



January 2020

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Falls of the Rappahannock Chapter NSDAR



Thursday, January 9,

7 pm

Portable Education Program: Colonial
Household

Speaker: Alicia Hillmer

Place: Howell Library

806 Lyons Blvd Fredericksburg

Hostesses: Myra Wiggins & Susan Harvin

Message from our Chapter Regent

Chapter Members,

As we embark on a new year and a new decade, I hope you will join me in recommitting to DAR's mission of historic preservation, education and patriotism.

I want to thank you all for your service to our chapter and our community through your membership in DAR.

You are appreciated.

I wish you all a very Happy New Year and I can't wait to continue to serve God, Home and Country along side you.

Alicia Hillmer, Chapter Regent



Stratford Hall

Please join us on Saturday, January 18, 2020 beginning at 10 am for Stratford Hall's annual birthday celebration of the Lees of Virginia!

This fun-filled event includes live music by Colonial Faire in the Great Hall, a scavenger hunt for children, the "Civil War Civilians of Spotsylvania Historical Interpreters," opportunities to explore the Great House and Stratford grounds through self-guided tours, and more. In keeping with tradition, guests are welcome to enjoy a slice of birthday cake in celebration!

FREE TO THE PUBLIC.



Founding Daughters

M

ary Lockwood was born in Hanover, Chautauqua County, New York, on October 24, 1831. She moved to Washington, DC, in about 1878. Mrs. Lockwood's residence was Washington's elegant and imposing Strathmore Arms, and it was there on October 11, 1890, the formal organization of the NSDAR took place.

Mrs. Lockwood was the NSDAR's first historian and the Society, inspired by Mrs. Lockwood's commitment to historic preservation, resolved on October 18, 1890, to "provide a place for the collection of Historical relics which will accumulate...and for historical portraits, pictures, etc. This may first be in rooms, and later in the erection of a fire-proof building." She held many other national offices as well and served as editor of the DAR Magazine from 1894 to 1900.

Mrs. Lockwood was also a prolific author and wrote many noteworthy books. Her last book, *The Historic Homes of Washington*, was dedicated to her older brother to whom she became close after her mother's death when Mrs. Lockwood was only four years old. She was an avid promoter of the work of women's clubs and was both the founder of the famous Travel Club and for a time president of the Women's Press Club. She also held the position of Lady Manager at Large at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893.

An acquaintance noted that "she is friendly to all progressive movements, especially so in the progress of women." Mary Lockwood died in Plymouth, Massachusetts, on November 9, 1922, and is buried in Rock Creek Cemetery in Washington, DC. She was not only the last surviving Founder, but is also the only Founder buried in Washington.



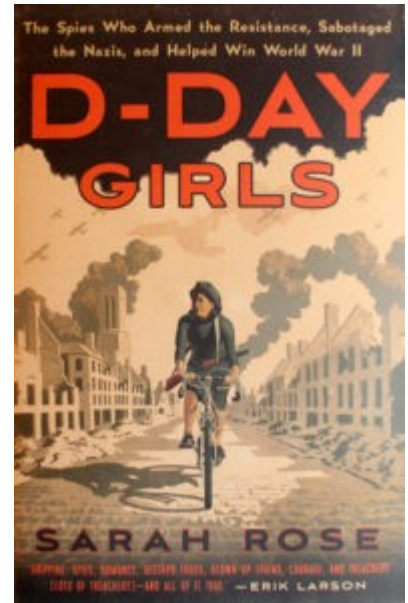
Upcoming Events

D-Day Girls

Lecture Date: January 28, 2020

The Chancellor's Village Lecture

In 1942, the Allies were losing, Germany seemed unstoppable, and every able man in England was fighting. Churchill believed Britain was locked in an existential battle and created a secret agency, the Special Operations Executive (SOE), whose spies were trained in everything from demolition to sharp-shooting. Their job, he declared, was “to set Europe ablaze!” But with most men on the frontlines, the SOE did something unprecedented: it recruited women. Thirty-nine women answered the call, leaving their lives and families to become saboteurs in France. Half were caught, and a third did not make it home alive.



Sarah Rose draws on recently declassified files, diaries, and oral histories to tell the story of three of these women. There's Odette Sansom, a young mother who feels suffocated by domestic life and sees the war as her ticket out; Lise de Baissac, an unflappable aristocrat with the mind of a natural leader; and Andrée Borrel, the streetwise organizer of the Paris Resistance. Together, they derailed trains, blew up weapons caches, destroyed power and phone lines, and gathered crucial intelligence—laying the groundwork for the D-Day invasion that proved to be the turning point in the war.

Speaker: Sarah Rose

This series is open to the public free of charge and no admission tickets are required. Programs begin at 7:30 p.m. in Dodd Auditorium in George Washington Hall. Each lecture concludes with an audience Q&A session with the speaker and a book-signing.

Chapter Chat

Wanted:

Stories, Photos, News and High Sea Adventures

This is YOUR Chapter Newsletter , please send stories, photos, news about your family/ancestors, and historical trips to the editor so that she can make this newsletter more about YOU!

Send all information to sonja.k.johnson@gmail.com

Please bring the following to every meeting:

Box tops

Ink Cartridges

Coupons

Coke bottle caps

Stamps

Greeting Cards

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WWW.ANDERSTOONS.COM



"You would not believe the battery life on this thing.
I've been reading it for weeks!"

SERVICE to AMERICA!

Our Chapter hours donated total as of

December 31 , 2019

1902

Please remember to log your hours!

<http://services.dar.org/members/committees/ServiceToAmerica/>

The Service to America! Committee encourages community service by **all** members on **all** levels as a means of honoring our heritage. You may now count your DAR hours!



February Meeting

Thursday, February 13, 7pm

Would you like to be a Volunteer Genie?

Speaker: Myra Wiggins

Hostesses: Jan Gardner and Alicia Hillmer

Location: TBD

Thomas Jefferson

In January 1777, Thomas Jefferson came to Fredericksburg as part of a committee tasked with revising Virginia's colonial laws. While here, the future president drafted The Virginia Act for Establishing Religious Freedom.. The bill caused much debate and took nine years before passing the Virginia General Assembly on Jan. 16, 1786. The bill was the basis for the religion clause in the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Monument is located on the Washington Avenue Mall, Fredericksburg, VA



President General's Message

Dear Daughters,

January brings with it an obligatory round of New Year's resolutions—and so I challenge you and your chapter to set ambitious goals for 2020. And this year, let's also commit to keeping them—for if we are going to take DAR to new heights of achievement, then we must set a dynamic course to accomplish it.



It begins with a commitment to be women of purpose. As much as we all enjoy genealogy and the social aspects of DAR, we will not retain and attract the vibrant women necessary to carry our mission forward if we do not give them the opportunity to commit to something meaningful. Think of it as, "If you build it, they will come."

Have you ever been encouraged to join another organization, such as a private club? Perhaps even pressured to do so by family or friends? Unless you found a connection to the organizational mission, you may have ultimately opted out. Unfortunately, this same situation happens all too often in DAR because we may not always effectively demonstrate the true rewards of membership. In 2018, we joyously welcomed 11,576 new members—but 9,802 women were dropped or resigned. We must do better, and I know that we can.

That is why I am asking you and your chapter to develop and then publicize programs that will help you to both attract new members and retain the women whom you have already worked so hard to register. Chapters of every size need to prepare strategic plans to guide their work—after all, you can't reach your destination of outstanding results without a roadmap to get there. Use the Chapter Achievement Award guide as a starting place. Plan meaningful, exciting and visible events. Incentivize your members to help identify eligible new women who understand and will flourish within our mission. Think big about your chapter's potential: If you build it, they will, indeed, come.

The first few months of the calendar year are very busy for our chapter officers, as we complete necessary paperwork and make timely filings in order to report on the year that was. I am so grateful for all that our chapters accomplish in service to our mission, and I urge you to make sure that you demonstrate your own chapter's vibrancy by reporting on ALL of your many activities. We can't appreciate our worldwide impact unless we fully capture all of your accomplishments from the prior year. I know that paperwork can be tedious, but it is so very important. And by the way: Please remind all of your members to enter their Service to America hours via our easy-to-use online system. Some chapters have had great success with appointing a Chair to gather this information from chapter members and then upload it on their behalf. We have a goal to reach 10 million hours during our term in office. Can we do it? Of course we can!

Please allow me to close by thanking every woman who stepped forward, now or in the past, to assume a leadership role in DAR. Whether you are a Committee Chair or an elected officer on the chapter or state level, you give of yourself to further our mission. I am grateful for your leadership, and I respectfully ask you to reach out to someone within your chapter to be her mentor and encourage her to find the joy that you surely found in DAR. Make your 2020 personal resolution a commitment to be the spark that starts a fire in another Daughter; we need vibrant, engaged women in order to shine our light for all to see. Please help light that fire!

Denise Doring VanBuren
President General

December Meeting Highlights

Thank you Maggie and Ginny
for hosting a wonderful evening



Service to America Opportunities

From Anne Kline:

I will collect supplies each meeting and distribute to the Stafford, Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania Animal Shelters. Old towels were number one on the requested items list.

I volunteer at the Stafford Animal Shelter and there is such a need for volunteers. It can be as easy as coming in for 30 minutes to play with the cats or take a dog out in the enclosure for some one on one love.

Volunteers must fill out an application and have it notarized and allow a simple background check before getting on the volunteer list.

All hours can be logged in at the DAR website for credit.

ANIMAL DONATIONS

Large Rawhides	Large Nyla Bones	Cat Toys
Dog Toys: stuffed or durable	Cardboard Scratch posts	Plastic litter boxes
Plastic Cage Crock for Dogs (L & S)	Soft Treats	Small Cat Beds
Grain Free Dog Food (Hard & Soft)	Grain Free Cat Food "	Purina Kitten Food
Collars & Leashes	Small animal treats for rabbits, hamsters & guinea pigs	Kong's: lg and XL
Non-Clumping Cat Litter	Arm & Hammer Litter Deodorizer	Laundry Detergent
Hand Sanitize	Fabulosity, Original Pine-Sol or any floor cleaner	Towels
Blankets	Newspaper	Shampoo
Flea & Tick Treatment		

Falls of The Rappahannock Chapter has received a thank you card from KDS acknowledging the 2 boxes of school and dental supplies. We sent a total of 58 pounds of goods. Thank you FOTR!! Susan Harvin

THANK YOU!

FOTR in the Community

Congratulations Martha
Thurston Newton for 20 years of
service to the community!!



[Spotsylvania Animal Shelter](#)

would like to a few of our volunteers, dog walkers Chris and Donna Courtney. Thanks to them, many of our pups got an extra walk today. If you have some extra time and want to volunteer to walk dogs give us a call and we will be happy to put a leash in your hand

Thanks Donna!!!

DAR Schools

Chapter should plan now for the collection of and donation of costume jewelry for the “Baubles, Bangles & Beads” Campaign. All jewelry can be brought to the State Conference in March.



Veterans



For the capstone project required by the DAR New Horizons course Susan Harvin is collecting regular size toiletries for Hunter Homes McGuire Veterans Hospital in Richmond.

Susan will be collecting these at our December and January meetings. These will be sent to McGuire in January along with lap robes.

Thank you so much for helping our Veterans
and for helping a FOTR member complete the
DAR courses.

Conservation

Remember that up until some 20 years ago any car trip meant a windshield covered in dead insects, smashed by the impact.

However, nowadays that doesn't happen so much.

It may sound like great news—after all, who doesn't like to travel with a clean windshield? But what does it really mean? Doesn't that tell you anything?

Scientists associate the dramatic decline in insect populations with industrial agricultural practices, especially habitat destruction and pesticide use. That decline, besides being a tragedy by itself, also affects the whole terrestrial ecosystems, such as the birds', reptiles' and amphibians' diet, pollination, etc.

The collapse of the insect populations may be the foretoken of the collapse of the terrestrial ecosystems.

Retrieved from: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/feb/10/plummeting-insect-numbers-threaten-collapse-of-nature?fbclid=IwAR3IagHHutG3KKPw43KtkG61u7KQ7tNgblKRJUBFyxr7ckWdjayfPCDGok>



Daughter's Ancestors, Donna Courtney

Augusta County Genealogies

Staunton News-Leader

The Col. Thomas Chapter, DAR, has in recent months been quite active in ferreting out old historical records of interest to it's members and to the public at large. Mrs. W.W. King, who has been in charge of much of this work, and presented to this paper, under the general heading of "Augusta County Genealogies," much interesting material along this line. The following is self-explanatory:

Mrs. Harry Burnett, who is the great great granddaughter of the Mr. Blackburn to whom this letter is written told me that he was the architect of the main buildings at W.S.H. and lived here in a house he built opposite the grounds which he terraced back to make a "show place." The original drawings for the W.S.H. were taken out west when some of the descendants moved on to a new country.

Staunton, Va.

Oct. 11, 1934

Mrs. W.W. King

Dear Madame

I received your letter this afternoon. Thom. R. Blackburn was my grandfather. He was born in Jefferson Co., Virginia, in 1794. He was in the War of 1812. He had a cousin, Thom. R., who was a Col. In the Continental Army during the War of 1776. My grandfather was employed at the Western Lunatic Asylum for a long time. The front yard is some of his landscape engineering. He drew plans for some of the old buildings at this asylum. I have his diary of the War of 1812 and Col. Rudolph Bumgardner said they are very rare and it is a good one. I haven't the original letter. I have only a copy of it. The Col. Crutchfield to whom it is addressed was his colonel in the War of 1812; he resided in Albemarle Co, near Scottsville, when he wrote that letter. I have some of his account books when he resided in Scottsville. Mr. Arista(?) Hage and Jas. Hinckley both borrowed them when they were living. Am sorry I haven't the original letter.

Regards,

JOSEPH W. BLACKBURN

FOTR Ancestors, Donna Courtney, Cont.

Extract from a letter to Col. Robert Crutchfield of Spotsylvania County,
Virginia

July 6, 1826

My much respected Friend,

The subject of my present letter is melancholy indeed. The venerable Jefferson is no more. Went yesterday to see his mortal remains committed to the silent tomb.

He has been rapidly declining for some time past, but not confined to his bed above a week, he passed from life to death without a struggle, retaining the full powers of his mighty mind to the last.

He has terminated a long and useful life being upwards of 84 years of age and after affixing his seal to the charter of his country's freedom and independence lived half a century to see it prosper beyond the most sanguine hopes of his warmest friends. He has seen the 13 states that burst the chains of tyranny and oppression, double their population and all others emerge from bosom of the wilderness. He has beheld the power of Great Britain foiled again by the bravery of his countrymen, and the star-spangled banner wave in triumph o'er distant seas both in peace and war.

The arts and sciences have flourished under his immediate patronage, and the University of Virginia his last great gift to his country, he has left in successful operation. This after standing in the foremost rank of the liberations of his country and serving it in the highest capacities, with honour and success he sinks to rest on the anniversary of his most glorious act, leaving a grateful nation to mourn his loss, cherish his memory and enjoy the fruits of his labour.

I trust he has entered the land of eternal and ineffable bliss, greeted by the welcome of the great and good who have gone before. But two of those venerable patriots whose names are affixed to the charter of our liberties now remain, and their hoary heads proclaim their approach to that country whence no traveler has ever returned, but their work is done---Their names are enrolled with our Jefferson on the list of fame and glory. Mr. Jefferson has ever initiated warm friendship for the equal rights of his fellow man and he has done more toward emancipating them from the oppression of tyrants and superstition of bigots than any man living or that has ever lived: and many generations must pass before one so great will be seen on earth. His popularity is very great at present but I am well aware that his merits are not yet duly appreciated. The remains of those aristocratic principles entailed upon us by British colonial government and of which Jefferson leveled thunder of his pen must struggle yet a little while---then must pass from among us forever.

Then shall his name be great among the nations of the earth---Then shall his memory be embalmed into the hearts of his countrymen---His writings looked up to, as the textbook of republican principles---and the first word the American nation shall teach his infant to lip will be the name of that venerable apostle of liberty.

Yours Respectfully,

TH. R BLACKBURN

