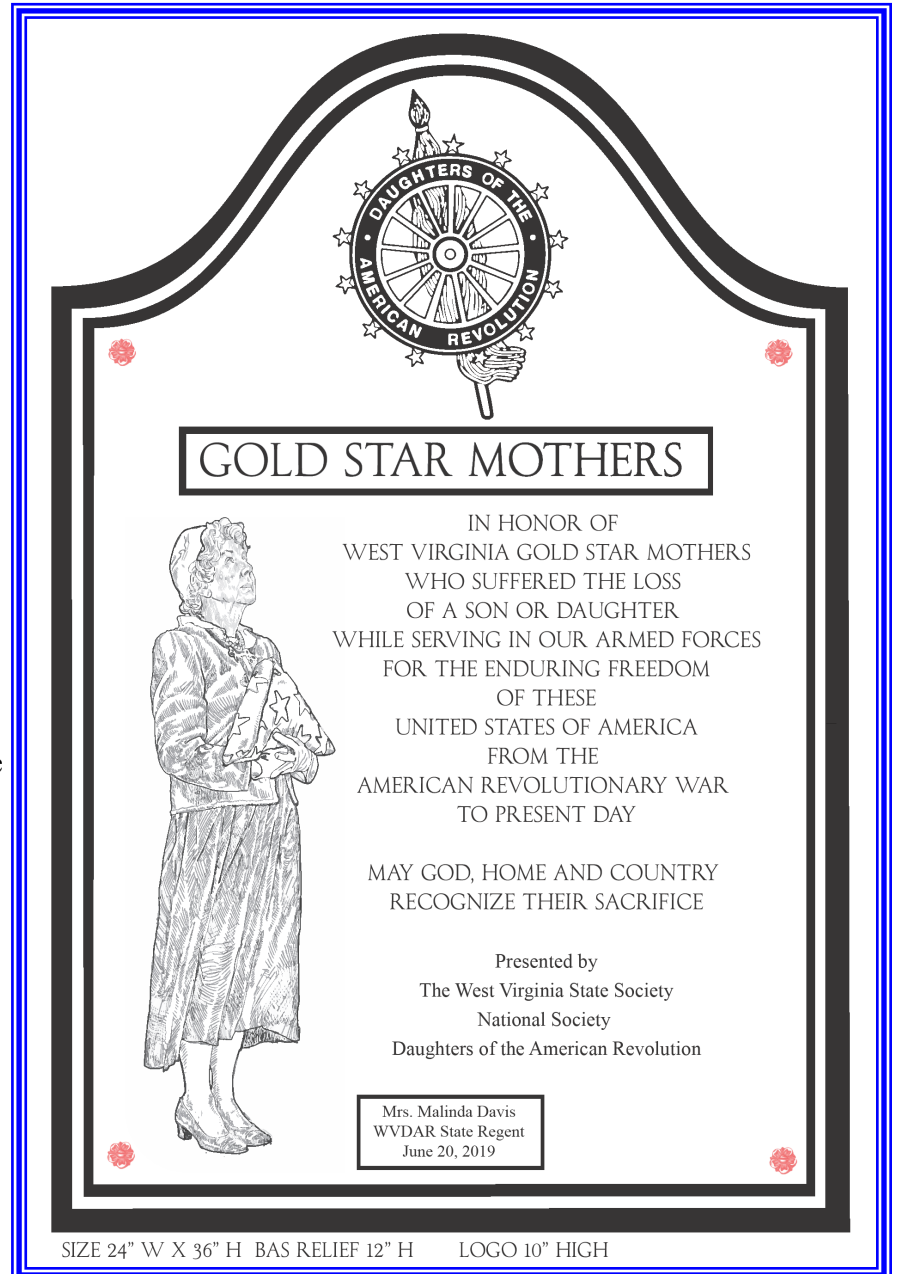
After much thought and deliberation, I have decided to take the advice offered. The State Regent's Project Committee is now working diligently in a different direction to achieve designs of the memorial in a timely manner. We want to incorporate the statue image into the design and still use the image of our own Pat Daugherty.

We are still using Mr. Jamie Lester (our sculptor) for the design of our bronze plaque and he has already started working on a new design. I am currently looking into some different locations throughout the wonderful state of West Virginia for placement of the bronze plaque. The committee is aggressively working to see that we honor those women who have given so much.

I hope that each of you will still continue to show your support of this project. I just could not ask the wonderful ladies of West Virginia to give and then have someone destroy or damage the project later.

I know that we are all excited about our project and I also know that the finished product will be something we can all be proud of and happy to have been a part of.

In DAR Love,  
*Mindy*



SIZE 24" W X 36" H BAS RELIEF 12" H LOGO 10" HIGH

# State Regent's Project

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## Gold Star Mothers Fundraiser “Remembrance Quilt”

**State Regent Mindy has been calling on all of our talented quilt makers across the State Society!**

Quilt squares in shades of red, white and blue are being hand assembled by Daughters in various Chapters. The squares will then be assembled and quilted before State Conference in April.

**Your help is needed now!** Please send any Gold Star Mother's information from your area so she can be honored on the back of this one-of-a kind special heirloom quilt.

Mail or email the following information about each Gold Star Mother to Frannie Weekley –[gfwweekley@yahoo.com](mailto:gfwweekley@yahoo.com)  
Frannie Weekley  
848 Friendly Hill Road  
Friendly, WV 26146

Frannie needs the names of the Gold Star Mother along with the information on the son or daughter they lost in war. Information needed on the fallen hero is: Full name; birth & death year; what war or conflict served and branch of service. The Gold Star Mothers information may include Full name (include maiden name) birth and death years if deceased (or if possible).

These names will cover the back of the quilt as a special tribute to honor these very special women who have endured the sorrow of losing her son or daughter who was protecting our country.

Tickets will be sold at 6 for \$5 or \$1 each at the State Conference in April at Canaan Valley.

Questions? Call Frannie at 304-652-2915

# Chapter News

## Wheeling Chapter

Wheeling Chapter, Wheeling, WV hosted a Veterans' Day Dinner and Program with its guests the Sons of the American Revolution, Fort Henry Chapter, also from Wheeling, WV, on November 8, 2017 at the Wheeling Artisan Center's River City Restaurant. We were honored to have as a special guest, WV State Vice Regent, Debi Smith.

The guest speaker for the evening was R. Jeremy Harrison, MSW, LICSW, Co-founder and COO of Helping Heroes Inc. a Center for Veteran Resources since its inception in 2013. Prior to that, from July 2007 -September 2013, Jeremy was a Social Worker for the Department of Veterans Affairs Vet Center program, specializing in the treatment of readjustment issues faced by our country's returning combat veterans in individual, family, and group settings.

Jeremy is a combat veteran. He served with the Army Reserve's 459th Engineer Company in Operation Iraqi Freedom, with his unit playing a critical role in the fall of Baghdad.

He began his career as a Family-Based Mental Health Worker in Pittsburgh, PA, and upon his return from Iraq in 2004, began working at the Morgantown, WV Vet Center as a Global War on Terrorism Outreach Worker, a new position created specifically for the veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan. He was one of the first in the nation hired into this position. While in this position, he began pursuing his Master's degree from West Virginia University and graduated in the spring of 2007, at which point he transferred to the Wheeling, WV Vet Center as a Social Worker and Clinical Coordinator.

Jeremy also developed and taught both a bachelor and master level course at West Virginia University entitled "Social Work Practice with America's Veterans," which has been used as a foundation to create similar courses throughout the nation. In 2013, Jeremy left the Vet Center program to begin a career working for Helping Heroes, Inc., an organization founded by him and his wife, Susan. He is the author of *The Warrior Citizen: A Soldier's Journey to Iraq and Back* (iUniverse, 2008). The book was the recipient of an Editor's Choice Award.

In 2013 he was chosen by the nation's leading social work magazine, *Social Work Today*, as 1 of 10 most dedicated and deserving Social Workers in the country. Additionally, he is a member of WV Senator Joe Manchin's Veteran Advisory council, on which he is the Chairman of the Substance Abuse Subcommittee. He has appeared on CNN Newsroom; interviewed for HDNET's Dan Rather Reports; Headlined on covers of USA Today. Jeremy was featured in the PBS Series *Bridgeport to Baghdad* as well as the PBS show, *Doctors on Call*. He has spoken directly with members of the United States Congress and members of WV House and Senate re combat veterans' issues.

Jeremy and his wife, Susan, founded Helping Heroes, Inc. to assist homeless and near homeless veterans and families to achieve housing stability. Helping Heroes provides other veteran services such as case management, transitional housing, employment assistance and community education.

Jeremy spoke of our gratitude for veterans who have served previously and for those who serve our nation now, "In the northern panhandle of WV, we are comprised of over 15,000 veterans, many who continue to struggle with the wounds of war and the sacrifice of service. We must take time to honor the men and women that have served, and continue to serve, our country. Men and women across the globe are doing their jobs to protect our rights and beliefs, the freedom to choose, and the ability to say how we feel. This cannot be taken for granted. Many countries do not have these basic rights. We have these rights because so many patriots have risen to fight for them. Our lives are so fast-paced, and as a result, we tend to forget about important things like this. But we can't forget. We have veteran families on the streets, families that are hungry, children that won't get Christmas presents, veterans with no families, and service members who won't be home for the holidays. As you gather with friends and family, take a moment to recognize those who have sacrificed so much to make this country great. It only takes a second to say, 'Thank you!' As previous Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki once said, 'Until no veteran has to sleep on our nation's streets, we still have work to do.'"

At the end of his speech, Jeremy was presented with very generous monetary donations to Helping Heroes Inc. from DAR Wheeling Chapter Regent, Joan McClelland and SAR Fort Henry Chapter President, Jay Frye. Regent McClelland also acknowledged Chaplain, Roseanna Keller's efforts to raise donations from members for this very worthwhile organization. SAR President, Jay Frye, honored SAR member Bruce McColloch for his diligence in obtaining contributions from members for Helping Heroes Inc.



Pictured above—left to right—Jay Frey, Fort Henry SAR; Jeremy Harrison, Guest Speaker; Joan McClelland, Wheeling Chapter Regent, Rosanna Keller, Chairperson DAR Service to Veterans; and Debi Smith, WV State Vice Regent

# Chapter News

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## Woodburn Chapter



Pictured—*left to right*—  
Chapter Members—Carol Mills, Joan  
Gibson and Jane Larke

## Piecing Together Our Past —

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Woodburn Chapter assisted West Virginia Quilters in their state-wide project this fall in Morgantown when quilt documentation days were held in conjunction with Mountaineer Week at WVU. Documentation days are designed to record information about pre-1970 quilts that are located in or were made in West Virginia.

Physical information is collected about the quilt which includes: physical size; materials used in the construction; methods used in the construction; approximate age; etc. Interviews of the owner are conducted to get information about the history of the quilt and the quilt maker (if known).

This information is housed in the WV archives and also uploaded to the Quilt Index to make the information available to people researching heritage artistry, textile history, women artists, and regional arts and crafts. The collection can be searched by location, pattern, period, or even color to find examples of particular quilts.

For more information about this project contact any of the Woodburn members.



**Be a Shining Star for WVDAR!**

# Chapter News

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## South Branch Valley Chapter



The South Branch Valley Chapter has enjoyed a very productive fall. From submitting applications for new members to remembering veterans, members have been busy with fulfilling the ideals of our society. Three applications are pending which is exciting to grow our membership. When accepted, we will have three generations of one lineage.

Pictured above—from left to right—LaVerne Duncan, Mary Rowe, Betty Runion, Susan Garrett, Judy Bowyer, JoeAnn Eye, Irene Mongold, Annabelle Vance, and Janie Lester

September found several of our members attending the Eastern District meeting as we watched with pride our member Judy Bowyer, who is the current District Director, preside. We were also pleased to have some of our newly transferred members from the Fort Ashby area join us for our monthly meeting. In October, we observed our Day of Service by filling gift bags for the men and women of the Martinsburg VA Hospital. We also packed boxes for active servicemen. Our program at the October meeting was on the history of The American's Creed. Members prepared greeting cards for service men and women at the November meeting. Our program focused on an important women's issue of nutrition.

Our chapter continues to provide DAR volunteer service to our communities. Our spring activities look just as exciting! We encourage all members to attend our meetings and extend invitations of potential membership to women who have Revolutionary War ancestry.



**The 13 Folds Project!**  
**Teaching Our WV Youth Respect for the U.S. Flag**

How is your Chapter participating?  
Don't forget to report this in your Annual Chapter Report!

# Chapter News

## Old Hickory Chapter

On October 19, 2017, the Old Hickory Daughters had the opportunity to show support for our World War II veterans by serving as escorts for the veterans as they were recognized during the 2017 Community Foundation of Jackson County Community Celebration Benefit Dinner. The veterans recognized were Ralph Sigman, Bill Barton, Jim Porter, Leo Stearns, and Clyde Peters.



Also, during the community benefit, the Old Hickory Chapter presented the D.A.R. Distinguished Citizens Medal to WWII Navy Veteran, Ralph Sigman.



The D.A.R. Distinguished Citizens Medal was pinned on by Old Hickory member and Ripley Mayor Carolyn Rader and the certificate was presented by Old Hickory Regent Sandra Isner-Johnson. Ralph was drafted into the US Navy in 1943. He served as an engineman aboard LCT(A) 2229 gunfire support group. It was the first assault craft lost on D-Day off the coast of Normandy. At 4:30 AM, on June 6, 1944, 22 men, including Ralph, were clinging to a life raft in the icy English Channel after their ship capsized. Many of those men did not survive rescue, including two on each side of Ralph. Despite the desperate cries of his comrades, Ralph kept positive telling them "with all these ships around here, somebody is going to find us."

Nearly 5 hours later, the surviving men were picked up by a British minesweeper and taken to safety. Only 3 men had the strength to climb the cargo net to board the British rescue boat. Ralph was one of those men. Ralph Sigman earned 6 medals during WWII, and went on to earn 6 more medals during his service aboard the Kermit Roosevelt during the Korean War. At 93 years old, Ralph Sigman continues to be a model citizen of Jackson County. He is proud of his town, his state and his Country. He continues to be active in his church and community, and visits his wife, Beulah, each day to help her with her needs at the care home.



The Old Hickory Chapter participated in the Military Honor March of the Veterans Day parade on November 11. This is where hundreds of people carry posters of those who served our country from the Revolutionary War to modern times. With 75 members and over 100 patriots, we couldn't have each of the Patriots announced, so as our float passed, they announced "The DAR Float – The Old Hickory Chapter of The National Society, Daughters of The American Revolution is honoring ALL Revolutionary War Patriots who sacrificed their lives and fortunes for our country. Thank you."

# Chapter News

## James Wood Chapter

The James Wood Chapter NSDAR in Parkersburg, WV joined with the Vietnam War Veterans 50th Commemoration to honor Vietnam Vets across Wood County. On October 27, 2017, James Wood Chapter honored 13 Veterans with certificates and pins at the Williamstown City Building. Regent Carolyn Kesterson presented certificates and pins to the Veterans pictured.



Pictured are: James Stage, Wayne King, James Waybright, Thomas Smith, Dale Stanley, William Hupp, John Knapp, Randy Pettigrew, Eric Black, David Marquis, Bud Boice and John "Woody" Nicholas. Also present was Mayor Jean Ford. Absent was Charles Allen.

Also on Oct. 18, James Wood Chapter honored 46 members of Post 15, American Legion, Parkersburg, with certificates and pins. To date this chapter has honored approximately 150 men for their service during the Vietnam War.

James Wood Chapter, NSDAR, honored and remembered Gold Star Mothers and families by participating in the Parkersburg Veterans Day Parade on November 11, 2017 and the Parkersburg Christmas Parade on December 2, 2017. The theme of the Veterans Day Parade was "Honoring Gold Star Mothers," coinciding with State Regent Malinda Davis' project. The names of two hundred soldiers from Wood County that were killed in action, beginning with World War I continuing through to current day, were displayed on gold stars and placed on the float.



There were approximately 25 Gold Star Mothers from each World War I, the Korean Conflict and Vietnam. World War II claimed the largest number with 107 Gold Star Mothers. Fortunately, only five young men were lost during Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. Following the parade, the chapter met at Colonial House Assisted Living Facility where two of our members reside for November meeting. Mrs. Blanche Grueser, a fifty year member served in the United States military during World War II.

The theme for the Parkersburg Christmas Parade was "Home for the Holidays." The names of fallen soldiers from Wood County were displayed on the same float. A Christmas tree with gold garland was added to the float along with pine garland adorned with gold bows. The float was well received at both parades. Many positive comments were offered by the spectators. Several veterans saluted the float as it passed by.



# Chapter News

## Captain James Allen Chapter

The Captain James Allen Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution partnered with the Raleigh County Historical Society (RCHS) of Beckley, WV to rededicate the George Washington Bicentennial Memorial Granite Marker and Shield unearthed by a city maintenance crew in September 2016.

The rededication was held Saturday, 15 July 2017 at 2:30 p.m. at the historic Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Building, at the corner of North Kanawha and McCreery Streets, Beckley, WV. Honored speakers for the rededication were: Mr. Tom Sopher, Beckley City Councilman, Ward I and President of RCHS; Mr. Jerry Godfrey as General Alfred Beckley; Ms. April Gardner, WVDAR State Historian and Mr. Bill Lester, WVSSAR President.



The memorial tree and accompanying marker were unveiled in an elaborate ceremony on the afternoon of Tuesday, November 1, 1932 by the Capt. James Allen Chapter Daughters. The program began with an invocation and "The Star-Spangled Banner" played by the high school band. Rev. E. Gibson Davis, pastor of the First Baptist Church, was the sole speaker. He was followed by Mrs. Ross Preston Daniel's singing of Joyce Kilmer's "Trees." The high school band played "Father of the Land We Love" after the planting of the American Elm Tree. The ceremony concluded with a Flag Salute and prayer from the DAR Ritual led by Mrs. Thaddeus K. Scott, Capt. James Allen Chapter Chaplain.



This anniversary occasioned a major outpouring of patriotic sentiment across the nation and the state. Congress created a bicentennial commission to stimulate observations which extended over several months. Events included concerts, plays and addresses. A most favorite way to mark the event was by planting a commemorative tree. The memorial tree—an American Elm—was planted by the Daughters of the Capt. James Allen Chapter, NSDAR assisted by Boy Scout Troop 65 as a memorial to George Washington, the Father of our Country.

The marker carries an inscription commemorating the bicentennial of George Washington's birth—February 22, 1732. The inscription reads: 'Memorial Tree, George Washington Bicentennial 1732-1932, Capt. James Allen Chapter, NSDAR, Registered American Tree Association'.

Over the decades, the American Elm either died or was cut down. The original marker pedestal had gradually been buried in sediment or covered over. The stone, granite marker and shield has been refurbished by the city crew and remounted close by its original site.

"The rededication memorial ceremony helped bring attention to community treasures and the importance of their preservation," said Jewell Harvey Field, Regent, Capt. James Allen Chapter, NSDAR. "Awareness and education are among the best ways to guarantee the preservation of our state and city's history," Field said.

# Chapter News

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## Buford and Captain James Allen Chapters

The Regent and Vice Regent of the Captain James Allen Chapter, Jewell Field, WVDAR Project Patriot Chairman and Samantha Shleser, National Vice-Chairman East/Central Division Project Patriot, joined the Buford Chapter of Huntington on Veterans Day and walked the parade with members of the Chapter. The air was cold, but the sky was clear and everyone was bundled to capacity! The Captain James Allen Chapter always has a wonderful time when in fellowship with other Daughters in our State.

After the parade Jewell and Samantha joined the Buford Chapter at their log cabin for their monthly meeting. A wonderful lunch was served and the program on Native Americans in our area was very interesting. Thank you Buford Chapter for your invitation to join in ALL your festivities during your Veterans Day celebrations.



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## Daniel Davisson Chapter



Members and prospective members of the Daniel Davisson Chapter met Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at the home of Carolyn Burnside, Chapter Regent, for their December meeting and Christmas celebration. The Chapter meets at the Historical Waldomore in downtown Clarksburg at 1 p.m. on the 2nd Saturday of all months except January and February and everyone is invited to attend and visit with our Chapter.

Pictured above—*left to right*— Carolyn Burnside, Chapter Regent; Laura Fullen, Brenda Olson, and Alexa Kolodziej, prospective members; Carolyn Bell, Joyce Westfall, and Tracy Zang, members; Charlotte Orrahood, chapter member and Ruth Mooney, associate member also attended, but were not photographed.

# Chapter News

## Elizabeth Ludington Hagans-Col. John Evans Chapter



Pictured above—*left to right*—**Susan Arnold** and **Anne Smittle** proudly show off the stockings and gifts the Chapter donated to the Stockings for Veterans program.

Members of the Elizabeth Ludington Hagans-Col. John Evans Chapter assisted the Fred L. Jenkins Funeral Home with their Stockings for Veterans Program this year. The Fred L. Jenkins Funeral Home is proud to be one of more than 800 exclusive Veterans & Family Memorial Care (VFMC) funeral home providers across America participating in the 10th annual VFMC Christmas Stockings for Soldiers & Veterans initiative.

Jared and Janna Jenkins along with their staff members helped hand out Christmas stockings to help veterans. Participants took the stockings home and returned it full of holiday cheer and recommended items. A list of recommended items came along with the complimentary stocking. They will send or deliver it to a local hero for Christmas.

In celebrating the coming Christmas season and to express our gratitude for their service to our country, members of the Elizabeth Ludington Hagans-Col. John Evans chapter delivered Christmas gifts to veterans at Evergreen Assisted Living. Pictured at right is Esther Starkey, Chapter Chairman of Service to Veterans Committee and Veteran Cliff Stevens.



Vicky Shears also collected 48 LBS. of personal toiletries and food items from the chapter and mailed those packages to active duty soldiers serving in Kuwait.



# Chapter News

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## Elk River Chapter *Lola's Love Gift*



**Lola Jackson**, talented member of the Elk River Chapter, crocheted over 30 slippers to donate to the VA Medical Center patients in Clarksburg. She is also a talented painter and quilter.

Lola reports she keeps herself busy in the evenings by crocheting hats, booties, and even plastic mats and cup coasters. Lola shares her love for veterans in many ways and this donation is one of those ways.



## William Henshaw Chapter

**“My new butterfly bushes have drawn Monarch butterflies. It’s been awesome to watch them. I never had them in my yard before!”** Mary Anne Rossi, William Henshaw Chapter NSDAR, October 4, 2017.

**Conservation Committee:** *Monarch feeding on Butterfly Bush.* This is one of several lovely pictures taken by member Mary Anne Rossi who accepted the DAR chapter’s challenge to plant a native garden to help revive the health of bees, butterflies, birds, and other pollinators essential to a healthy food supply!

### **NSDAR Day of Service, October 11, 2017**

The William Henshaw Chapter of Martinsburg marked the third NSDAR Day of Service with gifts of new and gently used items for the Shenandoah Women’s Center (serving victims of abuse) and the Second Baptist Church clothes closet. Generous donations from chapter members of lotions, toothpaste and brushes, kitchen and bathroom disposable supplies, dishes, and gently used clothing and appliances were delivered by Nancy Myers, Joanne Krishack, Pamela Brush, Shelley Hamilton, and Laura Shifflett (right).



# Chapter News

## William Henshaw Chapter

### **American Indian Heritage Month**

Pamela Brush, American Indians Co-Chair (left, center) was on hand to receive the American Indian Heritage Month proclamation brought forth by the chapter and issued by the Berkeley County Council in November. The proclamation urged celebrations of the history and culture of American Indians and indigenous peoples.

**“Their contributions have enhanced the freedom, prosperity, and greatness of America today.”**

*Picture front row, left to right:* Shelley Hamilton, Chapter Chaplain; Pamela Brush; Kessie Boalkey, Honorary County Councilperson for the day; Elaine Mauck, County Councilperson. *Back row:* Berkeley County Council Members: Dan Dulyea, Vice President; Douglas Copenhaver, Jr., President; James R. Barnhart; and James P. Whitacre.



### **World War I - Native American Code Talkers**

Joyce Michels (right), co-chair with Pamela Brush (left), spoke about the patriotic service of the American Indian code talkers during World War I. “Their service,” she said, “was so effective that it helped bring an end to the war and saved thousands of lives.” The program was the highlight of the Chapter’s November 4 meeting. “In October of 1918, the outcome of World War I was still in doubt,” Michels said, as she told how the Germans had become expert at breaking the codes of the Allies. “Nothing could be kept secret,” she said. “It was then that the American Indian Doughboys serving in France were asked to step in as code talkers.” She told the story of a captured German who is said to have admitted that his side could not make heads or tails of the Choctaw

speakers. “The Choctaw,” Joyce said, “spoke 26 different languages or dialects and were given the opportunity to develop an intentionally coded vocabulary.”



### **Veterans Day Tribute**

The November 11, 2017, Veterans Day Ceremony was sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 896, Mike Keller, Commander

*Photo from left:* Retired Air Force Lt. Col. Richard Sutherland, WV Air National Guard’s 167th Airlift Wing; William Henshaw Chapter Regent Nancy Myers and Treasurer Laura Shifflett; and Curator General, NSDAR, Barbara “Barby” Frankenberry.

# Chapter News

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## Colonel Morgan Morgan Chapter



Two members of the Colonel Morgan Morgan Chapter participated in the Veterans Parade in Fairmont, Marion County, WV, on November 11, 2017. Pictured left to right are Barbara Channel and Twila Shaver.

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## Anne Royall Chapter

Anne Royall members recently decorated a Christmas tree for the Ritchie County public library. The tree was decorated with historic Hallmark dolls depicting different important figures in early American history. The dolls were donated by Anne Royall member P.J. Dumire and are from the Hallmark American Spirit collection. Historical figures represented were Betsy Ross, Francis Scott Key, Benjamin Franklin, Eli Whitney, George Washington, Ceasar Rodney, Francis Marion, Thomas Jefferson, Daniel Webster, and Harriett Beacher Stowe. Each doll has a tag explaining what the person did and why they are important to our history.

The librarian said that the tree and dolls are very much appreciated and enjoyed by young and old. She said especially the children stop and look at the dolls, and read the attached information.

Anne Royall members helping to decorate the tree were Regent Pat Casper, Pam Stanley, Cheryl Haught, and Sandra Harper.

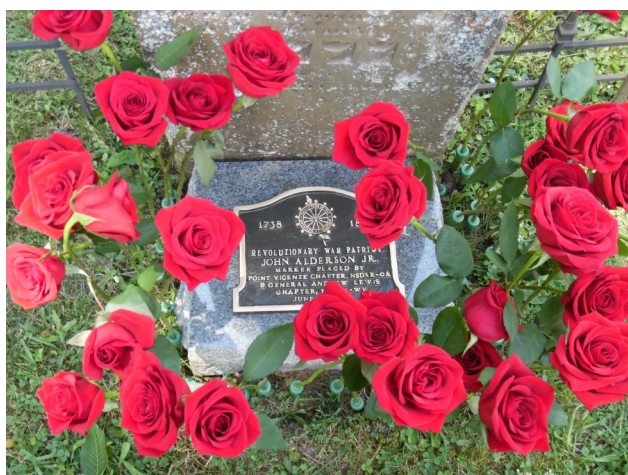


# Chapter News

## General Andrew Lewis Chapter

John Alderson Jr. (1738-1821) was one of the early settlers to the Greenbrier Valley in the Colonial period. He is recognized as founding the first Baptist church west of the Allegheny Mountains in Southern Virginia in 1781, five weeks after the Battle of Yorktown. 236 years later, on Sunday, June 18, 2017 his grave was marked with a bronze marker by the Point Vicente and General Andrew Lewis Chapters, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. The DAR marks the graves of soldiers, patriots and their wives to preserve our nation's Revolutionary War history.

On a beautiful afternoon at the Old Greenbrier Baptist Church Cemetery, a crowd of over 100 people gathered to honor John Alderson Jr.'s patriotic service in rendering material aid in the cause of American independence. A DAR Patriot Grave Marker Dedication Ceremony was held following a historical-themed worship service at this church that Elder John founded.



Pictured above—left to right—April Gardner, WVDAR State Historian, West Virginia; Alta Graham Regent, Point Vicente Chapter NSDAR, California; Sandy Cowan, Regent, General Andrew Lewis Chapter NSDAR, West Virginia; Patricia Mendez, Historic Preservation Committee Chair, Point Vicente Chapter, NSDAR and Shirley M Gilkeson, Past Vice President General, West Virginia

The Greenbrier Composite Squadron Civil Air Patrol provided the Color Guard in the stirring ceremony as descendants, church and community members and dignitaries proudly recited the Pledge of Allegiance and The American's Creed. The Old Greenbrier Baptist Church

Choir sang a medley of patriotic songs. John Alderson Jr.'s biography was read and prayers of thanksgiving and exhortation were offered. As the grave marker was being dedicated by the DAR chapters, descendants attending from as far away as California each placed a flower on the grave. As *Taps* were played, all were moved to tears at the remembrance that real patriots gave their lives and fortunes for the freedom that Americans enjoy to this day.

# Chapter News

## Matthew French Chapter

### NEW MEMBERS

The last 4 months has been busy for our chapter. Our chapter has seen growth with new members and associate members. Matthew French Daughters of American Revolution Chapter welcomes three new members and two associate members. Welcome Madeleine Brewster, Dr. Deborah “Debbie” Clark and Janis Bastian as new members. Welcome Cynthia Ann Pittman Masterson and Elaine Phillips as associate members.

### PROGRAMS

Barbara Maxwell hosted Matthew French Chapter’s **August** meeting at Ryan’s. The program was Learning about our Irish/Scottish Ancestries.”

The **September** meeting for Matthew French Chapter was held at Ryan’s in Princeton. Michele Sparks was the hostess. Michele gave outstanding program on “Do You Know Your Amendments to the Constitution?” Each daughter was given a hand-out on the first 27 amendments.

The **October** meeting was hosted by Margaret Ann Scott at The Havens. A program was presented by Donna Brewster and Stella Moon on Matthew Henderson French, an American Patriot and chapter patriot. Stella catered the luncheon for Margaret Ann.



Barbara Woods and Michele Sparks accepted the proclamation for **Constitution Week** in Princeton. Constitution Week is the commemoration of America's most important document. It is celebrated annually during the week of September 17-23.



**February 1, 2018**  
**Deadline—Chapter Master Report**

**February 3, 2018**  
National Board of Management Meeting, Washington DC

**February 14, 2018**  
Valentine's Day

### **Your Stories Needed!**

I am looking to do a special feature on the quirks, fun facts and interesting tales of our Patriots! Send me a couple of paragraphs about your Patriot that can be featured in the next few editions of the *WVDAR News*—**Deadline March 1**



## **“The American Revolution in the Caribbean”**

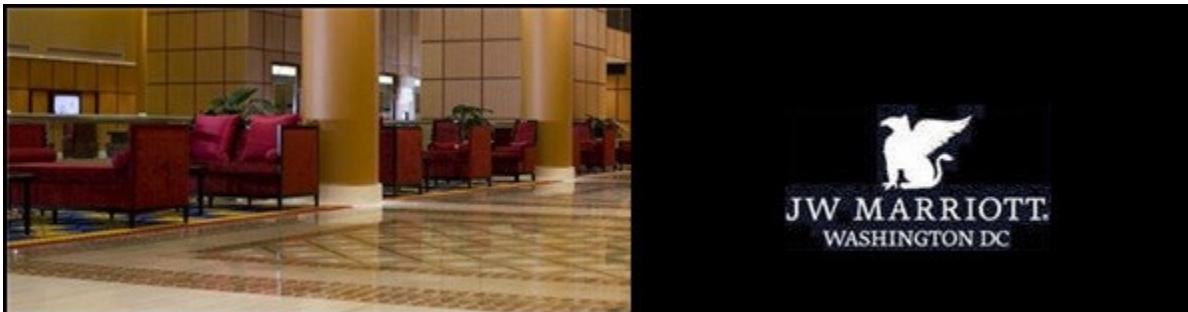
**November 3-10, 2018**

The Dillon Administration looks forward to welcoming you onboard the Celebrity Summit, November 3-10, 2018 for a seven-day cruise as we sail from San Juan, Puerto Rico to the Southern Caribbean islands. On our cruise, we will absorb the rich history of the Southern Caribbean Islands and their important connection to the American Revolution.

Please visit the DAR Tours Committee webpage for more information and registration for our exciting 2018 cruise!

[www.dar.org/DARtours](http://www.dar.org/DARtours)

## **Rooms Available!** **Continental Congress—JW Marriott**



Brenda Chevront contacted the JW Marriott in DC about the availability of rooms for DAR Members. As of December 21, 2017, there are 4 rooms left in her block of rooms. Check in Tuesday, June 19 and checkout is Sunday, June 24. \$279 per night.

### **1. RESERVATIONS PROCESS & BOOKING WEBSITE**

Online reservations will be accepted beginning on Oct 19, 2017.

A dedicated booking website has been created for your event so your guests will be able to make, modify and cancel their hotel reservations online, as well as take advantage of any room upgrades, amenities or other services offered by the hotel.

To view the website, please click the following link:

<https://aws.passkey.com/e/49513950>