



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. 47, No. 2

February 1, 2024

State Regent's Message

Dear West Virginia Daughters,

Happy New Year! I hope this letter finds you all well and ready for a spectacular 2024! I want to express my sincere gratitude for your participation and support in 2023. You have made a remarkable difference in our organization and our community. I am eager to see the reports that regents and committee chairs have been working on that showcase your amazing accomplishments!



One of the highlights of this year will be our State Conference in Martinsburg this April. The state officers and I look forward to seeing you there, where we will celebrate our achievements, learn from each other, and renew friendships. The Eastern District chapters have been working hard to plan a wonderful conference, and I want to thank Barby Frankenberry, Margie Ways, and Heidi Ware for their leadership on it. It's going to be so much fun, so plan to join us! As a teaser, our guests will include a national officer, a vice-president general, and several state regents. Be on the lookout for the Call to Conference in your email later for all the details. The meal reservation form is in this newsletter so you can begin your plans to attend. And, if you know of someone who would like to page at this conference, please notify me no later than March 1st so an invitation can be extended.

The focus of this year's conference is education, which is one of our core goals. I look forward to seeing the regents' reports. Committee chairs associated with education should prepare a 2-minute oral report summarizing participation and successes for their committee. Of course, any chair is welcome to present a report. Please let me know in advance if you'd like to be added.

We have some new and exciting features for this year's conference that I hope you will enjoy. On Thursday night, we will have a "movie night" where you can watch a film related

to a conservation project taking place in West Virginia. On other evenings, we will have service projects that support our goals. These will be great opportunities to relax, mingle, and make a difference. On Saturday morning, we will have two breakfast options for you. The Chapter Regents Club (open to current and past regents) will have their traditional meeting. Others can enjoy a "Breakfast with a Book" which, following our literary theme, will feature WV author and historian, David Perks.

Finally, I want to announce two changes in our WVDAR leadership. Please welcome and congratulate our new Western District Director, April Norris, and our new Literacy Promotion chair, Judy Kittle. You can contact them at DAR.AprilGardner@yahoo.com and jrkittle@suddenlink.net, respectively. I appreciate their willingness to serve and their enthusiasm for our organization.

Thank you for your attention and your commitment to WVDAR. I can't wait to see you all in Martinsburg!

With much love and appreciation,

Jane

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119th WVDAR State Conference
Holiday Inn, 301 Foxcroft Avenue, Martinsburg, WV
April 5-7, 2024
“125 Years and Counting”
Meal Reservation Form

Reservations are **due March 21, 2024**. Make check payable to **WVDAR State Treasurer** and return this form with your payment to:

Mary Werner, 170 Berkeley Drive, Charles Town, WV 25414

Name _____ Title _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Chapter _____ Email _____

Thursday, April 4, 2024

6:00 pm. **Fried Chicken, Macaroni & Cheese, Green Beans, Cole Slaw** \$25.00 _____

The Barn at Mahogany Hill (All welcome & encouraged to join the Executive Board at this casual dinner.)

Friday, April 5, 2024 “Memory Lane” Cameo Club Meeting and Luncheon

12 noon **Tomato and Basil Bisque, Chicken Caesar Salad, NY Cheesecake, Beverage** \$30.00 _____

The Purple Iris (Open to all Cameo Club Members, Associates, Prospectives and Guests)

Friday, April 5, 2024 “WVDAR 125” Dinner PLEASE INDICATE ENTRÉE.

6:00 pm. _____ **Roast Pork Tenderloin** OR _____ **Vegetable Lasagna** \$38.00 _____

Includes Starch, Glazed Baby Carrots, Green Salad, Bread & Butter, Birthday Cake, Beverage

Saturday, April 6, 2024 Please indicate which breakfast you want to attend. (Chapter Regents Club Breakfast is only open to current and past chapter regents).

7:30 a.m. _____ **Chapter Regents Breakfast** OR _____ **Breakfast with a Book** \$25.00 _____

Includes Orange Juice, Scrambled Eggs, Buttermilk Pancakes, Bacon, Potatoes, Biscuits, Jams, Beverage.

Saturday, April 6, 2024 “Celebrating Achievement” Luncheon

12 noon Includes Chicken Salad Croissant, Pasta Salad, Fruit Garnish, Dessert, Beverage. \$30.00 _____

Saturday, April 6, 2024 “Friendship Blooms in WVDAR” Banquet PLEASE INDICATE ENTRÉE.

7:00 pm. _____ **London Broil Bordelaise** OR _____ **Vegetable Wellington** \$38.00 _____

Includes Ceasar Salad, Starch, Vegetable Medley, Bread & Butter, Crème Brulée, Beverage.

Sunday, April 7, 2024

8:00 a.m. Drop in **Breakfast Buffet** \$25.00 _____

Includes Juice, Jams, Biscuits, Yogurts, Western Scrambled Eggs, French Toast Strata, Sausage, etc.

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

***Children’s menu available on request for young guests and pages.*

Please check if you have dietary restrictions. Note restrictions below – continue on back, if needed.



State Recording Secretary

The chapter regent's report time period is from after the last day of the 2023 State Conference to 30 days prior to State Conference. This is in accordance with the clarification to the bylaws that is being requested.

FACT: The last day of State Conference in 2023 was May 7.

ERGO: That makes the start date of the report May 8, 2023.

FACT: The next State Conference will begin on April 5.

ERGO: 30 days prior to April 5 is Wednesday, March 6, 2024.

There is a 500 word limit. The CMRs that chapters are working on now follow the calendar year—January 1 to December 31. My best advice is to use the information from your completed 2023 CMR (keeping in mind that activities in Jan/Feb/Mar will NOT count) as your guide and as time goes on in this year (i.e. Jan/Feb/1st week of Mar), keep notes so that you can finish up the report and then edit it down to 500 words.

The report should be submitted to me by email no later than March 6, but you can do it earlier if your chapter has no late February/early March

A New Item in the State Information Packet (SIP)

Many of you have asked about the guidelines for the Pressbook and Scrapbook submissions during the State Conference. . . so, we added it to the SIP.

A new item titled **WVDAR Chapter Pressbook & Scrapbook Requirements**. It provides generic guidelines and a sample of the judging sheet for both the pressbook & the scrapbook submissions. It is not a committee, and it is not date specific. The “specific date details” will still be provided in the Call to Conference.

If you have questions about this item, please contact the State Vice Regent.

activities. If you absolutely have no email access, please contact me for assistance.

In addition, the theme of this year's State Conference is education. Please submit to me a photo and brief description of the event in the photo that has to do with your chapter's activities with regard to education. The photo will be compiled with other chapters for a slide show. In an effort to save time, the slideshow will be substituted for chapter regents having to deliver an oral report unless they want to. IF YOU DO wish to deliver an oral report, please let me know so it can be taken into consideration when planning sessions.



From the Desk of The State Historian

HONOR A LOCAL TEACHER

Daughters, our State Conference is right around the corner. As we prepare our CMRs and make plans to meet, I encourage you to consider honoring a local teacher of history or social studies.

WVDAR is in its second year of recognizing outstanding educators in the fields of history, civics, geography, or other related discipline. You may choose a teacher at any level, grades 5 through 12. The nomination process is simple and straightforward. The only requirement is to submit a letter of recommendation for your 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, community leaders, or parents—anyone in a position to vouch for the skills and commitment of a local teacher. Please forward only one nomination per chapter. Send your letters of nomination and recommendation to the address (or email) provided below. Digital submissions are acceptable, so long as signatures and contact information are included.

This program is entirely a state effort and is not affiliated with the National contest. Nominations are due to the State Historian by **March 21, 2024**, and recipients will be announced at the upcoming State Conference. Feel free to contact me if you have questions.

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

darlatreat@aol.com
304-725-1645

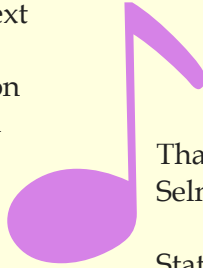


You Are Invited to Join Our WVDAR State Chorus!

I'll be meeting with my music accomplice, Kathy Kidd, Tanner's Cross Roads, in the next few weeks to select music so we may "sparkle". The chosen songs will be posted on our WVDAR Facebook page and copies will be provided at the conference. Please bring your voice and a **battery-operated candle stick** (batteries included) to our State Conference in April.

Psalms 98:4

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.



Thank you.

Selma Lee O'Dell-Humphreys, Chaplain,
Old Hickory, NSDAR
State Chorus Director, WVDAR

From the State Treasurer

For those chapters that have a fiscal year with the IRS that follows the calendar year that ended December 31, 2023, this is a reminder that your 990-N post card is due to the IRS by May 15, 2024. It is very important to file your 990 each year in order to not lose your tax-exempt status. For calendar year chapters, this is also the time of year that the Chapter Treasurer should compile the annual financial statements ending December 31, 2023, for audit by an internal audit committee. It is suggested that the internal audit committee include three chapter members. Proof of your 990 filing and your audit committee report with the annual financial statements that were audited are required to be forwarded to the State Treasurer per the by-laws as soon as they are available.

If any Chapter Regent or Treasurer needs assistance with these requirements, please contact me at vshearscpa@gmail.com or 304.296.7249.

Vicky L. Shears
State Treasurer, WVDAR



From the State Registrar

First of all, I want to thank all the chapter registrars for a good job on getting new members into WVDAR. We have 170 new members from January to December 2023. You all rocked it and kept the pre letters and air letters down this past year, so keep up the good work.

On behalf of the Supplemental Support Team, we would like to thank all the ladies who have sent us their supplementals for review. Since May 2023, we have reviewed 52, and they are now at

National for review. We have learned a lot and have also had fun with it along the way. I want to add that the team is caught up with all supplementals that have been sent to us. The big backup is National, which has over 16,000 awaiting review now. It will probably be two years before they get to the ones we have reviewed.

Please remember to send your supplementals to us to review at wvdarssteam@gmail.com.

If you want to bring them to State Conference, please do--all five of us will be there to answer questions about them. We will also be doing an informal application question and answer session at conference.

Note from the editor: I have three supplemental applications at National, the first received April 12, 2023, nearly ten months ago. Even though that one is straightforward (simply one more generation back) and should be sorted as a Tier A1 once it gets a preliminary review, I expect it will be a while before that happens. Consider how many of us hurried to prepare supplemental applications when we thought the fee would increase last year and have continued to work on them because we expect the increase will come eventually. A system that already was dealing with a long waiting time for review of supplementals (more than a year) must be overwhelmed by having even more come. We all must be patient.

I would encourage you to send your supplemental applications to the Supplemental Support Team. Even if you have all the documentation you need, the team can help you avoid making stupid mistakes on the form that could delay the process at National even longer. Their review was very helpful to me.



Welcome New Members
October 5, 2023-January 5, 2024

Anne Royall

*Rachel Farley**

Bee Line

Mary Tester

Blackwater

Barbara Berry

Susan Meyer

Mary Tomson

Blennerhassett

Cassandra Barnes

Janice Barnes

Mary Earl

Stephanie Radford

Andrea Ralston

*Patricia Ralston**

Stephanie Root

Tonya Whited

Buford

Jane Boylin

Sue Cooke

Ami Mandt

Captain James Allen

Cherri Farley

Jennifer Goodwin

Katherine Lovell

*Mariella Nugen**

Cheat River

Stacy Borrer

Sherry Fields

Cheryl Wilt

Colonel Morgan Morgan

Ava Carpenter

Daniel Davisson

Heather Gillespie

Mindi Jacobs

Martha Jett

Elizabeth Zane

Rita Cochran

Linda Shomo

Elk River

Marsha Boggs

*Abigail Cogar**

General Andrew Lewis

Brenda Rivers

Shirley Runyon

Highlands of the Potomac

Meredythe Barrick

Linda Dean

Melissa Skidmore

James Barbour

*Cloie Mosesso**

James Wood

Anne Thomas

Kanawha Valley

*Rachel Taylor**

Matthew French

Opal Morgan

Old Hickory

Loretta Frederick

Nicole Humphreys-Hannigan

Wilma Linger

Jo Morgan

Melissa Tolley

Pack Horse Ford

Barbara Van Tol

Judith Wilson

Shenandoah Valley

Amelia Porter

*Sarah Vigh**

South Branch Valley

Carol Lindsey

Elizabeth Orndoff-Sayers

Rosemary Thompson

Tanner's Cross Roads

Diana Baker

Maryellen Musgrove

Wheeling

Janet Andrews

Suzanne Dicken

Donna Donley

Pamela Fox

*Katherine Snodgrass**

William Henshaw

Mary Mumbulo

Marylee Taft

Heidi Wilkinson

Barbara Wright

Heather Wright

**Junior*



Make Your Breakfast Plans in DC

The National Convention will soon be here and many of you are already making your plans. The **West Virginia Breakfast** as one of the many events and activities for our members and guests. The **West Virginia Breakfast** will be held again at **The Army and Navy Club** on Wednesday, June 26, 2024, at 8:00 am.

The club was originally named the United Service Club in December 1885 having membership for officers only. The name changed to **The Army and Navy Club**, now allowing for membership to the officers and ex-officers for the Army, Navy and the Marines. With the completion of the structural changes, the official opening was held on August 9, 1912. Renovations were made in the mid-1980s, and a dedication ceremony was held on January 12, 1988. The Club includes a restaurant, hotel rooms, a conference center, a fitness center, and a library. The Library is one of the oldest private libraries in DC. Having nearly 20,000 volumes, it is a wonderful source for military history.

As you finalize your plans for Continental Congress, I hope you include the **West Virginia Breakfast** at the historic **Army and Navy Club** on June 26, 2024.

More details to follow. Any questions, contact Sandra Isner-Johnson, State Vice Regent, at sisnerjohnson@gmail.com.

CELEBRATE GRANT RECIPIENTS

- Anne Royall Chapter
- Colonel Morgan Morgan Chapter
- Elizabeth Zane Chapter
- Matthew French Chapter
- Old Hickory Chapter
- Shenandoah Valley Chapter
- Tanner's Cross Roads Chapter
- William Henshaw Chapter

For a view of the exhibit go to <https://american-revolution-experience.battlefields.org/> and booking instructions can be found on the site at <https://www.battlefields.org/ontour>.

New America 250! Proclamation is now available. This can be downloaded from the committee web page under External Observances. The proclamation can be edited to include your chapter information.

Don't forget that question #2 on the CMR under the America 250! Special committee will be left blank by all chapters except Kanawha Valley Chapter. They will add April Gardner as our only DAR member serving on the WV State America 250 Commission.

Georgette Ward
 WV State Chair, 104 Eastgate Dr., Morgantown,
 WV 26508
gwardezchapter@gmail.com



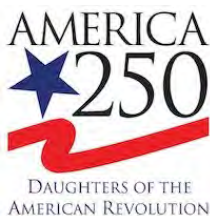
Blanche L. Reymann Scholarship Update



This summer, we will mark the 60th anniversary of Blanche L. Reymann's death which was the catalyst for the creation of state scholarship named for Mrs.

Reymann. To mark the anniversary, we will be awarding two \$1,000 scholarships to students from Wheeling College and the University of Charleston. We hope to be able to announce the

America 250!



Congratulations to the Matthew French, Tanner's Cross Roads, and William Henshaw chapters. They are the latest Celebration Grant recipients.

Go to the **American 250! Committee** page to see "What's New". There is a new **traveling exhibit** that can be booked for large venues.



scholarship winner at our State Conference in April.

Additionally, this summer, the Wheeling Chapter will be marking the grave of Mrs. Reymann.

The supplemental scholarship is a direct result of the support of the members of WVDAR. 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.



Patriot Records Project Committee



Do you know there is a DAR database of Revolutionary War era records available to research by all members and the public? Can you imagine finding your own missing link in proving a Patriot ancestor? How about assisting a current or prospective member break through a brick wall?

DAR member volunteers are indexing every name on every page of Revolutionary records that span over 75 years, creating a searchable database available via the Genealogical Research System (GRS) Rev War tab. The work that is done is both interesting and fulfilling. Imagine reading a handwritten document from the late 1700s to the early 1800s. Some of these documents contain the birthdate of the Patriot, the battles they fought and sometimes the names and birthdates of their family members—valuable information for any researcher.

The Patriot Records Project Committee is looking for volunteers to help index these Revolutionary War era records. You can volunteer from the comfort of your own home and accrue Service to America hours at the same time, a perfect solution for the boring winter months ahead.

For more information, please visit the Patriot Records Project Committee page on the members only website. (<https://www.dar.org/members/dar-members-section>) Be sure to check out the new

webinar which gives an excellent tutorial on indexing these records.



Lineage Research Committee

Our National DAR Lineage Research Committee has added a NEW item to their list of helps: **Peer Review**.

Chapter Registrars, do you need a second set of eyes to check the application for your Prospective Member? The NSDAR Lineage Research Committee can help! Please go to the Lineage Research Committee site on the DAR Members site. You will see how to request a peer review. This site also has guidelines for organizing supporting documents and how to submit them along with the application for Peer Review. You can also download a National Lineage Research Peer Review Form 8.8.23 to fill out and email to LR.virtualsupport@nsdar.org. Please Check This Out!

Linda Whitman, WVDAR Lineage Research Chairman



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



Genealogical, Burial & Service Data for Revolutionary War Patriots Buried in West Virginia



Are you attending State Conference?

Take advantage of State Conference Special Rate of \$25

If you want to pick one up at State Conference in Martinsburg in April, send **your name** and **the number of copies you wish to buy** to Mary Johnson at annebaileydar@gmail.com.

Net proceeds will go for America 250! markers in West Virginia.

WITH THE CHAPTERS

Anne Bailey Chapter

Anne Bailey Chapter focused on literacy for its Day of Service project in October. The chapter had a 2-part project. Members went to Anne Bailey Elementary and read to about 30 Head Start students. Each student was given a book. Later, members attended a Birth to Three event and provided books to attending children. They left additional age-appropriate books for events later that week. More copies of the book given out at the elementary school



were taken to Kanawha County's Head Start office for distribution to other Head Start students in the county. All told, members provided 125 books for the Day of Service.



On behalf of the United States Vietnam War Commemoration, Mary Johnson and Stephanie Shahbandy presented an honorary partner certificate and commemorative partner flag to West Virginia Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 37 in Charleston on October 9. Veterans who had not previously received the lapel pin were provided with one.

Nickie Evenson spearheads an annual chapter project to assemble baskets of donated personal care items for women veterans at the VA women's clinic. The women always appreciate receiving these baskets.



At the invitation of John Turley, the president of the Daniel Boone Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, 7 members of



Anne Bailey Chapter joined the Daniel Boone Chapter and members of the Kanawha Valley Chapter, NSDAR, for a festive gathering on December 2 at Berry Hills Country Club.



Bee Line Chapter

Bee Line DAR Commemorates the Boston Tea Party

On the 16th of December 1773, the Sons of Liberty, disguised as Native Americans, stormed three private vessels in Boston Harbor and tossed overboard 240 chests of tea belonging to the British East India Company. This event was an act of protest against the Townsend Acts, which taxed Britain's American colonies to help pay the debts incurred during the French and Indian War.



Sabra Brown, certified specialist in tea etiquette, who presented a program on the Boston Tea Party at Bee Line's meeting.

On the 16th of December 2023, the Daughters of Bee Line Chapter met to commemorate the 250th anniversary of Boston's famous protest, but with a slightly different tea party of their own. Gathering in the library of St. James the Greater Church, Bee Line Daughters met to sample the five types of tea the Sons of Liberty tossed into Boston Harbor. Presided over by Sabra Brown, a certified specialist in tea etiquette, they learned about both the history of the original tea party and the finer points of brewing and tasting this important beverage—



The Daughters of Bee Line Chapter DAR gathered on Saturday, December 16, to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the Boston Tea Party. The event included a program on the history of the Tea Party, a tea sampling session featuring the types of teas tossed into Boston Harbor in 1773, and a traditional afternoon tea complete with sweets, savories, and a variety of teas.

right up to the “slurp” required to release a fuller range of flavor during tea sampling.

The history presented included the fact that this event was not known as the Boston Tea Party until 1834. It was initially referred to as “the destruction of the tea.” Also, our Patriot ancestors were divided in their opinions about tossing tea into the harbor. George Washington regarded the “unfortunate tea event” as an unworthy violation against private property rights, which he held as sacrosanct. John Adams, on the other hand, thought it served as a bold, daring, firm statement by the colonists regarding their grievances. For Adams, the tea party was an “epoch” historical event championing the rights of the people against the “malicious” whims of their imperial oppressors.

After Brown's program, Bee Line Daughters proceeded to conduct a more conventional tea party, complete with sandwiches, scones, and other tasty savories and sweets—with a touch of irony, all of which was modeled on the British tradition for afternoon tea. The teas served were the same as those tossed overboard in 1773: two green (Hyson and Singlo) and three black (Bohea, Congou, and Souchong). The remainder of the service, including table decorations and cleanup, was provided by a chapter committee consisting of members Sharon Carrigan, Sharon Criswell, Stacy Lindberg, Alice McCarthy, Mary Miller, Johanna Myers, Lynn Stanley, Heidi Ware, Mary Werner, and Ross Watts.

In addition to their tea party, Bee Line Daughters commemorated the Boston Tea Party by contributing a 11" by 8.5" by 5.5" box filled with loose leaf tea to the Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum. This tea was used in a 250th anniversary reenactment of the original tea party held on the evening of December 16, 2023. The chapter will receive a certificate of recognition for participating in this milestone activity leading up to the Nation's semiquincentennial. Bee Line member Deb Swider and her family attended the reenactment in Boston, where they represented both Bee Line and Jefferson County.

Bee Line Support for Happy Retreat's "Open House Saturdays"

Since historic preservation is one of our society's three pillars of service, it is only natural that Charles Town's Bee Line Chapter should feel a particular affinity for supporting Happy Retreat, the home of city founder Charles Washington, the



youngest brother of President George Washington.

During the spring, summer, and fall of 2023, Friends of Happy Retreat held a series of open house events. On the first Saturday of each month, visitors were invited to explore the house, grounds, and history of this exceptional community treasure. Bee Line's ties with Happy Retreat have been cemented by significant overlap in each other's core values, values that were on full display during the open house calendar.

Marjorie Gaestel, a new Bee Line member, is a longstanding member of Happy Retreat's board and serves as its historian and archivist. She also manages the docent staff, all of whom are volunteers. In that capacity, she managed the planning and staffing of each open house. She selected her docents to serve specific roles for those events. In



Bee Line members participating in open house events at Happy Retreat included Heidi Ware (chapter regent), Marjorie Gaestel (chapter member and Historian and Archivist for Friends of Happy Retreat), and Darla Treat Courtney (chapter librarian and state historian for DAR).

addition, Gaestel served as a docent herself, sharing information with visitors about the architecture of the house, the various families who lived there, the ongoing research on the enslaved workers associated with the estate, and the archaeological investigations associated with the house and grounds.

Another Bee Line member, Darla Treat Courtney, is the DAR state historian. She was recruited to share her research on Lt. Col. Charles Washington's activities contributing to the American Revolution. She became involved with

Happy Retreat through a Bee Line project to dedicate a historical marker honoring Lt. Col. Washington. During each open house, Treat Courtney shared information about his support for the Leedstown Resolutions opposing the Stamp Act (1766), his role as a member of the Committees of Correspondence and Safety (1774-75), his appointment as a commissary of troops by the Virginia Convention (1775), and his service as an officer during the Revolution itself. He achieved his highest rank as a lieutenant colonel in the Spotsylvania Militia in 1780s.

Treat Courtney was typically stationed in the estate's showroom, which was intended by the Washington family to encourage business development along the Virginia frontier. The showroom provided a place where examples of produce grown locally or harvested from nearby rivers and woodlands could be displayed for the benefit of merchants from communities further downstream. A DAR grant facilitated by Treat Courtney and Heidi Ware, Bee Line's regent, helped to make the ongoing restoration of this room possible.

Ware also coordinates with Gaestel to select docents for Happy Retreat's herb garden, which is another project implemented by Bee Line Daughters. Ware provided the leadership to plan, plant, and care for the garden, which is located adjacent to the estate's restored summer kitchen. The garden, now two years old, continues to evolve. It consists of four beds—one each for culinary, medicinal, and household herbs, plus a bed along the width of the kitchen wall to provide a place for taller or climbing herbs that were commonly used during the colonial era. Ware frequently assumed the role of sharing information about how the various herbs were used, but other Bee Line members also served in this capacity. These included Johanna Myers (second vice regent), Sharon Criswell, Ann Ebersole (secretary), and Kathy Shue.

[Bee Line Daughters Volunteer at Bolivar-Harpers Ferry Library as "Shelf Readers"](#)

Bee Line Chapter observed the society's National Day of Service by volunteering at the Bolivar-Harpers Ferry Library. Their task was to organize the bookshelves in the children's section according to guidance provided by Lisa Fox, Adult Services



Volunteers for Bee Line's Day of Service were (front row) Barbara Siebenmann, JoAnn Bailey, Heidi Ware (regent), Jeanne Perozich, Sharon Carrigan (chaplain), and Stacy Lindberg (registrar); (back row) Doris Roll Bauer (corresponding secretary), Ann Ebersole (recording secretary), Sharon Criswell, Elsa Everling, Ross Brooke Watts (historian), and Mary Werner (first vice regent).

and Cataloging Librarian, who pointed out that this section often needs special attention. Children are hands-on with books, which the staff encourages, but they also frequently replace the volumes incorrectly.

This project was identified and led by member Sharon Carrigan, with a total of twelve Bee Line Daughters participating. These volunteers spent about 2 hours completing their task, which freed librarians for many more hours to work directly with children and other visitors.

The promotion of education and literacy are key objectives for Bee Line, WVDAR, and the Bolivar-Harpers Ferry Library. This community asset boasts a large children's section that enjoys a high usage rate, as well as a number of programs for children—including a weekly "All Ages Storytime," a "Crafty Storytime" to expose young very to a variety of handcraft skills and techniques, and special events such as learning about trees and conducting tree plantings, telling ghost stories for Halloween, and flower arranging.

Bee Line DAR's Support for the Military: A Year in Review

Bee Line Chapter in Charles Town takes seriously its responsibility to support and serve our country's military. As citizens and as women who descend from Patriots, we understand the debt all

Americans owe to those who have carried the burden of protecting our nation, as well as those who continue to guard our liberty. Furthermore, several of their members are veterans, and still more have children or grandchildren who are either serving or have served in the armed forces. With that in mind, service to veterans and support for active-duty military families are among our highest priorities.



Bee Line Daughters participate in this year's Veterans Day ceremonies at Charles Town's Jefferson Memorial Park.

Memorial Day and Veterans Day are pivotal features of Bee Line's annual calendar. Each year, Daughters join with members of local American Legion Post 71 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3522 to participate in ceremonies honoring the past sacrifices of our soldiers, sailors, and airmen. This year, Bee Line Regent Heidi Ware and member Darla Treat Courtney placed wreaths honoring those who have made the ultimate sacrifice and all those who have served. Several chapter members are routinely present at both events, and they take part in the community luncheons that follow. These communal events underscore the common duty of all citizens to remember those sacrifices with gratitude.

Throughout the year, the local Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) in Martinsburg has been a primary focus of Bee Line's service commitment. Coordinating through the facility's Voluntary Services staff, Daughters regularly contribute to VAMC programs and projects. For example, working with Terri Martin, Voluntary Service Specialist, and Krystal Schiro, a registered nurse who acts as VAMC's Maternity Care Coordinator, we contributed more than \$1,200 in merchandise to this year's Veteran Moms' Baby Shower. Member



Darla Treat Courtney managed this effort for Bee Line and acted as a hostess at the event itself.

Coordinating with Terry Stotler, Voluntary Services Chief, and Lindsey Boyd, Voluntary Service Assistant, we also collect food and sundries to support VAMC's food bank and women's closet. Both programs are important for individuals and families who are undergoing periods of transition or crisis. Further, Bee Line members Jean Slonaker and Darla Treat Courtney are regular volunteers for staffing the women's closet.

In addition, Regent Heidi Ware manages the chapter's Wall Tree located near the VAMC lobby.



The October wall tree, a visual display managed by Bee Line Chapter at VAMC-Martinsburg.

Ware created the tree 3 years ago. The tree was designed as a mechanism to thank veterans for their service and to recognize the VAMC staff for the continuous care and concern offered to their patients. Intended as a temporary fixture to provide a bit of cheer during Covid, the tree proved so popular that it is now starting its fourth year. Decorations change monthly, celebrating the seasons and

the holiday calendar. The one consistent feature is its message: Thank you for your service!

A new feature of the chapter's involvement with VAMC-Martinsburg involves supporting the General Adam Stephen Chapter, National Society Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), with their monthly bingo nights. This activity represents a revival of pre-Covid entertainment offered by SAR. Coordinated through Voluntary Service Specialist Terry Martin, Bee Line Daughters frequently provide refreshments and act as hostesses for this activity.

In April of this year, VAMC turned the tables to thank Bee Line Daughters for our service to the veteran community. At an awards ceremony held during a dinner meeting, Kenneth Allensworth, Director of the Martinsburg facility, honored the chapter with the Director's Commendation for Outstanding Service.

Jean Slonaker, Bee Line's Project Patriot chair, manages the chapter's ongoing support for active-

duty military personnel. Under her guidance, we supported two nursery-school classes at Fort Meade with gifts of books, toys, and other items chosen to encourage the development of reading



The October wall tree, a visual display managed by Bee Line Chapter at VAMC-Martinsburg.

and social skills. Altogether about 35 children of military families benefited from three separate sets of donations. In addition, Slonaker coordinates a project to collect blankets and caps for newborns delivered to active-duty military families. This year, Bee Line Daughters contributed 102 baby blankets and 67 caps/hats to the maternity unit at Fort Belvoir Community Hospital.

Daughter Marilyn Bremilst, a veteran herself, is another Bee Line member who has provided outstanding support for active-duty service personnel. For each of 26 years, Bremilst has sent out hundreds of greeting cards—in 2022 alone she sent cards to nearly 2,000 soldiers, sailors, and airmen. In addition to the cards, she sends lengthy greetings that are as personalized as she can make them. Bremilst's cards are truly an act of caring, and she is in regular correspondence with some of her many recipients.

Finally, it is important to acknowledge that Bee Line has a decades-long tradition of looking to the future with its support for high school students enrolled in Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) programs. This year, Regent Heidi Ware presented Cadet Dylan Gauthier, a recent graduate of Jefferson High School, with the DAR JROTC medal. Gauthier also received a certificate and a cash award.

Bee Line DAR Explores Native American Citizenship Rights

Bee Line Daughters recently explored the complex path navigated by Native Americans in



their efforts to be recognized as full citizens of the United States, including their right to vote. The program was presented by Sharon Carrigan, who serves the chapter at chaplain and as chair of the American Indian Committee.

Carrigan began her presentation by pointing out that despite their presence in the Americas for thousands of years, indigenous Americans were not considered full citizens of what is now the United States until President Calvin Coolidge signed the Indian Citizenship Act on June 2, 1924. Further, since states retain the ability to regulate voting, these first Americans did not obtain access to the ballot until President Lyndon Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act of 1965.



There were a number of reasons for these delays. Carrigan pointed out that when Europeans began the process of colonizing the Americas, they encountered more than 500 tribes of indigenous peoples—each with a culture, language, and/or socio-political structure of its own. This scenario also included a vast network of interaction and experience about which Europeans were entirely ignorant. The sheer diversity of Indigenous Americans, not to mention differences among the various European powers, presented meaningful challenges to all parties.

During the early centuries of European settlement, Britain and France negotiated the purchase of tribal lands through treaties that resembled those used between European nations—a practice that was largely unfamiliar to Native Americans. This process continued from the early days of settlement, through the establishment of the new U.S. federal government, and into the 21st century. Among other results, these treaties led to the creation of tribal reservations that are still recognized as sovereign lands and tribal communities that are recognized as sovereign nations.

Within this environment, resistance to anything resembling full U.S. citizenship could be found among both the descendants of European settlement and the various Native communities. There arose a general consensus that since Native peoples were born under a system of tribal sovereignty, they should not fall under the jurisdiction of the

United States. Subsequently, their only path to full citizenship would eventually require legal naturalization and complete assimilation, including the abandonment of tribal language and culture. In 1830, the Indian Removal Act forcibly resettled virtually all the eastern tribes in lands west of the Mississippi, and by 1855, the Wyandot Treaty actually required the dissolution of tribal ties in exchange for citizenship.

After the Civil War, Americans taking part in the westward migration demanded that the federal government either confine Indian communities to small reservations or exterminate them. As Carrigan explained, a relatively small number of Indians attempted to leave their tribal homes to live among the new arrivals. This exchange often ended poorly, and it should be noted that the 14th and 15th Amendments, which gave citizenship rights to newly freed slaves, did not do the same for Native Americans.

It was not until World War I, when more than 12,000 Native Americans volunteered to fight in the U.S. Army, that the valor of tribal warriors began to ignite a broader discussion of citizenship rights. Even then, however, the Citizenship Act of 1919 applied only to those who served.

As with the 14th and 15th Amendments, the 19th Amendment granted suffrage to women but did not include Native American women. Nonetheless, the Progressive era under Coolidge did bring the issue of citizenship for all tribal peoples



President Calvin Coolidge (center) with four Osage tribal members during approval ceremonies for the Indian Citizenship Act of 1924. Library of Congress

back into the political arena, eventually resulting in the Citizenship Act of 1924. As Carrigan pointed out, a significant push toward that act be-



gan in December 1923, when Coolidge met with a group of scholars, activists, and policy specialists—both Native and non-Native—to discuss crucial issues facing tribal communities. At that time, Ruth Muskrat, a young Native American poet, delivered a powerful speech calling on the U.S. to find ways for tribal members to share in the task of building a great nation while preserving the nobility and importance of their native cultures.

Even so, racism against the first Americans was as deeply ingrained in some states as it was against African Americans in others. State control over eligibility for voting meant that many of the tactics used to disenfranchise African Americans were also employed against Native Americans. Literacy tests, poll taxes, property requirements, gerrymandering, and lack of access to polling places deliberately and effectively denied the vote to most tribal members. For example, those living on reservations, using their native language, and without the benefit of access to public media were declared illiterate and thus ineligible to vote. Further, since taxes supported public institutions and since Native Americans living on reservations did not pay taxes, they were declared to have no direct interest in those institutions and were thus ineligible to vote.

As of August 2004, tribal relationships with the United States were still defined at the federal level by 367 ratified treaties, 73 ratified agreements, and over 100 individual statutes. That doesn't count an indefinite number of similar documents developed at the state level. As Carrigan pointed out, this means that the relationships between Native communities, the various states where they live, and the United States as a whole remain complex. The 1965 Voting Rights Act, along with amendments to the law in 1975 and 1982, finally brought an end to some efforts to deprive or dilute Native votes. However, the battle continues for Native peoples to gain recognition for their broader rights, for their claims regarding the unlawful deprivation of their lands, and for the rebirth of independent tribal languages and cultures.



Blackwater Chapter

Blackwater Chapter helped students celebrate Constitution Week in all three Tucker County Schools. Members Cathy Hebb, Daryla Rapp, and Michele Felton visited the three schools to join in the patriotic festivities.



Each of the schools' principals signed a school proclamation declaring



September 17-23 to be "Constitution Week." It was the goal of over two hundred 5th, 6th, and high school Civics students to read and study the Preamble. Documents affirming this accomplishment were signed by the students. As their reward, Blackwater Chapter members presented each student with a pencil on which the entire Preamble was printed. Each student also received a Constitution bookmark prepared for them by Blackwater Chapter member, Mary Jane Smith. Cathy Hebb, Cynthia Kolsun, and her daughter, Stacey Harper witnessed the mayor of Parsons, Bruce Kolsun, sign





a proclamation which officially proclaimed September 17 through 23 as "Constitution Week" throughout Parsons. Patriotic table toppers were placed in businesses, post offices, and libraries in



Parsons, Hambleton, Hendricks, Thomas, and Davis. Blackwater Chapter members also donated several patriotic bookmarks to the Five Rivers Library in Parsons.

In September, Blackwater Chapter welcomed new member, Titi Ferguson. At their September meeting, Blackwater Chapter's Regent Cathy Hebb's informative program celebrating the 125th Anniversary of the premiere of John Phillip Sousa's "The Stars and Stripes Forever" concluded with a rousing



YouTube performance of the march by "The President's Own" United States Marine Band. In unison with the band, Cathy played the march on her piccolo, much to the enjoyment of the group who enthusiastically clapped along towards the conclusion of the march.



Blackwater Chapter welcomed new member, Marlayne Nestor, at their October meeting. Previous Blackwater Chapter member, Kim Falls, was also reinstated that month.



Blackwater Chapter members enjoyed celebrating Veterans Day with the fourteen veterans at Cortland Acres Nursing Home in Thomas, WV. Mary Mullenax gave an enjoyable musical performance of WWII veteran song favorites. Local veterans Daniel Barkley and Charles Showalter

honored us with their presence. The two men demonstrated how to correctly fold up the American flag. There was not a dry eye in the place



when Danny sang Trace Adkins' "Arlington." Each veteran was presented a large goodie bag in which had been placed items each of them had requested. (Many asked for a flannel shirt and soft cookies.) It was a wonderful afternoon in which we thanked so many brave men for their service to our great country!



Seven Blackwater Chapter members—Mary Mullenax, Terri Lawrence, Debbie Stevens, Diane Beall, Cathy Hebb, Jane Larke, and Amy Goughnour—had the honor of placing wreaths on the veterans' graves at the West Virginia National Cemetery in Grafton, WV, on Saturday, December 16, 2023. Over 6,300 wreaths were laid through Wreaths Across America including the 105 wreaths sponsored by Blackwater Chapter. It was a beautiful day in which to honor those men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in their service to our great country.



Blennerhassett Chapter

Looking back on 2023, the Blennerhassett Chapter had a remarkable year!

We replaced two flags in 2023, one at the Blennerhassett Museum and the other at Tracewell Cemetery in Parkersburg. Our chapter promoted literacy by donating books to various places in our community, including the waiting room at Camden Clark ER, and by sponsoring a child to receive one book a month from kindergarten to age 5 through the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. We read books to local preschool and elementary students.

In February we collected items to donate to Criss Elementary School. The items included school supplies and much needed cleaning supplies. We also sent seeds to Hindman Settlement School to support their Community Grows program and seed exchange.

We had three successful fundraisers. We sold t-shirts, Native American themed paintings on canvas, and had a quilt raffle at our National Defense Luncheon.

Our chapter collected donations of candy to support troops at Camp Atterbury in Indiana through Project Patriot. We placed many flags on veterans' graves throughout the year.

A ceremony was held at Parkersburg armory that honored fallen Vietnam service members from West Virginia. Blennerhassett Chapter members helped place the 733 flags that represented the West Virginians who lost their lives in the conflict.

Also, at the armory in Parkersburg, Blennerhassett Daughters participated in a Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans event that was combined with a resource fair for veterans. Our chapter manned a table where we offered Constitution booklets, flags, flag pins, flag code booklets, flag ribbon lapel pins, and other items to participants. Chapter members also assisted in the kitchen serving lunch to attendees. We donated two door prizes for veterans in attendance, and we displayed our Vietnam Commemorative flag during this event.

Two of our chapter members entered the American Heritage contests: Cathy Hinkle and Tammy Taylor.

In April a supplemental workshop was held at the Vienna Public Library. Chris Painter presented



a slide show and provided handouts to participants as she walked them through the process of completing and submitting a supplemental application.

Chapter regent Cathy Hinkle and Mary Ellen Brown presented the ROTC bronze medal and monetary award on behalf of the chapter to Austin Kent in May at their awards banquet.

For Memorial Day, we participated in a wreath laying ceremony at Riverview Cemetery in Williamstown. Regent Cathy Hinkle spoke at the event while chapter page Taylor Sams presented the wreath. We then participated in a flag retiring ceremony sponsored by the local American Legion to retire the flag from the Blennerhassett Museum.

The Williamstown High School participated in the Junior American Citizen (JAC) contest, and we had one first place winner. In the fall of 2023, the committee co-chair, Esther Lauderman, was able to work with the local schools and engaged three schools in the contest.

Our annual dues tea was held at the Blennerhassett Museum and Dr. Robert Anderson, our guest speaker, gave a presentation on the statehood of West Virginia. Our chapter donated money and items that would be raffled off and donated to Lt. Ronnie Kalalau, whose family lost everything in the Hawaii fires.

A work day took place in Tracewell Cemetery in Parkersburg where chapter members picked up trash, cleaned tombstones, and replaced the flag and light. Cleaning kits were assembled and provided by Chris and Larry Painter. Over the course of the year, chapter members cleaned tombstones in a wide range of places, from Ritchie County to Gallipolis Ferry and places in between.

The Parkersburg Homecoming Parade was epic! Our chapter's float depicted a boat in Boston Harbor during the Boston Tea Party. And yes, we tossed tea overboard! Mary Pfeifer and Darren Prouty did the majority of work constructing the boat, with the help of Larry Painter, Seth Sams and Taylor Sams. Some rode on the float and tossed candy and other patriotic favors while others walked along with the float handing out flags and flag coloring sheets that had facts about our flag on the back.

We also participated in the Parkersburg Homecoming by manning a booth during the three-day event. Flags were available for the public, as well as Constitution booklets, flag codes,

flag pins, and other items. We also displayed a flag on a pole and stand beside our booth, and if children could correctly recite the pledge, they were given a patriotic goodie bag that contained a certificate, a flag code booklet, a card with the pledge and Americans Creed, and a small prize (usually a patriotic silicone bracelet). We also had Thank You cards available for members of the public to sign for veterans, and some of those cards were sent to the VA Center in Clarksburg, while others were included in Project Patriot boxes.

The Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall visited the Parkersburg City Park. The Blennerhassett Chapter is a Commemorative Partner with the Vietnam War Commemoration, and we participated by manning a booth where we provided Constitution booklets, flags, flag pins, flag codes, flag ribbon lapel pins, and various other items to veterans and those who came to view the wall. We also displayed the Vietnam Commemorative flag and we presented Commemorative pins to Vietnam Veterans who visited our booth during the three-day event.

Several chapter members attended the Northern District meeting in St. Marys. Catherine Sams made personalized tote bags for our Northern District officers and our State Regent, and presented them at our Northern District meeting.

We celebrated Constitution Week with two library displays with Constitution booklets, Pledge of Allegiance/Americans Creed cards, a proclamation, bells to ring, and having Williamstown display Constitution Week messages on their electronic billboard.

Throughout the year thank you cards were mailed to the VA Center in Clarksburg so they could be presented to the veterans, and a \$100 donation was sent so veterans could purchase items at the canteen. Christmas cards with handwritten notes were also sent to the Medical Center.

We also floated the Boston Tea Party boat down the parade route for the Barlow (OH) fair! We invited the Marietta (OH) Chapter DAR and two of their members rode on the boat and tossed candy with us. During this three-day event we also manned a booth that we shared with the Marietta Chapter. Much like the Parkersburg Homecoming, patriotic items were available, and goodie bags were given to children who could



properly recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Our chapter voted to participate in the Adopt-a-Native-Elder Program. Adopt-A-Native-Elder (A.N.E.) serves to help reduce extreme poverty and hardship facing traditional elders living on the Navajo Reservation.

Several chapter members participated in Blennerhassett Island's Mansion by Candlelight, dressing in period clothing and serving as docents and volunteers. This served as our National DAR Day of Service Project.

Our chapter has partnered with the local Habitat for Humanity to present flag kits to new homeowners. In October chapter members attended a house dedication ceremony in Belpre, Ohio, where a flag kit was presented to the Palmer family.

At our chapter meetings, we collected money to support the C.A.R. (Children of the American Revolution), the coffee fund/cantina through the VA in Clarksburg, and the Adopt-a-Native-Elder Program. Catherine Sams recruited her husband, Joe, to build a bench which was donated to Blennerhassett Island.

We participated in the Veterans Day Parade in Parkersburg with a very patriotic float constructed by Mary Pfeifer, Darren Prouty and the Painters, and decorated by chapter members. Some rode on the float and tossed candy and patriotic favors, while others walked along with the float handing out flags and flag coloring sheets that had facts about our flag on the back. Small baggies with Tootsie Rolls were also handed out with a card enclosed explaining how "Tootsie Rolls saved the Marines." Small plastic soldiers were also handed out as a keepsake and reminder of our deployed troops. One of the commemorative events for 2023 was the sinking of the U.S.S. *Maine*. Our float had a large poster commemorating the U.S.S. *Maine* on the rear gate. Remember the Maine!

Our National Defense Luncheon was held at the Parkersburg Country Club in November. Our guest speaker was Adam Truex, and we presented him with the Outstanding Service for Veterans Award. Scott Britton was also presented with the Historic Preservation Recognition Award. We gathered items for Project Patriot that supported troops aboard the U.S.S. *Gerald Ford* and other deployed troops. Items were also collected for the VA Medical Center in Clarksburg.

Through the JCF (Joint Community Force of the Mid-Ohio Valley), we learned about a project where bags would be filled with various items and distributed to veterans in local nursing homes for Christmas. Our chapter supported this project, and Mickie Richardson was instrumental in assembling and distributing items.

For Wreaths Across America, a wreath laying ceremony was held at Burnt Hill Cemetery in Williamstown where our chapter honored three Revolutionary War Patriots: James Athey, John Gard and Thomas Douglas.

Other activities: We collected donations of cleaning supplies and hygiene supplies for the Children's Home. Flag coloring sheets with flag facts were also donated to a local daycare facility. We sponsored a community lunch at a local church that directly benefited the members of our community.

Marjorie Nicely was the last remaining charter member of our chapter. She passed away November 16, 2021. We held a wreath laying ceremony and reception on April 22, 2023, to honor her. Chapter member Phyllis Hargreaves passed away in 2022, and a ceremony was held on November 14, 2023, after her husband's passing. Chapter members attended the ceremony and laid a wreath at her grave.

DAR Leadership Training Courses graduates in 2023: Members Course—Peg Foley, Mickie Richardson and Chris Painter; Committee Leaders Course—Mickie Richardson; New Horizons Course—Mickie Richardson. Three members have earned the DAR Leadership Training Committee's "Triple Crown" by completing all three courses: Cathy Hinkle, Chris Painter, and Mickie Richardson.

Mickie Richardson chose to collect items from the needs list at the Louis A. Johnson VA Medical Center in Clarksburg as her Independent Project for the Members Course. For Peg Foley's Independent Project for the Members Course, she crocheted a beautiful flag afghan and donated it to our chapter to use as a fundraiser in the future.

Our chapter gained 28 new members this year by application, and 1 by reinstatement! The Membership Committee welcomed new members by providing information packets and a small gift.





Daniel Davisson Chapter

Daniel Davisson Chapter began September by celebrating the Constitution. We rang the bells on September 17 in the Center Court at Meadowbrook Mall, put up a bulletin board at the Bridgeport Public Library including a proclamation from the Mayor of Bridgeport, provided children's handouts at the Clarksburg-Harrison Public Library, and provided five elementary classrooms (94 students) with Constitution activity folders.

On September 23, our chapter hosted a History Alive event organized by Vice Regent Tami Reeves in conjunction with the West Virginia Humanities Council and the Town of Lost Creek. The presentation featured Pearl S. Buck who was portrayed by Karen Vuranch. The Clarksburg *Exponent Telegram* published our submitted article.

Born in West Virginia, Buck grew up in China with her missionary parents, but never forgot her West Virginia roots. She received the Pulitzer Prize for her 1931 novel *The Good Earth* and became the first American woman ever to be awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature. She was also a humanitarian and social activist who was deeply concerned about the welfare of children worldwide.

To further promote literacy, Regent Laura Fullen and Tami Reeves gave out candy and bookmarks at Trunk or Treat events at the Bridgeport and Southern Area Public Libraries during October. Hundreds of children attended both events.

On October 21, we installed a **Little Free**



Library at the Lost Creek Park as our Day of Service project. Chapter members packed the library with children's books. Tami Reeves donated the library. The Clarksburg *Exponent Telegram* published our story.

To celebrate November's Native American Heritage Recognition month, Laura Fullen put up a bulletin board display at the Bridgeport Public Library including a proclamation from the mayor of Bridgeport. Doris Dean provided the Clarksburg-Harrison Public Library with bookmarks and children's handouts. Kathy Eckert from the Ohio Valley Chapter presented a wonderful program on Native Americans at our November 11 meeting.

For Veterans Day, chapter members wrote greeting cards for over 100 patients at the Louis A. Johnson VA Hospital and donated fidget blankets/kits, sweatpants, and shorts

Recording Secretary Doris Dean secured two non-DAR grants totaling \$10,700.00 to pay for the tree trimming/removal at the Daniel Davisson DAR Cemetery in Clarksburg, and the work was completed on December 15. Donations were also made by DAR members and a local resident. WBOY-TV and the Clarksburg *Exponent Telegram* ran features on the cemetery improvements. Further beautification projects will be done in 2024.

In December, we presented a copy of *Genealogical, Burial, and Service Data for Revolutionary War Patriots Buried in West Virginia* to the Clarksburg-Harrison Public Library, donated five wreaths from Wreaths Across America to the West Virginia National Cemetery near Grafton, delivered 200 Christmas cards to the Louis A. Johnson VA Hospital, and celebrated the holidays together with a meal at Minard's Restaurant in Clarksburg. Tami Reeves has completed her three online DAR courses, and we are so proud of her. She can now wear her tiara proudly at formal DAR events.



Elizabeth Zane Chapter

This has been a busy this reporting period. The chapter placed a wreath at the Upshur County Veterans Memorial and participated in the Veterans Day Parade in Buckhannon.

The EZ Chapter filled out 130 Christmas cards



to give to our veterans in the VA nursing home. One of our members made little Christmas trees to brighten up their tables. We also donated several hundred dollars' worth of donated clothing items that had been requested as a need. Teresa Smith directed this project which was the final project for her New Horizons Course.



Members Georgette Ward and Teresa Smith attended the DAR application and supplemental workshop sponsored by the Trans-Allegheny Chapter. Teresa Smith participated in the training and received her WV Read Aloud certification in October as part of the Larke Administration literacy initiative.

Our oldest member, Marjorie Miles, age 98, was recognized as being a Rosie the Riveter during our chapter Christmas Party. Marjorie has been in the DAR for 45 years. She is shown holding a prototype of the statue that will be erected at the Veterans Memorial Park in Elkins. For information on this project contact member Linda Shomata ace99900@aol.com



Members participated in the 250th anniversary & reenactment of the Boston Tea Party on December 16, 2023. Chapter members collected tea and sent it to the Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum for the reenactment.

The EZ Chapter has our third Triple Crown winner. Congratulations Teresa Smith.



Elizabeth Ludington Hagans-Colonel John Evans Chapter

The Daughters in the Elizabeth Ludington Hagans -Colonel John Evans Chapter had a busy fall participating in patriotic and service activities. On September 17, they hosted the tri-chapter Constitution Week luncheon that was also attended by members of the Col. Zackquill Morgan and Woodburn chapters. Vice-Regent Brenda Fisher led the group in a Constitution Week Bingo game while presenting many interesting facts about our Constitution. Stephanie Burns provided bells in patriotic colors for favors. Afterwards, some of the attendees braved the rain to go to the Monongalia County Courthouse Square to participate in Bells Across America. The Monongalia



County Commission ensured that the courthouse bell would ring with us at 4:00 that afternoon. Other Constitution Week activities included the issuing of a proclamation by the county commission and the display of 10 Constitution Week posters in storefront windows of local businesses.

The chapter focused our Day of Service project on meeting the goals of the literacy committee, the



President General, our State Regent, and veterans and military committees by sorting and sending 324 children's books to military and veteran families and facilities. Nine boxes of books were shipped out in October fulfilling special requests made by these families and facilities through Operation Paperback. The chapter received a special shoutout on the Operation Paperback Facebook page for their efforts with this project.

In November, the chapter participated in the Morgantown Veterans Day Parade, and in December, they laid a wreath at the mast of the U.S.S. *West Virginia* on the WVU campus during the ceremony commemorating the 82nd anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. Chapter members also participated in the Stockings for Soldiers program sponsored by the Jenkins Funeral Home to fill Christmas stockings with requested items for active-duty military from West Virginia. Fourteen stockings were donated from the chapter. On December 16, several chapter members attended Morgantown's Wreaths Across America ceremony and participated in placing wreaths to honor



veterans in the historic Oak Grove Cemetery and its neighboring Lawnwood Cemetery. The chapter led fundraising efforts to provide approximately 400 wreaths for this special day.



James Wood Chapter



Julia Hoffman, James Wood Daughter, and Margaret Hoschar of CASA with the prayers quilts we made for the Hug Bags.



Chapter float from the Parkersburg Veterans Day Parade highlighting Women's Military groups.



James Wood Daughters Julia Hoffman and Carole Morrison bringing donations to the Louis A. Johnson Veterans Hospital in Clarksburg.



Morgan Morgan Chapter

The Colonel Morgan Morgan Chapter, Fairmont, WV, has been engaged in many community activities in 2023. Chapter members, dressed in period clothing, participated in the Marion County History Expo where members spoke with several individuals about the Revolutionary War and distributed informational literature.



Rudy Vincent (SAR) and Barbara Channell (DAR)

Two events occurred during the same weekend including Julia Pierpont Day and Memorial Day remembrances.

Julia Pierpont Day is celebrated on May 28 every year in West Virginia in remembrance of Julia Augusta Robertson Pierpont's contributions to the creation of "Decoration Day," which was later known as "Memorial Day" and observed on May 30. Julia Pierpont, who was the wife of Francis Pierpont, the governor of restored Virginia, started all of this in 1865, following the end of the Civil War. Pierpont observed that the graves of the soldiers appeared abandoned following the war. The graves of those who gave their lives to serve humanity were decorated on the initiative of both Julia and Francis Pierpont. Pam is finishing her paperwork to join our chapter.

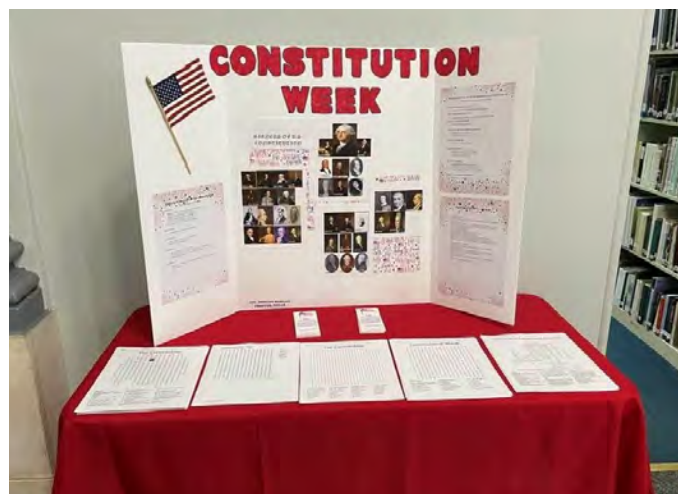


Pam and Art Dodds portraying Julia and Francis Pierpont

The chapter also participated in a combined caravan with the George Rogers Clark Chapter, NSSAR, from Clarksburg. Wreaths were presented at six locations throughout the county including the Monongahela River to honor those navy men



Barbara Channell, Pattie Norman, Debbie Layman, and Patty Haught at a Memorial Day Wreath Laying Ceremony



Library Display during Constitution Week by Resa Smith and women who perished in defense of America.

Constitution Week was filled with activity with our members creating a display at the Marion County Library and a second display at the Marion County Historical Society and Museum. Chapter members were available to speak with those who visited both displays. In spite of inclement weather, a large delegation of DAR, SAR, and community members came out to ring bells on Constitution Day.



Group of participants on the steps of the Marion County Historical Society who rang bells on September 17.

We held a joint outdoor picnic with the Clarksburg Chapter SAR at Pricketts Fort which was followed by a service to retire American flags conducted by the Boy Scouts Troop #120.



Group photo from joint DAR and SAR picnic

Under the Wright Administration the DAR/SAR/S.R. Committee was formed to promote the relationship with the National Society Sons of the American Revolution (NSSAR), the General Society Sons of the Revolution (S.R.), and the DAR. We have had several joint meetings and events with the SAR this year.

Chapter members joined with SAR members



and placed wreaths during Battle Days held in Point Pleasant. The Battle of Point Pleasant, fought on October 10, 1774, is recognized as one of the first battles of the Revolutionary War.

In addition, our chapter donated 52 dignity bibs made by Sandy Kisner to the Louis A. Johnson VA Medical Center. Pattie Norman donated blankets, reading glasses, pens and notepads, colored pencils, coloring books.



Barbara Channell, Sandy Kisner, and VA Hospital representative
 Pattie Norman and VA Hospital representative

Several members read to elementary school students which relates to our State Regent's focus on literacy.



Left: Barbara Channell reading at a Marion County elementary school



Pattie Haught reading at a Marion County elementary school

Various members have attended training workshops on cleaning graves and doing genealogical research. We held two paper parties which resulted



Beth Niggermyer, Patty Haught, library staff member, Barbara Channell, and Resa Smith at book presentation

in some supplemental applications. Our chapter also donated a copy of the book *Genealogical, Burial, & Service Data for Revolutionary War Patriots Buried in West Virginia* to the Marion County Public Library.

One member helped pick up trash at Tygart Lake State Park on the Dam Trail. Progress is being made for the proposed flower bed to surround the Gold Star Mother's Monument in Fairmont. Our chapter participated in the Fairmont Veterans Day Parade; our float promoted literacy.



Beth Niggermyer picking up trash along a Tygart Lake Trail

In November we sent 278 "Thank you for your service" cards for active, deployed military through the Support Our Troops Organization. Patty Haught organized this effort to satisfy the Horizon's Course Capstone Project.

Christmas cards were sent by most members to the Louis A. Johnson VA Medical Center and to veteran residents in nursing homes or assisted living centers in Marion County.



Jim Rote accepting the DAR Excellence in Historic Preservation Award and Medal from Pattie Norman

Our December meeting was held jointly with the George Rogers Clark Chapter of the SAR. After dinner our guest speaker for the program, Jim Rote, spoke about the historic George Pinkney Morgan House which is the only freestanding early Morgan home left in the Monongahela River Valley. Pattie Norman, Committee Chair of Historic Preservation, awarded Mr. Rote the DAR Excellence in Historic Preservation Award along with medal.

Our chapter joined with the George Rogers Clark Chapter to place wreaths at Maple Grove Cemetery as part of the Wreaths Across America effort.



Barbara Channell, Pam and Art Dodds, and Chris Vincent



Hold the Date!

May 5, 2024

Col. Morgan Morgan Chapter

America 250 plaque dedication at
Pricketts Fort State Park

Public invited

Updates will be posted on WV State
Facebook pages



Old Hickory Chapter

Old Hickory Chapter had a busy fall with many activities. On September 17 we honored POW-MIA Recognition Day with the dedication of our Never Forget Garden at the Jackson County Courthouse in Ripley. Thanks to Chair Rachel Tillinghast for all the hours making our



garden beautiful. At 4:00 pm we rang the bells for Constitution Day and Citizenship Day.

At our October 7 meeting, we celebrated NSDAR Day of Prayer and also our Service to America Day with a visit to our local library with a Read Aloud Program with several of our ladies participating. The children loved the program.



On a beautiful fall day on November 4 we dedicated our Revolutionary War bench at the Jackson County Courthouse. Our Regent Grace Arthur and Chaplain Selma Humphries presented a great program to an audience of special guests, including State Regent Jane Larke and many descendants of our twelve Revolutionary War Patriots connected to what is now Jackson County. Thanks to a vision our Veterans Chair Mary Pistelli has had for several years we have a beautiful bench with our Patriots names etched on it. Thanks to all who dedicated their time and money to make this happen and our many donors. The Daniel Boone Chapter and Point Pleasant Chapter of the Sons of American Revolution presented the colors.



For Veterans Day, we didn't have a float but



many of our members were there to support our veterans, including our Recording Secretary Debbie Burge and Joann Clarkson. They carried signs with photos of their husbands and walked behind a 5-ton military truck on which their husbands, Joe Burge and Dan Clarkson, both retired Marines, were riding.

Our Boston Tea Party at the Starcher Mansion was a huge success. The children were excited to have their photo taken with a tricorne or mop hat in front of a ship backdrop. They received bracelet, flags, buttons at the different stations throughout the mansions first floor. They heard the history of the Tea Party and why it happened. The last stop was cookies and a chance to sample one of the original teas that was thrown overboard at Boston. Feedback from the parents indicates that the children were excited to go to school on Monday to talk about the history of the Boston Tea Party, two hundred and fifty years ago in 1773.



Daughter of Sarah Dennis



Boston Tea Party at Starcher Mansion, Mary Pistelli, Rachel Tillinghast, Joann Clarkson, JoAnn Jones, Chris Landis, Selma Humphries

Wreaths Across America held on December 16 was a special service held at the Ripley Veterans Park at the Courthouse Square and led by Chaplain Selma Humphries. We honored the different branches of the military with the wreaths laid for deceased relatives, those who have served and are presently serving. The last wreath laid was in remembrance of 93,129 service personnel whose last known status was as a prisoner of war or missing in action. The ceremony closed with the playing of "Taps" by Raymond Vannest, Marine Corps League, and "Amazing Grace" on the bagpipes by Tim Clark of the Beni Kedem Highlanders.



JoAnn Jones, Dawn Caro, Joe Burge, Gerry Chapman, Chris Landis, Lois Durst, Grace Arthur, Aurora Arthur, Rachel Tillinghast, Mary Pistelli



Shenandoah Valley Chapter

During the December 7, 2023, Christmas meeting at the home of Shenandoah Valley Chapter Regent Jerell Wright the chapter honored Sylvia Rhodes for being a 65-year member of DAR. In April 12, 1958, Sylvia joined the Colonel John Evans Chapter, which is now the Elizabeth Ludington Hagans-Colonel John Evans Chapter. She has served as regent for the Morgantown chapter and the Shenandoah Valley Chapter. She currently serves her Shenandoah Valley Chapter as chaplain and West Virginia DAR as the state chair of the WV 50 Year Club.



Presenting the 65-year certificate to Sylvia Rhodes is Jerell Wright, right!





Trans-Allegheny Chapter

The Trans-Allegheny Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution hosted a Central District DAR Genealogy and Application/ Supplemental Workshop at Hacker’s Creek Pioneer Descendants Library in Horner, WV, on Saturday, October 14, 2023.

The chapter activity supported Trans-Allegheny member Pat Goodwin in her endeavor to complete a DAR Leadership course. She organized a Capstone Project by coordinating with the HCPD director for library tours and volunteers serving lunch for thirty-two Central District DAR members meeting to learn DAR application and supplemental application techniques.

Goodwin invited the West Virginia Daughters of the American Revolution Support Supplemental Application Team to provide genealogical expertise and guidelines regarding the DAR application process. The WVDAR SSAT members who presented are Patsy Adkins, State Registrar; Susan Arnold, State Volunteer Genealogists Committee Chair and Past State Registrar; Anna Carson, registrar of Ohio Valley Chapter; Bonnie Myers, registrar of South Branch Valley Chapter; and Michelle Sparks, registrar of Matthew French Chapter. These SSAT members met in small groups from Central District’s nine of thirteen chapters to provide expert guidance and advice on correctly completing DAR applications and using cited lineage proof documents.

WVDAR State Regent Jane Larke spoke briefly to the attendees concerning the importance of the workshop. Goodwin introduced Central District Director Georgette Ward.

Simultaneously with the SSAT members’ group discussions, the HCPD director provided a virtual library tour. Her informative presentation explained the research materials available at the library, which the participants greatly appreciated. Chapter Regent Theresa Blake presented the director with a gift for the library, the WVDAR book published in 2023: *Genealogical, Burial, & Service Data for Revolutionary War Patriots Buried in West Virginia*, which includes many of the Lewis County and surrounding areas Patriots researched and submitted by member Pat Goodwin.



HCPD volunteers served a delicious lunch for the participants. Door prize winners were Patty Norman of the Colonel Morgan Morgan Chapter in Fairmont and Cathy Hebb from the Blackwater Chapter in Parsons. The recipient of the fundraiser of “Registrar’s Supplies” was new DAR member Teresa Smith from the Elizabeth Zane Chapter.





After lunch, the Daughters gathered for an SSAT Panel Discussion and Question and Answer Session. Susan Arnold presented a compilation of "Errors to Avoid" for the participants. The remaining four SSAT members added information before the conclusion of the meeting.



Wheeling Chapter

The Wheeling Chapter ended the year with the culmination of a long-term project—the restoration and rededication of the Fort Van Metre monument. The marker was placed by the Wheeling Chapter in 1935 on a site near the original fort to honor those Patriots who served to help gain the independence of America. Fort Van Metre was under the leadership of Major Samuel McColloch, a local hero who was an instrumental commander in the Revolutionary War.

The original sandstone was deteriorating and



crumbling. The bronze plaque was stolen and turned in for scrap money. Fortunately, the recycler recognized the significance of the plaque and contacted local historian, Joe Roxby, who, in turn contacted Debi Smith, then Wheeling Chapter regent. The plaque was recovered, and the Wheeling Chapter took on the project of restoring and replacing this significant historic monument. This project included the restoration of the bronze plaque and placement of a five-foot granite marker to replace the "beyond repair" original sandstone marker.

The dedication ceremony took place over the weekend following the dedication of the "bookend" project—the McColloch's Leap Monument by the Fort Henry Chapter of the SAR. Two Wheeling Chapter members, Debi Smith and Jeanne Finstein, were on the planning committee for that project, as well. A number of DAR members made personal contributions that allowed these projects to be completed.

In December, the Wheeling Chapter DAR and Fort Henry Chapter held a joint Christmas luncheon meeting. We collected toys for the House of the Carpenter and donations for the Louis A. Johnson VA Medical Center in Clarksburg. Following the meeting, Roseanna Keller and her husband, Larry, delivered the VA donations, including 16 twin quilts, 16 lap throws, puzzles, and other supplies to Clarksburg.

In addition to these projects, the Wheeling Chapter also exceeded its 2023 Service to America goal. We hope to carry this momentum forward into the new year with programs on historic lighthouses, and quilt making, as well as historic tours of the former site of Fort Van Metre and Fostoria Glass Museum (in conjunction with a program on a book written by Wheeling Chapter Recording Secretary Roseanna Keller) this spring.



Woodburn Chapter

Woodburn Chapter held their annual Christmas Tea at the home of Regent Joan Gibson on December 16, 2023. Central District Director Georgette Ward was the chapter's guest. Attendees included chapter members, a prospective member and the daughter of a chapter member.



DISTRICT NEWS



WOODBURN CHAPTER
Christmas Tea
December 16, 2023

SODAS
Apricot-Orange
Cranberry-Pecan

SAVORIES
Honey-Mustard Chicken Salad Sandwich
Cucumber Sandwich
Tomato Sandwich
Tuna and Egg Salad Sandwich
Walnut-Olive Pastries

SWEETS
Dark Chocolate Mendiants
White Chocolate Mendiants
Elderflower Cream Puffs
Baklava Bites

TEAS
Black Currant
Boston
Jasmine
Paris
Passion Fruit



Save the Dates

District meetings

JUL 20 Western District

JUL 27 Eastern District

AUG 10 Northern District

AUG 17 Southern District

AUG 24 Central District



Western District

July 20, 2024

Elizabeth Memorial United Methodist Church

108 Oakwood Road, Charleston, WV

Registration: 9:00 a.m.



Southern District

Dear WVDAR Ladies,

This is the time of year we start planning our district meetings. With all the planning and excitement that is involved, I hope everyone is having fun working out the details.

So, at this time, I would like to invite all to attend the Southern District Meeting hosted by the John Cooke Chapter on Saturday, August 17, 2024, at the Guyandotte Baptist Church, 7776 Appalachian Highway, Jesse, WV. The doors open at 9:00 a.m. for registration and the meeting will start at 10:00 a.m.

We sincerely hope that everyone can join us for our meeting. We are looking forward to seeing each and every one of you.

Until then,

Samantha Shleser
Southern District Director



WVDAR Website

<https://wvdar.org>



From the Editor

Thanks to everyone who submitted articles for this edition of the *West Virginia DAR News*. Keep sending news on how you “Bloom through Service and Friendship.”

The deadline for the next issue is:

May 15, 2024

Mary Johnson, Newsletter Editor
annebaileydar@gmail.com



Coming Soon

The Call to Conference with details on State Conference
in Martinsburg in April