



**December 2018**

### **Chapter Officers: 2018-2019**

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## ***Falls of the Rappahannock Chapter NSDAR***



**T**he December meeting will be held on Thursday, December 13, 7:00 pm, at the home of Maggie and Ginny Dunning, 5927 West Carnifex Ferry Rd, (it is on the right side of the cul-de-sac) Fredericksburg. Call (540) 710-5790 if necessary. You may want to car-pool. Gate entrance pin is \*5733

Members please bring potluck refreshments to share. The business meeting will be brief.

From Fredericksburg, near the Eagle Village vicinity on US Route 1 (Jeff Davis Highway) drive south about 6 miles. From I-95 south in Stafford, take exit 126, to US Route 1 south. Whichever way you come, be sure to go past Southport Parkway. Then turn right onto SPOTSYLVANIA PARKWAY (road 628) and go about 0.4 mile. Turn right onto Balls Bluff Road, and go through the gate. Then take the first right turn onto Big Bethel Road. Go 0.3 mile and turn left onto West Carnifex Ferry Road Then go another 0.1 mile.

And what would the chapter Christmas meeting be without the Purple Onion Gift Exchange! Don't forget to wrap and bring your unloved/unwanted items for the gift exchange. What you want to get rid of can be another's treasure! Everyone please come! It's always fun. Bring a friend or two!!

## Chapter Chat

Dear Chapter Members,

Please remember to complete the 2018 Activities Report that was attached to the October newsletter and submit it at the December Chapter meeting or by email to SRHarvin@msn.com. The report is for your activities January 2018 thru December 2018.

Please also enter your volunteer service hours into the Service to America tally on the DAR online website.

Thanks to everyone for participating in this activity.

Susan

### HOSTESSES NEEDED!

We are in need of hostesses for the following months:

March—need 1

May—need 2

### December dates to remember:

December 7 – Pearl Harbor Day

December 14 – 218th anniversary of the death of George Washington

December 18 – First National Day of Thanksgiving (1777)

24 – Treaty of Ghent signed ending War of 1812 (1814)

December 25 – Christmas Day

December 31 – Official End of WWII (1946)

## SERVICE to AMERICA!

Our Chapter hours donated total as of

December 3, 2018

**1971**

Please remember to log your hours!

[http://services.dar.org/members/committees/  
ServiceToAmerica/](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!

## Chapter Chat, cont.

**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](mailto:sonja.k.johnson@gmail.com)

#### **Plan now to attend the January Meeting**

January 10th at 7pm

DNA & DAR

Speaker Elizabeth Ernst

Mary Washington House

1200 Charles Street

Hostess: Donna Sayre and Myra  
Wiggins

Please bring the following to  
every meeting:

- Box tops
- Ink Cartridges
- Coupons
- Coke bottle caps

#### **December**

Betty Brunton	7th
Christine Whelan	9th
Virginia Storage	11th
Linda Tague	11th
Sharon Patrick	15th
Arabella Tallman	16th
Joyce Matherly	17th
Elizabeth Caplan	29th
Donna Sayre	30th

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**



Arriving at Christmastide you will be welcomed in the Visitor Center with refreshments, live music, and Santa Claus! Don't miss the special exhibit featuring vintage holiday cards. On your way to the Great House stop by the Gift Shop to do some holiday shopping and sample our delicious hot chocolate. Before entering the Great House make sure to walk around the historic area to view the greenery and wreaths decorating the outbuildings. In the Great House you'll find live music, greenery, and a stunning Christmas tree in the Great Hall. Interpreters will be located throughout the Great House to share information about how the holidays have been celebrated at Stratford Hall over the years. Throughout the rooms in the Great House you'll see signs of the holidays being celebrated with parlor games, punch, chestnut roasters and more. On the ground floor of the Great House, stories of how the enslaved celebrated during the holiday season will be shared.

After exiting the Great House make sure to stop by the historic kitchen to see culinary historian B.L. Trahos prepping a holiday meal, take a trip around the oval on our festive wagon ride, or stop by the bonfire to make a yuletide wish by throwing a sprig of holly into the fire.

Christmastide will take place from 4:30 pm to 8:30 pm on Saturday, December 8. Don't miss this one-of-a-kind opportunity to view the Great House decorated for the holidays!

Naturalization ceremony will be held on December 20th at 2 p.m. in the Alexandria courthouse.

Please do not bring any electronic equipment including fitness trackers



## Chapter—Participation

### FOTR is Adopting—A—Classroom for the 2018-2019 School Year

Moncure PTO is promoting the Adopt-A-Classroom (AAC) program as a quick and easy way to raise funds for our teachers. Over the years we have raised thousands of dollars using this program! Please help your child's individual class reach their \$250.00 goal by donating.

#### How the Program Works

Every cent that you give goes directly to your child's classroom. Every teacher in our school is registered with the AAC system. The money is kept in an individual account on the AAC site for your teacher to log into and spend on educational supplies as he/she sees fit! If a particular item is not there, Adopt-A-Classroom will help locate it for him/her. It's as easy as that! Once your teacher has made a purchase you will be notified via email (if you donate online) or a report will be sent home.

You are welcome to donate online at [www.adoptaclassroom.org](http://www.adoptaclassroom.org) (minimum \$25.00 donation online only) or send a check into school. Please make checks payable to: Adopt-A-Classroom; write the name of the teacher in the memo line and send back to school.

Or you can give your tax-deductible donation to Amy Stromberg at the December 13th Holiday Meeting.

If you have any questions, please email: [amystromberg@rocketmail.com](mailto:amystromberg@rocketmail.com)

A teacher takes  
a *Hand*, opens  
a *Mind* and  
touches a *Heart*



# President General's Message

December 2018

Dear Daughters,

What is it about this time of year that makes us hopeful, excited, stressed and melancholy all at the same time? I am not alone in loving the opportunity to be with my family, friends and neighbors. But sometimes the expectations and realities are not the same, so we squelch our hopes and temper our dreams and try to make the best of every circumstance. It may sound like Pollyanna, but I encourage you to concentrate on the reason we do this year after year. One day there will certainly be peace, love and joy. I hope it is this year.

Here at 1776 D Street Northwest, we are decked out. Stockings are hung by the fireplace, trees are beautifully decorated, wreaths adorn the columns on 17th and 18th streets, lights are bright and the Christmas Open House\* is drawing near. We will have a Santa for the children, carolers, a string quartet, hot cocoa and cider, cookies and many visitors. If you have never seen Headquarters this time of year, I encourage you to visit. Our buildings are beautiful anytime, but in December it feels as though it is at its best. The Open House is December 5, from 5:30-8:00 pm.

Another part of the building that might be overlooked is the redesigned Kansas Chapel.\* This lovely space was located at the back of the museum gallery. It still is! Only now the entrance is from the north hall of the administration building. The Kansas Daughters and our staff have done a wonderful job transforming the area to encourage prayer and meditation. The decorations are simple, yet elegant all at the same time. At Christmas, an unusual crèche is on the altar. It was created from wheat by a Kansas artist. Other furniture and decorative pieces were also crafted by Kansas artists, including a stained glass depiction of George Washington praying at Valley Forge.

The Genealogy Staff has made significant progress in the past few weeks in reducing the turn-around time for the approval of new applications. Earlier in the year we experienced changes in the staff as well as some vacancies. New genealogists have been hired and we will add three additional members in 2019. They are working overtime and are delaying some of the various projects on which they were working. I am always impressed with the dedication of the entire staff here at Headquarters.

You can make your reservations at the Grand Hyatt Hotel\* for the 128th Continental Congress beginning December 10. Plan to join us June 26-30 for the annual convention and celebrate all of your accomplishments. You will be inspired by the energy of Daughters from around the world and be ready to take that excitement back to your own chapter. When the combined work of chapters everywhere is showcased, it is truly remarkable. You make such a difference.

If you are not receiving the Today's DAR Blog via email, you are encouraged to subscribe and read all of the posts. It is a great way to stay up to date on news from National Headquarters. Another way to find out what's happening is to subscribe to the American Spirit magazine and Daughters newsletter. Be sure to check the Members' Section of the DAR website often for members' announcements.

May this month be filled with every good gift,

Ann Turner Dillon

President General



## Fredericksburg Events

### 32nd Annual Gingerbread House Contest and Exhibit

George Washington's Ferry Farm  
December 2-30  
(Closed December 24 and 25)

A long-standing holiday tradition! Adults and children alike will enjoy the sights and smells of the festive creations displayed at George Washington's Ferry Farm!



This year's theme is "Cartoon Adventures."

Hours: Monday - Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.; Sunday 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
General admission to Ferry Farm and the exhibit: \$9 adults, \$4.50 students, under 6 free.

### A Wee Christmas - Dollhouses and Miniatures Show

Historic Kenmore  
December 2-30  
(Closed December 24 and 25)

Visit Kenmore this holiday season for an exhibit of highly detailed, replica dollhouses - including the mansion - and miniatures in the Crowninshield Museum Building. Share memories of your dollhouse with your family as you explore life in miniature! Put your mind and eye to the test with our "I Spy Miniatures" challenge - fun for young and old alike!



Hours: Monday - Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.; Sunday 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Admission to Kenmore and exhibit: \$12 adults, \$6 students, under 6 free.  
Exhibit only: \$6 adults, \$3 students, under 6 free

Please consider loaning your treasure for this show! Email [sherman@gwffoundation.org](mailto:sherman@gwffoundation.org) or call 540-373-3381 x17 for more information.

## DAR Museum Events

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

12:00-1:00

Free, drop-in. Get your free ticket

**Tuesday Talk: Let's Get Visual: Portraits from the DAR Museum Collection**

Portraits tell the lives of ordinary people and famous Americans. This lecture will look at some of the names, faces, and stories behind the portraits in the DAR Museum Collection. This closer look at portraits examines how they connect us to American culture and includes an observation of the symbolism found in different images.

Speaker: William Strollo, Curator of Exhibitions



## Book of the Month

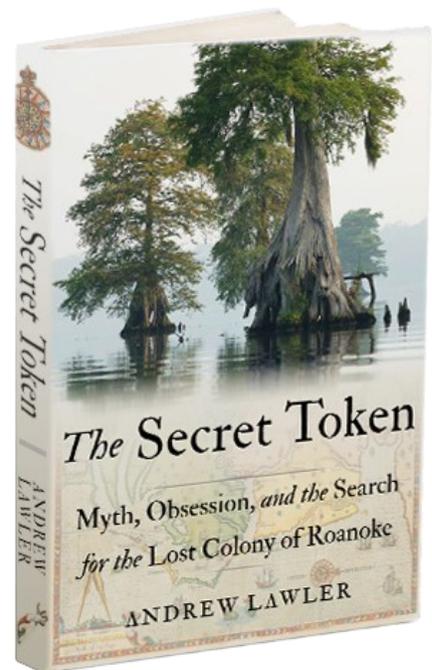
This month's book has been recommended by Donna Courtney.

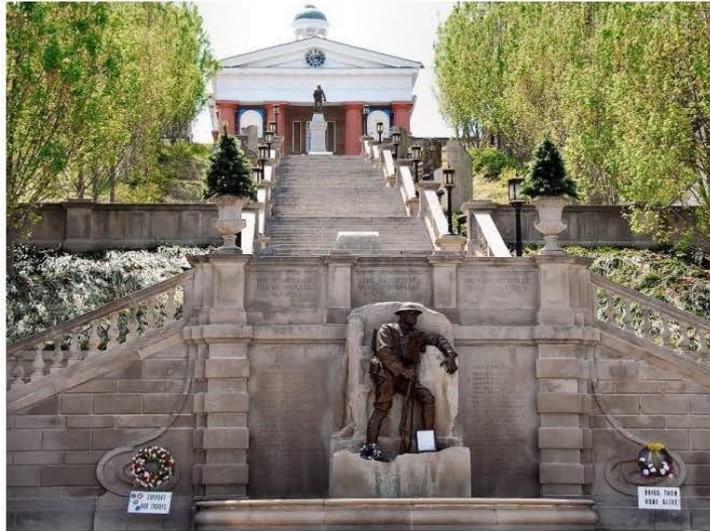
**"The Secret Token"** by Andrew Lawler

In 1587, 115 men, women, and children arrived at Roanoke Island on the coast of North Carolina to establish the first English colony in the New World. But when its leader returned to Roanoke from a resupply mission, the settlers had vanished, leaving behind only a single clue—a "secret token" etched into a tree.

**What happened to the colonists?** That question has consumed historians, archeologists, and amateur sleuths ever since. In *The Secret Token*, Andrew Lawler sets out on a quest to determine the fate of the settlers, finding fresh leads as he encounters a host of characters obsessed with resolving the enigma. In the course of his journey, Lawler also discovers how the Lost Colony came to haunt our national consciousness.

Incisive and absorbing, *The Secret Token* offers a new understanding not just of the Lost Colony and its fate, but of how its absence continues to define—and divide—America.





*Monument Terrace - Lynchburg*

*Please Hold the Date:*

*Lynchburg Chapter, NSDAR  
110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration*

*Sunday, April 7, 2019  
2-4 p.m.*

*Ploughcroft Tea Room  
1215 Commerce Street, Lynchburg, VA 24504*

*A Formal Invitation Will Be Forthcoming*

*Susan Reeves, Regent  
omasuziruth@comcast.net*