



West Virginia DAR News

National Theme: "Celebrate Stars & Stripes Forever - Rejoice in our DAR Ties of Service and Friendship"

State Theme: "West Virginia Blooms Through Service and Friendship"



Vol. 46, No. 2

March 1, 2023

State Regent's Message

Dear West Virginia Daughters,

How wonderful that the chapters in West Virginia have been so very busy this winter. I am so proud of all your accomplishments and work. This is the first year that our national organization set chapter goals for recording service hours and WVDAR members exceeded our goal. Thank you to all those who give action to the words of Eugenia Washington, "We want a society founded on service."



I am also so pleased that chapter regents completed and submitted their CMR reports. We achieved 100 percent reporting and got things in well before the deadline! Thank you, Regents, for your prompt and thoughtful responses. It is because of your extra efforts in reporting that West Virginia is recognized on other levels. You make West Virginia "Sparkle."

We are looking forward to spring and many activities, including our state conference to be held May 5-7, 2023, at Canaan Valley Resort and Conference Center, in Davis, WV. The theme this year is "*West Virginia Blooms with a Passion for Preservation*", and it will be a great celebration with our President General and special guests. Please reserve your room early to take advantage of our highly discounted group rate and join the fun that Central District is planning. Use the Booking link: <https://www.canaanresort.com/book-now?pid=23966> and refer to our Group Code: 1034TV. (Alternatively, you can make reservations by calling the front desk at 304-866-4121, option 1). For those of you coming early, you are invited to join the state executive committee Thursday evening for a casual meal in the Hickory Dining Room.

And don't forget Continental Congress, scheduled in Washington, DC, for June 28–July 2, 2023. I hope each of you can attend this event at least once. I can promise you it will be a memorable experience. We will again kick off our West Virginia delegation experience with the West Virginia Breakfast at The Army and Navy Club and we will host an open house in the West Virginia Period Room on Wednesday morning.

On a personal note, I want to thank each of you for your hospitality when I've joined your chapters for meetings and events. I look forward to visiting with all of you and seeing you soon. We know that in DAR, "West Virginia Blooms through Service and Friendship."

With much love and appreciation,

Jane

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Our new WVDAR Facebook Page is live. Connect with us today!

We've made our new WVDAR Facebook public to spread the news of our state society even farther. We are so excited about our NSDAR officially approved page.

Now we can reach even more people and we hope you can use it to recruit new members. Let's get people engaged. Make sure to follow us and share our page with your friends! We want everyone to know what we do and how we contribute to our communities. We hope you like it as much as we do.

Find us at <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100088202526513>

Like and follow!!!

From the Desk of The State Historian

Chapter Regents and Historians: WVDAR would like to recognize some of our state's dedicated teachers in the areas of history and social studies. In coordination with Madam Regent, Jane Larke, the Office of the State Historian would like to give each chapter the opportunity to select a teacher from your community to be recognized for outstanding service in the areas of history, civics, geography, or other related discipline. You may choose a teacher at any level, grades 5 through 12.

These recognitions will come from WVDAR and will be announced at our State Conference in May, but they are not part of the National Society's established program. As a result, the nomination process does not include extensive paperwork and vetting. Our only requirement is to receive a letter of recommendation for each candidate, along with your chapter's letter of nomination. Letters of recommendation should come from non-DAR members and can be provided by school administrators, fellow teachers, students, or parents—anyone in a position to vouch for the skills and commitment of a local teacher. Please forward only one nomination per chapter.

For each chapter, please send your letter of nomination accompanied by a letter of recommendation to the address provided below. Your deadline for submission is **April 10**. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to give me a call.

Best Regards,

Darla Treat Courtney
503 West Washington St.
Charles Town, WV 25414

304-725-1645

Attention State Officers, District Directors, State Committee Chairs and Chapter Regents



State Conference begins May 4. I need to receive your reports no later than **April 2, 2023**. This gives you an opportunity to include your activities on Saturday, April 1. No April Fools! Please do not be late submitting your reports as I myself need time to prepare for the conference. **Regents and District Directors:** The reporting period is **May 1, 2022, to April 1, 2023**. **Committee Chairs:** The reporting period is **2022**.

WVDAR Bylaws require that your reports be no longer than 500 words. Don't be *flowery*. Think bulleted list instead. Regents, your completed CMR is a good *resource* for this effort, but do not send me your CMR. Use the following layout options:

- Typed
- 8.5" x 11" Sheet Size
- Double Spaced
- 1.5" left margin
- Times New Roman 12pt font

Thanks for submitting in Microsoft WORD format. Send via email to Katherine Genung, State Recording Secretary: Katherine@TwoGenungs.com and State Regent Jane Larke: Jane.Larke@gmail.com. Retain a copy in your own digital files.

For those of you to whom this is a new rodeo: YEEE HA!—these reports are prepared to read at state conference if the State Regent requests it of you. Your time limit is two minutes. Timers will cut you off in mid-sentence—kinda like having the wind knocked out of you when that bucking



bronco throws you off at the buzzer! Add to this that the President General will be attending this year. So, I recommend practice reading your report, out loud, and set your buzzer – er – timer.

Regents: Please also let me know of activities your chapter has coming up between now and Continental Congress. Please include dates, times, and locations. Have a great start to the year!

I absolutely want the West Virginia Society to



Administration-Pins-Protocol

Vickie Baker, State Organizing Secretary

Are you getting excited about the upcoming state conference? I know I am! It is thrilling to have President General Pamela Rouse Wright join us for the entire weekend. Super exciting for West Virginia Daughters. Her visit also makes it imperative we get the protocol correct. I know I struggle with the many protocol rules. Also, we have not had an in-person visit since Mrs. Dillion's visit in 2019.

Let's discuss protocol related to pins from prior administrations. During DAR functions, it is only appropriate to wear the pins from the CURRENT administration. This rule does not just relate to the President General's and State Regent's pins. It includes the junior pins, schools pins, and Units Overseas pins. Please remember there are official donation pins for the insignia ribbon (left-side). These can be worn on the official ribbon beginning as soon as you met the required donation.

For non-DAR events, you can wear these right-side ribbon pins. In fact, they could be conversation starters about DAR. For example, the beautiful eagle pin from the Brown Administration would be very appropriate to be worn to a veteran event, as long as you are not representing DAR, chapter or state. An attendee may ask where you got the pin, providing you an opportunity to discuss your work with DAR.

Pins for the official DAR ribbon can only be worn on the official ribbon when it is appropriate to wear your insignia.

DAR Pop-Up Stores Coming to WV DAR State Conference

DAR will be launching the DAR Pop-Up Stores at state meetings. The DAR Insignia Store have a commitment to be set up at each state meeting attended by the President General.

Will engraved pins be available for purchase?

Only pins which DO NOT require attendance will be available. There is expected to be a free shipping coupon valid during the conference weekend. The free shipping allows you to order the engraved items from the online store during the conference.

What pins will be available for on-site purchases?

The DAR Insignia Pop-Up is planning to offer the following Official DAR pins on-site for sale:*

- Wright Administration Donation Pin
- Donation Pins
- Commemorative Pins
- State Pins, including the 13 original colonies
- West Virginia State Pin
- West Virginia State Club & Association Pins

**Pin inventory is based on DAR Insignia Store current stock.*

Are commemorative pins ever retired?

Most commemorative pins are only available for the administration in which they were released. Those pins will continue to be available until the stock is sold out. For example, the Pilgrim Mother pin is sold out and will not be reordered. Some continue to be available because of the event significance, such as World War II.

What if I want to purchase the Wright Administration Donation Pin but need to make the donation?

The Development Office will also attend the conference so you can make a donation in order to qualify for a particular pin, and purchase the pin, if available.

What method of payment will be accepted?

Bring your credit card because that will be the only method of payment accepted.



Do you or someone you know, want to be a page for the state conference?

If so, contact me at jane.larke@gmail.com. Please include your name, chapter's name, and contact information, including your availability (if not attending for the entire conference).

I know with the President General attending this conference that it will be a fun time.

Jane

New Online Community

The Wright Administration has worked for months on a “top-secret” project that has just been rolled out, and Marilyn Oppenheimer, our State PR and Social Media Chair, was in on the ground floor. Marilyn worked as a beta tester for the new Daughters Online Community.

As we are more concerned about online security, but recognize the need to communicate virtually, this is a solution where only Daughters in good standing can discuss ideas and share information. Please join this group and explore the community.

Steps to get started

- ◆ Visit community.dar.org and sign in with your e-membership information or create an account.
- ◆ Set up your member profile.
- ◆ Join a community. There are more than 40!
- ◆ Add your contacts. They even have suggestions.
- ◆ Post in a discussion thread.

NSDAR is reducing its Facebook presence. All Facebook groups associated with national committees have been asked not to accept new members. Some of our own WVDAR members have stated that they don't want to have to use Facebook to get DAR information. We know there will be a learning curve with this system but think you will also appreciate the benefits. Please try it out!



Patriot Records Project Committee



The Patriot Records Project is looking for volunteers to index records from the Revolutionary War era which span over 75 years. You could help a potential new member find her patriot in the ever-expanding index of records. Some of these research sources have no

index at all, forcing a researcher to sift through pages and pages of records, hoping to find some mention of their patriot. You can help our project by indexing these records, making them easier to research. To volunteer, visit the Patriot Records Project Committee page on the members only website (members.dar.org) on the Committees tab. On the right hand side of the page, click on “Volunteer Now”, fill out the form and click “submit”! That’s all you have to do. You will receive an email from our committee telling you how to proceed to volunteer. Or, send us your name and national number and tell us you want to volunteer at patriotrecords@nsdar.org. Remember, time spent indexing these Revolutionary War records can be counted towards Service to America hours, and can be done at any time of the day or night, in the comfort of your home. We hope you join us today!



Blanche L. Reymann Scholarship Update



This summer, we will be awarding the 2023-24 Blanche L. Reymann State Scholarship to a student from Alderson Broaddus University in Philippi, WV. The Financial Aid Director, Lora Bryant, will be selecting the scholarship recipient next month. We hope to be able to announce the scholarship winner at State Conference in May.

As you prepare for State Conference, please remember one of the largest fundraisers for the scholarship is held at the conference. We will be selling voices for on a Fiestaware Basket with the proceeds going toward the scholarship. Please make sure to stop by our table at the conference to learn more about the scholarship and buy voices to maintain the scholarship at the \$1,000 level.



Welcome New Members
September 5-December 5, 2022

Anne Bailey
Samantha Hageboeck

Bee Line
Margarie Gaestel
Elsa Everling

Blennerhassett
Deborah Darling

Buford
Jewell Matthews

Cheat River
Debra Hemler
Amy Jones

Elizabeth Zane
Eunice Margrage

General Andrew Lewis
Debra Fowler

Highlands of the Potomac
Anne Grabowy

John Chapman
Susan Allen

John Chapman
Susan Allen
Sue Garner

Kanawha Valley
Earline Kinder
Kay Kinder

Old Hickory
Sarah Bentley
Loretta Carter
Doris Conger
Deborah Dyer

Donnetta Parrish
*Kalyn Parrish**

Pack Horse Ford
*Emilie Pratt**
Leslie Schilling

Peters Mountain
Julia Turner

Wheeling
Jennifer Deibert
Holly Dempsey
Shelly Fox
Wendy Hinerman
Crystal Martin
Candace McBee
Deborah Messham
Julie Miller
Kristen Seamon

**Junior*

WVDAR Lineage Research

Linda Whitman, Chair Lineage Research

Ladies, don't forget to send me your lists of research books you may have! We can share look-ups if we have these lists! One invaluable site I have found on the Internet is Southern Campaigns Revolutionary War Pension Statements and Rosters on <https://revwarapps.org>. It lists many, many names in ABC order of those who had applied for pensions or had fought in southern battles (Virginia and below) during the Revolutionary War. Check it out!

If you are a member of FACEBOOK, a group you might consider joining is "Descendants of Revolutionary War Patriots". Members share genealogy sites, problems in finding info about patriots, and information.

If you are having problems with a PM application, don't forget to request assistance by completing the Lineage Research Request Form. If

you would like to help out with lineage research, please notify either myself, or our state registrar, Patsy Adkins.



A Few Reminders for Chapter Registrars

Patsy Adkins, State Registrar

1. Make sure your Prospective Member List is updated.
2. Please come to me with any concerns or questions instead of going to Facebook and National.
3. If you get an Air Letter please get a hold of me so that we can work together to get it resolved. That goes for supplementals too.
4. Make sure you add Prospective Members that come though your chapter to your list. If they are not on the list and you receive an Air Letter, it can't be worked on by National. I can still work on it though.



Regent's Special Project— Early Literacy

This is beautiful Liz Gregory, daughter of DAR member Diane Beall, and a potential Daughter. Liz, a working mom, is taking time to instill the love of reading with her lovely children. State Regent Larke, active in Read Aloud, recognizes how important it is for children to learn to read. Her administration will be placing more emphasis on this special project this year. So, promote reading, tout reading, and read yourself—to your kids, your grand-kids, your grandparents, in DAR Book Clubs, wherever you can. Create these beautiful images as you read like Liz does—to her amazing children!



Questions? Contact Cindy Kolsun 304-553-1012.

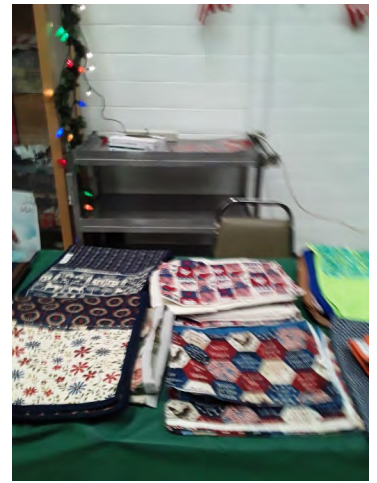


Bed Buddies

Thank you to the chapters who contributed to the Brown Administration's special projects for the West Virginia Veterans Home in Barboursville. The



\$969.00 check for patio furniture was sent last year. Because of COVID, no visitors were allowed in the Home until recently. Patty Young and Ruth Mooney (past state co-chairs of DAR Service to Veterans Committee) were honored to deliver "your" gift of a Bed Buddy for each resident. It was fun meeting them and observing how they decided which buddy they wanted for their bed. Here are a few photos of the event.





*Celebrate Stars &
Stripes Forever*

**Celebration Grants Approved
Congratulations!
Anne Royall Chapter
and
Shenandoah Chapter**

America 250! Celebration Grants now available. \$500 available to each chapter. Chapters can work together on joint projects. Now is the time to start planning for your celebration.

AMERICA 250! Choose a project or event that supports the NSDAR America 250! vision of celebrating the 250th birthday of the United States of America and the Patriots who achieved American independence. Celebrations should fall under one of the categories below:

- Celebrating America's 250th Birthday
- Celebrating Patriot Ancestors
- Encouraging the study of family history
- Encouraging DAR Membership

More information can be found on the members website under America 250! Celebration Grants or contact the American 250! State Chair: Georgette Ward at gwardezchapter@gmail.com



WITH THE CHAPTERS

Anne Bailey Chapter

For its Day of Service on October 8, Anne Bailey Chapter collected non-perishable food at grocery stores in Teays Valley and Charleston. More than 500 items and over \$300 dollars were provided to the Christian Com-



munity Cupboard in Hurricane and the Campbells Creek Food Pantry.

In October and November, Anne Bailey Chapter members donated personal care items to fill 24 baskets for women veterans at the Women's Clinic, VA Hospital in Barboursville. Marsha Cobb made cloth containers that the women can use to put glasses or other small items in, and one was included in each basket. Nickie Evenson delivered the baskets in December.



At our holiday luncheon, members posed for a group picture that was used to create a card. Members who are homebound or live far away received one of the holiday cards. We are going to make a photo card an annual tradition.



Anne Royall Chapter

Members of the Anne Royall Chapter participated in the Project Patriot "Overseas Military Baby Blanket Project." Chapter members and friends made 24 quilted and crocheted blankets that will go to the Landstuhl Medical Center near Ramstein Air Base in Germany. The blankets are given to active duty military families having new babies at the medical center there. The chapter was happy to give support to these new parents who serve in our military overseas.



Members pictured L-R: Annetta Siers, Linda Snider, Regent Pat Casper, Pam Stanley, Cheryl Haight, Patty Nutter, Sandra Harper, Lora Ingram, and Sue Weese



Bee Line Chapter

Bee Line DAR Begins Third Year for Wall Tree at VAMC

For the past two years, the Bee Line Chapter in Jefferson County has been managing a wall tree installed near the lobby at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) in Martinsburg. The tree provides DAR an opportunity to say "thank you" on an ongoing basis to both our nation's veterans and the medical center staff who serve their health needs. Simultaneously, it provides an attractive display for their enjoyment.

The first of the trees was installed in November 2020 and was designed to offer a public acknowledgment to veterans for their role in the defending the nation. The Thanksgiving Tree was intended as a one-off—a seasonally appropriate thank you, once and done. Then due to positive feedback, the tree went into act two, celebrating Christmas and other December holidays. Both trees featured a "thank you" message, honoring veterans for their service. Once again, the response was positive, and the tree



became an ongoing tradition—as well as a bright spot in the midst of COVID.

Under the management of Heidi Ware, Bee Line’s regent, the tree has changed on a monthly basis, with each transformation representing a seasonal activity, a specific holiday, a patriotic theme, or some combination thereof. During this time, the tree has featured summers at the baseball stadium and the beach, it has honored veterans from

all the nation’s modern wars, and it has celebrated spring with Easter eggs and bunnies. It has remembered the voyage of the Mayflower and the 150th anniversary of Yellowstone National Park, and it has celebrated Native American and African American history. That’s the short list. All told, the tree has undergone 25 make-overs. Each one has been a unique representation of the American story.



Bee Line DAR’s July tree at VAMC featured America’s game. The chapter posts a new tree each month, and each one serves as a “thank you” to our veterans and to the medical staff that serves them.

In its current manifestation, the tree sends out greetings of the season. It wishes passersby Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Kwanza, Happy Holidays, and Feliz Navidad. It celebrates American traditions and American diversity. It embraces the season as a whole, and with that, it celebrates the service of veterans.

One of the chapter’s favorite trees for 2022 celebrated baseball. Decorated with real baseball gloves, a bat, real baseballs, and baseball “cards” featuring some of the game’s most prominent legends, the tree was tied together with red, white, and blue stars and a shiny garland. It even featured a Cracker Jack box.

DAR Patriot Dedication Held at Zion Episcopal Church

On Saturday, October 15, Bee Line Chapter held a grave-marking dedication at Zion Episcopal

Church in Charles Town. The ceremony honored the service of Mary Douglass Howell Gardner for her patriotic support of American soldiers during the Revolutionary War. She is believed to be the first female patriot in this area to be commemorated with such a marker.

Born Mary Richardson Douglass circa 1744, Mary married David Howell in 1763, and the couple then took on the task of running a tavern in Chester County, PA, in an area still known as Howellville.

The Howells were early supporters of the Revolutionary cause, and the tavern served as a meeting place for General “Mad Anthony” Wayne and other independence-minded patriots before the onset of hostilities. Once the fighting began, the Howells offered food and shelter to wounded soldiers in both their home and their tavern.

Linda Mansur, the fifth great-granddaughter of Mary Douglass Howell Gardner, spoke about her ancestor’s life and service during the Revolution. She particularly stressed Mary’s efforts to care for wounded American soldiers following their defeat by the British at the Paoli Massacre (September 1777). At that time, Howell’s Tavern served as a battlefield hospital, and Mary, who was seven months’ pregnant, became a battlefield nurse.

After David Howell’s death in 1778, Mary continued to offer such help as she could, which would have meant placing her business and her family at considerable risk. Mary’s second husband was Colonel John Gardner, who served in the Pennsylvania militia. The Gardners relocated to what is now Jefferson County, WV, during the mid-1780s, where she lived until her death in 1818.

The program for the ceremony consisted of an



Linda Mansur and Susan Mansur Bock attended the ceremony to mark the grave of their 5th great-grandmother, Mary Douglass Howell Gardner

invocation written by Sharon Carrigan, the chapter chaplain, and delivered by member JoAnn Bailey, which was followed by a welcome from Heidi Ware, the chapter regent. Bee Line member Marika



Milburn sang the National Anthem. Phil McDonald, the chair of Zion's Churchyard Committee, spoke about the history of the church and surrounding cemetery. Darla Treat Courtney, West Virginia State Historian for DAR, followed with remarks about the patriot's birth family, the Douglasses. Johanna Myers, Bee Line's second vice regent and an Army veteran, shared remarks about the history of women in service to the nation. Finally, the Reverend Dean Lawrence, Rector of Zion Episcopal Church, offered a benediction to close the ceremony.

The plaque commemorating Mary Douglass Howell Gardner as a Patriot of the American Revolution was unveiled by her descendants, Linda Mansur and Susan Mansur Bock.

Wreaths honoring the patriot's service were



Headstone and marker for Mary Douglass Howell Gardner at Zion Episcopal Churchyard in Charles Town. The original headstone reads, "In memory of Mary Gardner, died 10 July 1818, aged 74." The newly installed DAR marker confirms that she is recognized as a Patriot of the American Revolution.

presented by representatives of several lineage groups: Jane Larke, West Virginia state regent,

WVDAR; Darla Treat Courtney, West Virginia state historian, WVDAR; Sally Ann Greenfield, honorary state regent, West Virginia State Society, Daughters of the American Colonists; Marty Keesecker, first vice president, West Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution (WVSSAR); Linda Mansur, regent, Cecilia Bradford Carroll Chapter, TNDAR; Susan Mansur Bock, Colonel Hard Murfree Chapter, TNSAR; Karla Gainey, treasurer, Mary Hemings Bell Chapter, VADAR; Alice Davenport McCarthy, honorary regent, Bee Line Chapter, WVDAR; Margie Ways, registrar, Shenandoah Valley Chapter, WVDAR; Vickie Baker, organizing regent, Tanner's Cross Roads Chapter, WVDAR; and Donald Beall, General Adam Stephen Chapter, WVSSAR.

Throughout the program, the color guard affiliated with the General Adam Stephen Chapter, WVSSAR, offered support and pageantry suitable to the occasion—including a salute fired by colonial style muskets. Members of the guard consisted of Captain Stephen Englebright and members Mike Benson, Duke Courtney, John Fleagle, Jack Johnson, Marty Keesecker, Keith McDonald, and Ryan Stottlemeyer.

[Bee Line Celebrates Prickett's Fort](#)

Bee Line Chapter in Charles Town routinely presents programs on our nation's colonial history. Most recently, the chapter had an opportunity to focus on the history of Prickett's Fort, which was established in 1774. The program was presented by member Deb Swider, who has been a longstanding volunteer and historic interpreter at the historic site.

Built on the homestead of its namesake, Capt. Jacob Prickett, the fort originally served as a refuge for settlers along the Virginia frontier. Designed as a 12-foot-high square stockade with blockhouses at each corner, the structure could accommodate up to 80 families in the event of an uprising by Native tribes. The original fort has long-since disappeared and was recreated in 1974 through the efforts of the Prickett's Fort Memorial Foundation.

The so-called "new fort" has become the backdrop for a living history center—a place where the way of life of both early settlers and the local Native peoples are reenacted for the benefit of the present. This is where Swider and her family became part of the narrative. Here they donned period dress to join spinners and weavers, smithies and carpenters, farmers and hunters to demonstrate the



survival skills of the past.

Swider's presentation included a number of photographs and artifacts illustrating her family's



Bee Line Daughter Deb Swider stands amid photos and artifacts representing her family's service as volunteers and historic interpreters at Prickett's Fort State Park near Fairmont.

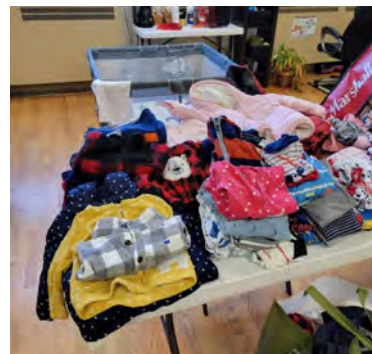
years of service at Prickett's Fort. Among these were a long rifle hand-crafted and decorated by her father using traditional techniques. She brought along tomahawks thrown by both herself and her father to demonstrate skills used for hunting and warfare among both Native residents and the settlers protected by the fort. Her presentation also included beautiful examples of handmade cloth created from yarn produced by spinners and weavers using the same methods that would have been known by early settlers living in and near the fort. Just as she shares the expertise of throwing "hawks" with her father, Swider shares the skills associated with the fiber arts with her mother, Sarah Haynes, who is also a Bee Line member.

Finally, Swider discussed how her family's years of service at Prickett's Fort became a passion. It was for them a place for "doing" as well as learning—an opportunity to internalize the history and skills of the past in a personal and hands-on manner, all the while creating an enduring family bond.

Prickett's Fort State Park is located in Marion County near Fairmont. It is open to the public from April to October, with fees and operating hours posted at <https://wvstateparks.com/park/pricketts-fort-state-park/>.

Blackwater Chapter

The members of Blackwater Chapter chose Birth to Three as the recipient of their Children's Winter Clothing Drive. Our members enthusiastically



gathered numerous articles of children's clothing in sizes 0 to 3T which were then brought to the Family Resource Center in Parsons on the afternoon of November 14, 2022. Members taking part in the delivery were Regent Cathy

Hebb, Vice Regent Daryla Rapp, and former Blackwater Chapter Regent and current State Corresponding Secretary Cynthia Kolsun. It was estimated there were approximately four hundred pieces of clothing delivered that afternoon! A large number of young children in Tucker County will benefit from the warm clothing lovingly donated by our generous DAR sisters.



Blennerhassett Chapter

On November 19, 2022, the Blennerhassett Chapter held its annual National Defense Luncheon at the Parkersburg Country Club. WVDAR members from other nearby chapters, guests, and the WVDAR State Regent, Jane Larke, were also in



attendance. Cadets from Parkersburg South's JROTC, under the command of Colonel Alex Cantu, participated and presented the flags.

Everyone enjoyed guest speaker, Corrina Boggess, who has the distinction of being the first woman commander of the West Virginia VFW. Blennerhassett Regent Cathy Hinkle presented Boggess with the DAR Distinguished Citizen Medal. The DAR Distinguished Citizen Medal was



introduced in 2013 to recognize individuals, eighteen years of age and older, who fulfill the qualities of honor, service, courage, leadership, and patriotism. The medal is awarded to emergency first responders; emergency health responders, active duty military and veterans of the United States armed forces; and citizens who have contributed to the defense and security of the community, state, or nation in an exceptional manner.

Blennerhassett Chapter members were also recognized for their years of service in DAR: Ashley Burgess, 10 years; Ruth Hawkins, 10 years; and Randi Gray, 25 years.

Guests brought donations in support of our deployed troops that were sent to those serving aboard the USS *Gerald R. Ford*. Members also signed "Thank You For Your Service" cards in

support of our military personnel.

After the luncheon, Regent Cathy Hinkle signed applications for four prospective members of the Blennerhassett Chapter.



Buford Chapter

In June 2022, Buford Chapter of the NSDAR celebrated the 100th birthday of our cabin. We were very fortunate that a local writer for the *Herald Dispatch* (our local newspaper) wrote an excellent article for the magazine supplement of the newspaper just in time for the celebration.



This is a photo from the article taken in the 1930s that captures the essence of the cabin as it was in 1922. The cabin continues to be used for meetings of the Buford Chapter even today.



Cake served for the celebration with photo of the original cabin that our "new" cabin replaced in 1922



Our picnic celebration was a huge success and was well attended.

Buford's February 11 meeting was at the Woodlands Retirement Center. We had invited all of Woodlands, some quilters we had run into, Westmoreland Chapter members, and buddies that we thought might enjoy the program.



The speaker was Mary Beth Shreve, the state coordinator of the national organization of Quilts of Valor. When she asked if anyone was a veteran, Stephanie Smith, the regent of Westmoreland



Chapter, said she was. Mary Beth then announced that we would hold a ceremony to wrap Stephanie in a Quilt of Valor.

The meeting ended with the presentation of a quilt (white with embroidery) given by Westmoreland Chapter to Buford Chapter.



Captain James Allen Chapter

On December 10, 2022, the Captain James Allen Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution met for their annual December Christmas Luncheon and Fundraiser. During the meeting, Chapter Regent Cecilia Chapman was honored to present Margaret "Peggy" Scheff a 40-year member anniversary pin. Ms. Scheff has been an active member, having followed in the footsteps of her mother, who also was a member of the DAR. Ms. Scheff currently serves as the chapter's historian and librarian. Peggy is also involved in other service areas in the community and serves as a member of the Friends of the Library.



The Captain John Allen Chapter was first organized in 1929 and has maintained an active membership since that time. Also present at our meeting were members of the John Beckley Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution.



Cheat River Chapter

Cheat River Chapter members designed a display for the Preston County Buckwheat Festival's Educational Exhibit County Communities History Project and won first place in our division. A tri-fold display was made showing where



Revolutionary War Patriots lived or were buried in Preston County. A binder with information on each patriot and their families was included with the display. Thousands of people visit the Buckwheat Festival each year, and the exhibits are very popular. In addition to the exhibit, the chapter's float won first place in one of the parades.



On a cold October morning, members were trained on how to correctly clean headstones. This project was conducted as our NSDAR Day of Service. We started the day in the Aurora Cemetery in Aurora. One of our chapter members, Brenda Hess, registrar, has been trained on the

proper way to clean a headstone without causing any damage to it. We used a biological solution called D2, soft/natural bristle brushes, wood and plastic scrapers, and lots of water. We located a veteran's stone that had three others next to it and decided (with permission) to do our lesson there so that we could work closely together as we were given instructions. We found it very satisfying to be able to read what the stones said as we continued to scrub!



After that, we went across the road, to the top of a beautiful hill to the Aurora Pioneer Cemetery, where three Revolutionary War patriots are buried. We cleaned all of their stones and several others near them who were early settlers of Aurora. Most of the other grave markers in this cemetery are field stones with no legible wording or are unmarked/unknown graves.

Now that we know how to clean the stones and have purchased the materials, we hope to continue to meet as a group and to work on improving more stones together throughout Preston County. Despite the cold weather, we learned a lot, preserved history, honored veterans and local history, and had a memorable day working together.

We had a wonderful time celebrating the first full year of Cheat River Chapter and reminiscing on what we have accomplished. Thank you to everyone who traveled to celebrate with us. We are so lucky to have a great group of members with many different talents who made this event come together.



Pictured above are members, prospective members and State Regent Jane Larke.

Our hope is that 99 years from now, Cheat River Chapter is celebrating the 100th anniversary! Now, on to year two!

After participating in the county Veterans Day Ceremony on November 11 on the courthouse lawn, Cheat River Chapter held a free lunch at the James C. McGrew house for veterans and their families.



At left is Candy Thompson, a veteran and a member of Cheat River Chapter, speaking at the ceremony. Below are Cheat River members who helped prepare the lunch.



Candy Thompson, one of our chapter members, attended the Preston County Commission meeting on November 22 in Kingwood and presented the NSDAR American Indians Committee Proclama-



L-R: County Commissioner Don Smith, Candy Thompson, President Samantha Stone, County Commissioner Dave Price

tion. President Samantha Stone signed the proclamation which declared November as National American Indian Heritage Month.

Cheat River Chapter ended the year by participating in Wreaths Across America at Aurora Cemetery in Aurora. All 162 veterans buried there received a wreath because of the generosity of the community. The wreaths were all sponsored by individuals within a week! We had an amazing turnout. Aurora is a patriotic and close-knit community.



Daniel Davison Chapter

Daniel Davison Chapter went all out for Constitution Week! We placed displays in two public libraries, distributed posters throughout our county, contacted our elected officials, received proclamations from three mayors, rang the bells on the courthouse plaza with TV coverage,



presented a program at the West Virginia Veterans Nursing Facility, and sponsored a coloring contest in conjunction

with two elementary schools and a library.

Our Day of Service project was placing mums and flags at veterans'





memorials throughout Harrison County. We also participated in Trunk or Treat events at two locations to promote literacy with bookmarks and candy. Our greatest achievement was designing and placing a permanent display for Daniel Davison Chapter and DAR in the Clarksburg History Museum.



With the help of students from Liberty High School's Future Business Leaders of America, we placed landscape fabric and mulch on our pollinator garden at the Daniel Davison DAR Cemetery in Clarksburg before the cold weather hit.



When Christmas season arrived, we sponsored wreaths for veterans at a local cemetery from Wreaths Across America and provided patients at the Louis A. Johnson VA Hospital with bedside angels for Christmas Eve.

Please view our article on page 35 in the Daughters Newsletter in the January/February 2023 issue!



Elk River Chapter

It has been 50 years since the Elk River Chapter in Gassaway was organized in 1972. Members celebrated the event with a catered dinner, gifts, awards and entertainment. There is only one chartered member living. Patricia "Trish" Moore reached this membership milestone in October.

The chapter participated in a Christmas tree display at the Brown Oaks historic house in Summersville. Our tree had our patriot names on the ornaments. Other organizations, schools and businesses all had a tree decorated with a theme. The trees were displayed in seven rooms on two floors. The public was invited to view the trees on Sundays in December.



Member Lib Stewart holding the Benjamin LeMaster ornament

A goal of the chapter is to mark at least one gravesite of an American Revolutionary soldier each year. This is an expensive endeavor, and the chapter is seeking donations for this multi-year project.

One of the chapter's favorite programs was related to the DAR Museum slideshow entitled, "Dining in Early America." What made it so special is that the refreshment committee, under the talents of Sarah Harris, prepared colonial recipes, such as: Spiced Applesauce Bread with Apple Cider Glaze, Sweet Potato Crisp, Molasses Cookies and Pickles.

The year 2022 is now behind us, but there is a lot of work ahead in 2023 if we hope to meet our goal.



Highlands of the Potomac Chapter

Members of The Highlands of the Potomac Chapter, NSDAR, gathered on Monday, October 10, to plant three American chestnut trees at the Historic Carskadon Mansion in Keyser, WV, during the DAR Day of Service. The DAR Day of Service honors the founding of the Daughters of the American Revolution on October 11, 1890.

Why plant trees? At the turn of the 20th century, the American chestnut towered over other trees in the eastern forests. Chestnut trees provided shelter and food for the forest animals, as well as lumber for building wherever strength and rot-resistance wood was needed. It was once said that a squirrel could travel from Maine to Georgia across the tops of the Chestnut trees without ever touching the ground! In the late 1800s a tree bark fungus imported on Asian Chestnut trees desecrated the American chestnut forests. The loss of these trees has been devastating!

The American Chestnut Foundation [TACF] is committed to restoring the American chestnut tree to our Eastern woodlands to benefit the environment, our wildlife and our society. HOTP Chapter member, Linda Coyle, also a member of the American Chestnut Foundation, arranged the donation of the trees and supervised the planting. Chapter member and Carskadon Mansion board member, Kimberly Rolls, assisted the chapter in identifying the best locations on the property for the plantings. For more information about the



L-R: Linda Coyle, Beverly Chaney, Kimberly Rolls, Darlene Frederick & Shirley Pyles

American Chestnut Foundation and their mission of restoration see www.acf.org.



James Wood Chapter

James Wood started the new year with the annual Dues Tea on September 17 and also kicked off Constitution Week. The oath of membership was given to our newest member, Barbara Vierheller, and we presented Sandra Cowell with her 50-year membership pin. Carolyn Kesterson, state constitution chair, led the Daughters in a Constitution Trivia Game. Constitution Week proclamations were obtained from local mayors and displays were placed in the Wood County Court House Judicial Annex and the Vienna Library. Preamble bookmarks were distributed to juniors and seniors at the local high schools.

For our National Day of Service Project, we collected food items for the Murphytown Disabled



American Veterans Food Pantry. Money from our monthly Gift Bag was also given to the DAV for Thanksgiving food baskets. Many families in the Murphytown area are serviced from the food pantry.

Continuing with our strong support for our veterans, Daughters donated over \$800 in goods to the Louis A. Johnson Veterans Hospital in Clarksburg. Donated items included personal hygiene items for men and women, clothing, socks, underwear, greeting cards, stamps and snacks.

We always participate in the Parkersburg Veterans Day Parade. We prepared beautiful posters highlighting the women's military groups.



Unfortunately, the parade was cancelled due to heavy rain. The good news is, we are ready for the 2023 parade.

Cheryl Haight of Anne Royall Chapter shared a very informative program on "Little Known Facts of Pearl Harbor" at our November meeting. We enjoyed having Cheryl visit our chapter.

On December 3 we gathered for our annual Christmas Party. We enjoyed the afternoon visiting, playing games and enjoying delicious snacks brought by the Daughters. The Chinese gift exchange always generates a lot of laughs and competition.

We are looking forward to everything we have planned for 2023 and an in-person West Virginia State Conference.



Matthew French Chapter

In September, the Matthew French and John Chapman chapters worked collaboratively on the 2022 Constitution Week. The City of Princeton presented the chapter with a Constitution Week proclamation. Nell Bowman and her daughter Nicole Bowman, created an eye-catching Constitution Week poster board that was displayed at the Princeton Public Library. For



Matthew French and John Chapman Constitution Week work party



Cowbells

flag coloring page and a flag decal were given to 915 first graders. A Constitution Week 8-page booklet and a flag decal were given to 946 4th-grade students. Each teacher received a DAR cowbell that commemorates Constitution Week.

Bells Across America was celebrated at the Dr. Robert

Constitution Week, the chapters prepared packets for 35 1st-grade classrooms and 32 4th-grade classrooms in Mercer County and two classes each for 1st and 4th grades in Summers County. A



Regent Stella Moon interviewed by WVVA at Bells Across America



Stella Moon presenting the Women in American History Award to Stephanie Bragg

Women in American History Award.

The Matthew French Chapter was formed March 7, 1922, and celebrated its 100th anniversary at Bells Across America. Matthew French, the chapter patriot, was remembered. A pictorial display depicted the chapter's first 100 years and its many achievements.

Looking to continue the legacy of our predecessors for another 100 years, the chapter is the tenant of the Dr. Robert B. McNutt House, the only pre-Civil War house in Princeton, which is



listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Daughters are honored to have a home for their chapter, its first office, in a historical setting. Continuing the chapter's legacy of historical preservation, the daughters will work collaboratively with the Old Town Princeton Foundation, owner of the McNutt House, to preserve local history, especially the Old Town Princeton historical district and the McNutt House, its furnishings and artifacts, for present and future generations.

Barbara McDowell, chapter chaplain, prepared the October NSDAR Day of Prayer program held at the United Methodist Church. Members assisted with the service. For the National Day of Service, members donated food and other items for the VA Clinic in Princeton.

The chapter focused its attention on its first McNutt House Open House. Members started cleaning and decorating the house for December 2. The City of Princeton donated \$1,500 to the chapter to assist with utilities, WiFi and related office expenses.

Nicole Bowman presented information on Junior American Citizens. Pat Mick's program featured Yellowstone National Park, which is celebrating its 150th anniversary. Pat toured Yellowstone in the summer and shared her pictures. Three members won a gel pen and each member received a Yellowstone postcard.

Anonymous members generously donated \$3,230 to pay for the McNutt House-Matthew French DAR ornament. The ornaments were sold at the Open House and will be sold throughout the year.



In December, the DAR daughters and the SAR sons entertained

their guests with stories of a bygone era from the American Revolution to the late 1850s when Giles County, Virginia, (now Mercer County, West Virginia) was being settled by our forefathers. Guests enjoyed seeing the McNutt House decorated for an 1840 Christmas. The DAR Sitting Room's Patriot Tree honored our chapter's patriots.



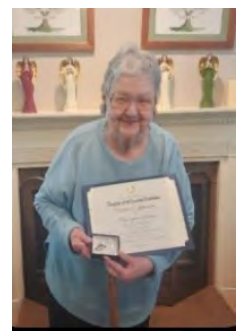
The Matthew French Chapter recognized Pat Mick for 50 years of service (actually 53) and Mary Lou Brown for 40 years of service. Internet service was installed at the McNutt House. Nicole Bowman presented a compelling program on Native Americans. Several daughters attended the SAR luncheon following the December meeting. The chapter surpassed its goal of 960 service hours with 2,275 hours!



Nell and Ron Bowman in period dress at the Open House



Pat Mick (left) and Mary Lou Brown (right)



Old Hickory Chapter

10th Anniversary

On November 5, 2022, at the Senior Center in Ripley, WV, the Old Hickory Chapter, NSDAR, celebrated their 10th anniversary. The chapter was chartered in Ravenswood on October 12, 2012, by Brenda Chevront, organizing regent, with 48 members. Ten of the charter members were present: Gerry Chapman, Sandra Isner-Johnson,





Brenda Chevront, Chris Landis, Marjie Parsons, Kay Parsons, Gayle Thompson, Becky Neal, Cookey Gunther, and Geneal Bailey.

The celebration started with opening prayer, the Pledge of Allegiance and the American's Creed. Grace Arthur, chapter regent, introduced special guest, State Regent Jane Larke, as well as Sandra Isner-Johnson, state vice regent; Vickie Baker, state



organizing secretary; Brenda Chevront, state parliamentarian; Kathy Kidd, Tanner's Crossroads Chapter regent; Joan Gibson, Woodburn Chapter regent. Other Old Hickory officers, members and visiting DAR members, and a C.A.R. guest were introduced.

Cards were passed out for everyone to write a note to active military veterans. Also, a photo booth was set up with beautiful hats, boas, and word bubbles. A Tenth Anniversary cake was served with nuts, mints, croissants, and punch. The decoration committee did a great job with the red, white, and blue decorations and the highlight was the Patriot Tree. The patriot disks on the tree had all the names of the patriots and supplementals of

current members.

The gift basket was won by Deborah Conger, one of our new members. Goodbyes were said to many old and new friends.

The ladies of the Old Hickory Chapter National Society Daughters of the American Revolution had a



very big January! They have successfully completed three projects to benefit our local community, with more in various stages of completion!

First, Literacy Promotion Chair Gloria Batten completed the Library in Laundromats Project. She worked with the local laundromats to fill shelves with children's books. These books were donated from our chapter and Gloria. Anyone wanting to donate books can drop them off at both The Laundromat in Ripley and the Sit & Spin in Ravenswood. The Laundromat in Ripley graciously provided a shelf for the books to be placed and the Old Hickory Chapter would like to extend our sincerest thanks to both The Laundromat in Ripley and the Sit & Spin in Ravenswood for all their help with this project.

At our January Meeting, the Old Hickory Chapter took up donations of school supplies. Our thought was that by January, most of the supplies





donated in August/September would be used up. Several elementary school teachers from the county were nominated and Cassie Radabaugh's classroom at Henry J. Kaiser Elementary School was chosen out of a hat to receive the donations. One of our newest members Lea Ann Puckett brought the donations to the school.



Finally, this autumn the Old Hickory Chapter received a very generous donation of various cards from Fruth Pharmacy. We have been

slowly going through the cards and found there were several that we as a chapter could not utilize. Not wanting them to go to waste, the chapter decided to donate some of them to the Kindness Club at Ripley High School. We hope that these cards bring joy to those who receive them. As we continue to go through the cards, we hope to donate to the schools in our county for our children's use.

We have several more projects that are coming! Baby Fleece Tie-Blankets, Cemetery Clean Up, Conservation Projects and Veterans Memorials!!



Old Hickory Chapter members wore RED in recognition of American Heart Month for their February meeting. February is good time to consider your own heart health and the simple steps you can take to improve it. Eat better, get enough sleep, reduce stress, quit smoking, and get moving!

Cardiovascular disease is the No. 1 killer of women, causing 1 in 3 deaths each year, but the simple truth is that most cardiovascular diseases



can still be prevented with education and healthy lifestyle changes.

The red dress as a national symbol for women and heart disease awareness. Only 55 percent of women realize heart disease is their No. 1 killer and less than half know what are considered healthy levels for cardiovascular risk factors like blood pressure and cholesterol.

Each member in attendance received a red pin goody bag for members to show support of women affected by heart disease and to help raise awareness so all women can take action to protect their health.



Pack Horse Ford Chapter

Pack Horse Ford Chapter is proud to announce the publication of the second book in a series of four, *Records of Robert Samuel McClay Hoffman, Undertaker of Shepherdstown, WV*, that was transcribed from the original record by Chapter Registrar Dorrene Gageby Hale and Chapter Second Vice Regent Cheryl Alexander Brown.

Volume I, Part II, covers the dates January 1, 1901 – August 30, 1906. These two books contain a wealth of information covering records of black and white individuals and give insight into a cross section of the inhabitants of Shepherdstown and surrounding villages including Shepherdstown, Kearneysville, Duffield's, Uvilla and Walper's and Moler's Cross Roads in Jefferson County, WV, at



the turn of the twentieth century. The record entries are listed under the name of the deceased individual, the person responsible for payment or in the case of children, under a parent's name. The primary source for the obituaries is the *Shepherdstown Register*; however, obituaries from other local areas are included. The chapter recently donated the first two books to the NSDAR Library in Washington, DC.

Pack Horse Ford Chapter made a big splash in Shepherdstown for Constitution Week. Chapter members stood with Shepherdstown Mayor Jim Auxer while he signed the Constitution Week



proclamation. Members created a Constitution Week window display at Dickinson & Wait store on German Street in Shepherdstown that focused on our elected representatives and how elections occur. Chapter members distributed a total of 2,000 Constitution booklets and 23 Constitution Week posters to six area schools.



Patricia Toffling, with Dale and Hank Walters

On Constitution Day, September 17th, members participated in Bells Across America by ringing bells at 4:00 PM on their porches. Church



Mike and Susan Benson giving school presentation

bells were also rung at three Shepherdstown churches. Chapter member Susan Benson and her husband Mike dressed in colonial costume and presented a PowerPoint program explaining Constitution Day to several classes of 5th-grade students at Mill Creek Intermediate School in Bunker Hill. Pocket copies of the Constitution were handed to 225 students.



Ruth McQuade and Darlene Hayhurst, Bethany House

Our DAR National Day of Service Project organized by Chapter Women's Issues Committee Chair, Ruth McQuade, benefited Bethany House, the shelter for homeless women and children in Martinsburg. Donations were presented to Darlene Hayhurst, manager of Bethany House, who was the featured speaker at our October 15 chapter meeting. Chapter members donated 9 pillows, 12 blankets, 30 sheet sets, and 12 umbrellas for a total of 63 items!

Bethany House serves all of the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia including Mineral, Hampshire, Jefferson, Berkeley, Morgan, Grant, Pendleton, and Hardy counties. They can accommodate 32 women, children, and babies.

Our chapter sponsored a "Welcome Home" Breakfast to honor Vietnam War era veterans and surviving spouses on Saturday, November 12, at



Sam Lake, Cindy Nicewarner and the SAR Color Guard



Attendees at the Veterans Breakfast at Uvilla UMC

Uvilla United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. Members of the church cooked a delicious breakfast. Chapter members decorated the social hall, donated food, served as servers and table hostesses, and cleaned up after the event. Members of General Adam Stephen Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, served as Color Guard. Caroline Fritz, president of Henrietta Bedinger Lee Society, Children of the American Revolution, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Sam Lake, past state president, West Virginia Children of the American Revolution, played the National Anthem.



Major Philip Suydam

The program included the moving explanation of the Missing Man Table given by Lois Kimble; greetings from Major Philip Suydam, USAF, Retired, senior aerospace science instructor for Jefferson High School Air Force JROTC; presentation of pins and certificates to Vietnam-era veterans and surviving spouses; and a

medley of service songs.

Pack Horse Ford Chapter is grateful for the partnership of several organizations that helped to make this project a success: Uvilla United Methodist Church; General Adam Stephen Chapter, NSSAR; Henrietta Bedinger Lee Society, N.S.C.A.R.; Post 14, American Legion; Jefferson High School U.S. Air Force Junior ROTC; and the Department of Defense.

As part of the holidays, members of the Pack Horse Ford Chapter met



Dorrene Hale pinning a friend

to stuff 90 handmade Christmas stockings for veterans at the Martinsburg Veterans Affairs Medical Center on Monday, December 6.

Christmas stockings for female veterans contained hairbands, brushes, pink and blue combs, pedicure sets, handmade caps in blue, and women's socks. Stockings for male veterans included items such as fingernail clippers, combs, handmade caps, and men's socks. All of the stockings included Patriot Bucks, comfort items, pocket dictionaries, 2023 pocket calendars, puzzle books, decks of playing cards, candy and Christmas cards made by local students.

President Caroline Fritz, Henrietta Bedinger Lee Society, N.S.C.A.R., presented a check to Honorary Regent Cheryl Brown to cover a portion of the cost of coupon books for inclusion in the stockings.



Members stuffing stockings at the Martinsburg VAMC

This event is organized annually by the chapter's DAR Service for Veterans Committee who make purchases and organize the supplies. Gifts and funds were donated by generous members of the chapter. Committee members include Cheryl Brown, Marianne Caruso, Darla Ambrose, Susie George, Lois Kimble and Kathy Olson.

Chapter members gathered with General Adam Stephen Chapter members, NSSAR, and Henrietta Bedinger Lee Chapter, N.S.C.A.R., to participate in



the annual Shepherdstown Christmas Parade organized by the Rotary Club on Saturday, December 3. Members enjoyed a festive holiday reception hosted by Second Vice Regent Cheryl Brown and her husband Joe Khare at their home in Shepherdstown on Saturday morning. The new chapter “sleigh” float was built by member Kim Sencindiver. Members tossed Christmas trinkets to the crowd lined along the parade route.

Lauren Turco, chapter chair for Volunteer Genealogist Committee, hosted a Genealogy Workshop on DNA via Zoom featuring Marilyn Mills who is the former corrections team leader for the Genealogy Department, Office of the Registrar General, at NSDAR Headquarters in Washington, DC. Marilyn recently retired from DAR where she was also one of the department’s DNA specialists. Marilyn gave a PowerPoint presentation on DNA and its use with DAR applications.

The Pack Horse Ford Chapter awarded two academic scholarships to two Shepherd University students in memory of one of its most honored members, Ruth Power Thacher. Miah Carver, a senior elementary education major, and Austin Buell, a senior in historic preservation/public history, are recipients of the 2022-2023 scholarship award, established through the Shepherd University Foundation.

is to provide a school in each county with requested supplies, rotating counties each year. Capon Bridge Middle School was contacted and requested personal hygiene products for their 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. Three boxes were filled with donations from members of the chapter and delivered to the school by Regent Judy Bowyer.



Above: South Branch Valley members; left: Judy Bowyer delivering items to Capon Bridge principal, Ann Downs



South Branch Valley Chapter

The South Branch Valley Chapter celebrated the National DAR Day of Service at their monthly meeting on October 15, 2022. Ten members and one prospective member brought donations of non-perishable food items, personal hygiene products, socks, and other requested items for active military personnel. These items were packed into ten boxes and mailed to military personnel who are currently deployed. There were many items left over after packing the boxes. These were donated a local food pantry and the VA hospital in Martinsburg.

The South Branch Valley, NSDAR, serves four counties: Hardy, Grant, Pendleton, and Hampshire. One of the many committees they are actively involved in is the Community Classroom. This committee seeks out the needs of schools/students in the area of service. The project adopted this year



Trans-Allegheny Chapter

Trans-Allegheny Chapter members of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution celebrated its 100th anniversary on October 16 at the Conference Meeting Room at the Hampton Inn in Weston. Governor Jim Justice sent a Certificate of Proclamation from the State of West Virginia recognizing the Trans-Allegheny Chapter for its 100 years of outstanding dedication and commitment to historic preservation and promoting education and patriotism.

The festivities opened with an invocation pre-



sented by the chapter chaplain, Alecia Edwards. She stated in her prayer: "Thirty-two years after their inspiration (the founding leaders of the National Society in 1890), local Weston and Lewis County ladies followed in their footsteps and organized the Trans-Allegheny Chapter. Now, 100 years later, our members appreciate the many leaders and members, who through the years, have kept this chapter sincere in promoting DAR objectives." Edwards continued: "May we keep Patriotism alive. May we, who have researched and recorded the courage of our ancestors who battled for the freedoms we enjoy, which include freedom to practice our faith, to be educated for an occupation of choice, freedom to own property, to exercise the right to vote, always to be as courageous as our patriots."

Chapter Regent Theresa Blake welcomed all the WVDAR state leaders and Central District members, as well as other WVDAR members, in attendance. She recognized and welcomed State Regent Jane Jacobs Larke, State Organizing Secretary Vickie Baker, State Parliamentarian Brenda Chevront, Central District Director Georgette Ward, and Northern District Director



Tina Seese. Also, she introduced two past chapter regents in attendance, Betty Heavner and Julia Bragg. Heavner is a 43-year member of DAR and Bragg is a 24-year member. She presented her chapter officers: Alecia Van Dine Edwards, chaplain; Deloris McKown Nelson, secretary; Kelly Gainer Goodwin, treasurer; Pat McKown Goodwin, registrar, and Christina Joann Rumbach, historian/librarian.

The chapter regent thanked Christina Rumbach for designing the printed invitation to the party.

Regent Blake stated that Pat Goodwin had researched and created a PowerPoint program celebrating the chapter's first 100 years. She invited all participants to learn about the Trans-Allegheny Chapter's history and accomplishments, enjoy the refreshments provided and enjoy visiting with all the Daughters gathered together. She thanked the Daughters for celebrating the chapter's 100th anniversary with the members.



Wheeling Chapter

The Wheeling Chapter ended 2022, with a joint meeting with the Fort Henry Chapter at the historic Stifel Fine Arts Center. We welcomed two new members, Patricia Timberlake and Kristen Seamon, at the meeting, and local historians, Judi Hendrickson and Jeanne Finstein (Wheeling Chapter librarian), shared Christmas traditions from around the world.

The December meeting also marked the end of our fall veterans' project. Just before Christmas we were able to deliver a car full of donations to the Louis A. Johnson VA Medical Center in Clarksburg, including 20 quilts and 10 lap blankets made from material donated by the chapter. We also collected toys to donate to the House of the Carpenter in Wheeling. Debi Smith did some last-minute shopping for additional toys from the cash donations and delivered them to the House of the Carpenter for 11th-hour requests for assistance.

Our chaplain, Ginger Fato, will be honored as a WV History Hero by the West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History at the end of February. Ginger is being honored for her work to restore the Foreman massacre monument in McMechen, WV.

At our February meeting, our own Barbara McFarland shared her experiences of visiting former presidents' homes and the history associated with them. We all left with a bucket list of road trips for this summer. We also made plans for service days for restoration work on the Madonna of the Trail in the spring and fundraising efforts to restore the Fort Van Metre monument in Ohio County.





William Henshaw Chapter

At the Saturday, December 3, 2022, meeting of the William Henshaw Chapter, NSDAR, a busy calendar year was ended and planning began for 2023. Highlights of the year included participation in the Ye Olde Berkeley County event at Christ Church in the month of June. The event was one of many scheduled during the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of Berkeley County. Christ Church has historical significance as the final resting place of the first European settler in West Virginia, Morgan Morgan, as well as the final resting place of Revolutionary War soldier William Henshaw, for whom the chapter is named.

The summer brought hosting duties by the chapter for the Eastern District meeting of the State Society which was held in August. The autumn brought another collaboration with Morgan Morgan Cabin for the annual Morgan Cabin fall festival. Sisters of the chapter distributed information to visitors at Morgan Cabin on membership in DAR and members also served as docents at nearby Christ Church for a second time this year.

November brought the rededication of the Doughboy Memorial at War Memorial Park on Veterans Day. The chapter also collected hats, gloves and socks and other winter items for female veterans which were donated at the December meeting. The estimated value of the hats, socks, gloves, hat and glove sets, scarves and associated toiletries was \$273 dollars.

The December meeting also brought action to



Regent Julia Gates with donated items

formalize the chapter's participation in the 2023 Heritage Faire, slated for May 13 and 14 at the Martinsburg Roundhouse. The chapter will host a table to provide information to parties interested in membership. The Faire will feature traditional crafts of the county's founding families.

The William Henshaw Chapter, NSDAR, began the year 2023 with its inaugural meeting on January 7, 2023. The year will be a busy and active one as evidenced by the crowded agenda of items for consideration.

Several items of business focused on the preparation for the May Heritage Faire. The chapter is seeking members of the community that have skills in traditional crafts such as quilting and pottery, basket weaving and caning, as well as musicians skilled in traditional music. Fundraising activities by the chapter will also occur at the May event.

The chapter has reviewed the annual essays for the middle school participants, received in the month of December. The essay program focuses each year on a topic of historical significance. This year, 645 essays were received from Hedgesville Middle School. The essays were reviewed by members of the chapter. The first-place winners have been forwarded to the state for consideration for state awards. A chapter awards ceremony is scheduled for March where winning essays will be read and winners honored for their participation.

The month of January also features a time of looking back on the accomplishments of the prior year and reporting those milestones. The Master Report was begun and all reporting parties will compile their information for inclusion in the annual chapter report in the month of January. The information is forwarded to national for evaluation. The William Henshaw Chapter has been recognized for its chapter-wide work and for individual components of its overall mission. Chapter Achievement Award Level 1 was awarded to the chapter in 2021 and has been for several consecutive years.





DISTRICT NEWS

Georgette Ward, Central District Director
Laura Fullen, Chapter Regent &
Daniel Davisson Chapter, NSDAR

CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO ATTEND

The 76th Central District Meeting

Saturday, July 29, 2023

Registration & Refreshments: 9 am
Meeting: 10 am- 2 pm
Lunch: 12 pm

***First Presbyterian Church
175 W. Main Street
Clarksburg, WV 26301***

Save the date

We hope to see you there!



**SUMMER DISTRICT MEETINGS
SAVE THE DATES!**

July 22, 2023, Western District

July 29, 2023, Central District

August 12, 2023, Northern District

August 19, 2023, Eastern District

August 26, 2023, Southern District

More Information to be announced later

From the Editor

Thanks to everyone who submitted articles for this edition of the *West Virginia DAR News*. You truly “Bloom through Service and Friendship.” Please keep your news coming.

If you are sending articles that previously were submitted to other publications, I would encourage you to edit out solicitations for prospective members as well as general information on the DAR that targets a non-DAR audience.

The deadline for the next issue is:

May 22, 2023

That is only two weeks after State Conference, so prepare your pre-conference news early.

Mary Johnson, Newsletter Editor
annebaileydar@gmail.com

