



**January 2016**

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# *Falls of the Rappahannock*

## *Chapter NSDAR*



### **February Chapter Meeting**

The upcoming Chapter meeting will be on Thursday, February 11, 7pm at St. Matthias United Methodist Church, 426 Deacon Road, Fredericksburg. The program will be **Social Media** by Alicia Hillmer and **Women's Safety** by Heather Marshall.

### **Directions to Meeting**

From Stafford, take US 1 south to Falmouth and take a left onto Butler Rd. Go about 1.5 miles and turn left onto Deacon Rd. Follow Deacon Rd. about 2 miles and take a right onto Edwards Dr. The St. Matthias parking lot entrance is the first right.

From upper William Street in Fredericksburg, take the Blue-Gray Highway across the river to Stafford County. Take a left onto Route 3 West (Kings Hwy) and then at the second light turn right onto Cool Springs Road. At the next light Cool Springs Rd. becomes Deacon Rd. Follow about 2 miles then turn right onto

# CHAPTER CHAT

## CELEBRATE AMERICA!

Our Chapter 2015 hours donated total as of  
December 31

**7154**

2014 Hours 2,406

2013 Hours 4,608

**Please remember to log your hours!**

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

The Celebrate America! Committee encourages community service by our members on all levels as a means of honoring our heritage.



## NEW / PROSPECTIVE MEMBER ORIENTATION TEA

This was truly a fun and inspiring day! We had over 30 women come out to enjoy fellowship and learn about the DAR. Our Virginia State Regent and FOTR Associate Member, Ginnie Storage, was in attendance and spoke briefly on the DAR and her State Regent's Project. She also spoke on State Conference and encouraged our new and prospective members to attend. Will write more in next month's newsletter.

**Ladies, WE ROCK!!!** Our Celebrate America hours were out the window. We will continue to log hours at least through July. I'm not sure if we will continue after that or not. This was a committee under President Young's administration. We will keep you posted.

**February**

Erika deBroekert



For this page in the newsletter, I need you to keep me up to date on happenings. If there is something you would like to share send me an email or text. If I don't know about it I can't share it.

## DAR LIBRARY NEWS

### **GENEALOGY 101 at the DAR LIBRARY**

#### **The Genealogical Genome: DNA Research**

**February 27, 2016 10AM**

Presented by Tom Ragusin, Genealogist, NSDAR

What can your DNA tell you about your family tree? This class will be all about the expectations you may have about what your DNA can tell you and which company may be right for you. Ancestry.com, 23 and Me, and Family Tree DNA kits will all be compared based on the results received after testing on one individual. Please register at <http://darFeb27.eventbrite.com>

HELD IN THE O'BYRNE GALLERY ADJACENT TO THE DAR LIBRARY AT 10AM

### **Library Author Talk: "Suffrage Prisoners at the Occoquan Workhouse" Lecture by Professor Alice Reagan. February 20 at 1 pm**

Starting January 10, 1917, the National Woman's Party's Silent Sentinels started protesting for a women's right to vote outside the White House. The president at the time was Woodrow Wilson, and America was on the brink of entering World War I. The Silent Sentinels started getting arrested on charges of disturbing traffic, and were sent to the nearby Occoquan Workhouse in Lorton, Virginia. Once there, they were subjected to beatings, deplorable conditions, force feeding, and other abuses, all for trying to establish equal rights for women. Professor Reagan walks us through that precarious time, the women who were devoted to securing the vote for future generations, and what they went through at the Occoquan Workhouse. Surely, a lecture not to miss. To register please go to <http://daron20.eventbrite.com>

### **Library Author Talk: Love Letters From Mount Rushmore by Richard Cerasani March 19 at 1pm**

On March 19, 2016 the DAR Library welcomes author Richard Cerasani and the sweet love story of his parents, as told through their letters and pictures. *Love Letters from Mount Rushmore* tells the story of Richard Cerasani's father, Arthur, a sculptor on Mount Rushmore from March to September 1940. While Arthur was working in South Dakota on this national memorial, his wife and children were at home in Rochester, New York. Though separated Arthur kept in touch with his wife, Mary, and children through letters that were newly discovered in an old trunk. This correspondence brings out the yearning for family and togetherness, the hope for the future of America, and the unwavering strength of the human spirit as Arthur and others built sixty-foot heads on a mountain top to honor the American leaders of the past. To register please go to <http://daron19.eventbrite.com>

Looking for a Gift for someone? Visit the DAR Online Store at

<http://www.dar.org/dar-shopping/dar-online-store>

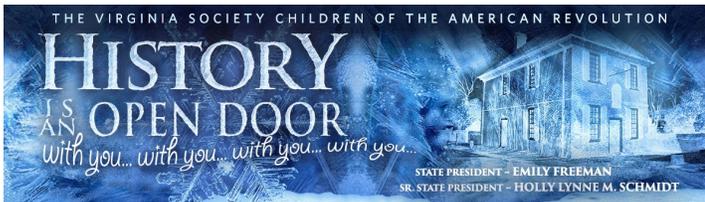
or visit the Museum Shop. They have interesting and unusual gifts for young and old alike. If you can't get there in person, you can visit the Museum Shop Online, by following the link that is on the DAR Online Store, and you can even order by phone. They also sell gift certificates.



## National Theme "Road to Independence"

## National Project "First Oval Office"

The National Project is to raise funds for the "First Oval Office" permanent exhibit at the Museum of the American Revolution. Many places claim that George Washington spent the night, but how many people can say that they have saved, made a home for, and promoted education about the room where General George Washington spent the entire Revolutionary War? We are presented with this unique opportunity!



## Virginia Society Children of the American Revolution (V.S.C.A.R.)

This year the State theme is : *History is an Open Door...With You...With You...With You...With You;*

and we wish to open doors to all the groups and socie-

ties that have an interest in history and

lineage as well as service patriotism...with you C.A.R., with you DAR, with you SAR, and with you S.R.

### ***2015-2016 State Project The Custom House — Yorktown, VA Emily Freeman, V.S.C.A.R. State President***

The new State project is the Custom House in Yorktown. The Custom House is almost 300 years old and needs repairs on a continuing basis. We hope this year to work with all the lineage groups to raise money to repair and repaint the windows in the Custom House and to repair and paint the two dependencies. When the project is complete, not only will we have opened doors to history and the lineage groups, but also, literally, we will open windows, which have been frozen shut in the Custom House. I hope we learn a lot this year and make a lot of friends as we connect with all the societies. The total cost of the project is between \$5,000 and \$7,000.

**V.S.C.A.R. State Conference will be held March 18-20 in Newport News VA. If you would like to attend please let Donna Sayre, Myra Wiggins or Alicia Hillmer know and we will get the information to you**

Falls of the Rappahannock Chapter NSDAR is a sponsoring chapter of the Surgeon Lawrence Brooke Society N.S.C.A.R. C.A.R. needs senior leaders at all levels, but particularly at the local society level. Senior leaders benefit C.A.R. by implementing their knowledge and skills gained from professions and affiliations with other youth programs. Senior leaders mentor, demonstrate, guide, lead and encourage C.A.R. members as they conduct activities. No one really learns Roberts Rules of Order overnight, so conducting meetings accordingly requires some assistance.

**"We mentor and mold tomorrow's leaders."** If you would like to help out please let Donna or Myra know.

## PRESIDENT GENERAL'S MESSAGE February 2016

Dear Daughters,

The month of February begins with the Executive Committee and National Board of Management meetings. This week will be filled with important business, meetings, leadership training workshops and a few special events. I look forward to visiting many State Societies this spring. I am so eager to meet you and to hear about all you are doing to further the mission of the DAR. Plans for the 125<sup>th</sup> Continental Congress are underway and we are so excited to celebrate another historic milestone in our Society's history. Check the Congress section often for important announcements: [www.dar.org/congress](http://www.dar.org/congress).

As winter turns to spring, I hope your chapter will be working with prospective members and encouraging others to join DAR and participating in service projects for [Celebrate America!](#) Two and a half years ago, the Celebrate America! Committee was organized to encourage all DAR members to honor their heritage as we celebrated our 125th Anniversary. We have performed hours of service in communities far and wide. Learn how we are progressing toward our goal here: <http://youngblog.dar.org/celebrate-america-can-we-do-it-time-will-tell>

With the New Year come new programs at the DAR Library! In addition to our annual Lecture Series, the DAR Library is starting Genealogy 101! This will be a series of classes on a variety of genealogical topics. All classes are free to the public, and will be held on Saturday mornings once a month at DAR Headquarters. And I am thrilled to tell you that these presentations will also be available on the DAR Website! See the schedule here: <http://youngblog.dar.org/look-new-2016-genealogy-101-classes>

I am excited to announce that as the grand finale of our Celebrate America! service initiative, we have set an ambitious goal: to literally set a world record in Patriotism! Working with officials at GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS™, DAR is making a formal attempt to set a new record for the "Most letters to military personnel collected in one month." All of these letters must be collected during the week of our 125th Continental Congress. Learn more about how you can contribute to the World Record here: <http://youngblog.dar.org/help-dar-set-world-record-patriotism>

Do you wish you could be in two places at once? The DAR Museum found a way! Now you don't have to come to Headquarters to experience the museum; instead, the museum will come to you. Its [Portable Education Programs \(PEP\)](#) travel across the country to visit schools and chapters! Learn more here: <http://youngblog.dar.org/dar-museum-portable-education-programs>

I want to encourage all members to [subscribe](#) and read all posts on the [Today's DAR Blog](#) and check the members' website often for [members' announcements](#). Chapter Regents can share this information during chapter meetings so those members who don't access the internet can also stay up to date on all the exciting updates. The information that is shared here is important to keeping current on the news of the society.

I hope you find this information interesting, informative and valuable as you fulfill our mission to promote historic preservation, education and patriotism.

Celebrating America!

Lynn F. Young  
President General

## VADAR STATE CONFERENCE

March 11-13, 2016

Richmond Marriott, Richmond VA

If you haven't attended State Conference make this your year! It's informative but also a LOT of fun. The 120th Virginia State Conference will be held at the Richmond Marriott March 11-13, 2016, in Richmond, Virginia. The Opening Night will be highlighted with an address by Denise D. VanBuren, Organizing Secretary General, NSDAR. The State Regent's Conference Theme: "Celebrating Good Women...May We Raise Them."

**If any of our Prospective Members are interested in going as a guest, talk to Donna Sayre.** The only thing you can't do is attend Business Sessions and those are on Saturday. But you are welcome at the Workshops and any of the meals/banquets.

One of the highlights of State Conference is always the Debutante's on Friday evening. These ladies are C.A.R. members who have reached the age to join DAR and are presented to the DAR State Regent. It is something you don't want to miss. Becky Mulder and Jenn Upton have daughters who will Deb at State Conference this year.

You can get more information and forms here: <http://www.vadar.org/membersonly/committees/conference.html> It is a password protected site so ask one of us if you have forgotten the password.

## WHAT IS CONTINENTAL CONGRESS?



Since the founding of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution in 1890, the organization has held Continental Congress, its annual national meeting, in Washington, D.C. National, state and chapter leaders as well as other members from across the world meet at the DAR National Headquarters for a week during the summer to report on the year's work, honor outstanding award recipients, plan future initiatives and reconnect with friends.

Those in attendance include more than 3,000 Daughters representing the membership of 175,000 who hail from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and over a dozen chapters in foreign countries. Since its founding, the DAR has promoted historic preservation, education and patriotism, and those objectives are reflected in all of the events of DAR Continental Congress.

The weeklong convention consists of business sessions, committee meetings, social functions, and formal evening ceremonies. These evening ceremonies, held in the historic DAR Constitution Hall, mix pomp and circumstance with moving award presentations and musical entertainment.

In addition to member awards, student essay winners and scholarship awards, the DAR presents its top national awards at the convention.

**Continental Congress will be held this year June 15-19, 2016.**

Get ready for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity at the 125th Continental Congress: your chance to help set a new GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS™ title! As the grand finale to both the Celebrate America! and Celebrate 125! commemorations, the National Society will be staging an official attempt to set a world record by collecting the **“Most letters to military personnel collected in one month.”** In order to set the GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS™ title, DAR must collect and then mail at least 10,000 letters to active duty service members in one month's time.