



December 2016

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2016-2017**

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Falls of the Rappahannock

Chapter NSDAR



December Chapter Meeting

The upcoming Chapter meeting will be on Thursday, December 8, 7pm at St. Matthias United Methodist Church, 426 Deacon Road, Fredericksburg.

This is our Christmas meeting so bring your ‘white elephant’ gifts wrapped for a fun time. It is also potluck so bring some goodies to share.

Members attending are asked to bring a main dish AND EITHER a dessert OR a salad or vegetable, by this rule: **If your last name starts with A-M, bring a vegetable or salad and a main dish, and if your last name starts with N-Z bring a dessert and a main dish. 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!!**

The first mention that I can find in past newsletters of our Purple Onion exchange is Dec. 1986 which reads “Members are encouraged to bring a wrapped present with them for an end-of-the-meeting swap. Your gift could be a lovely tree ornament, a box of fresh pine cones, a **big purple onion**, a pot holder you made—just be original! Who do you think will bring the most unusual give?”

Thus was born the Annual Purple Onion Gift Exchange!!

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 Edwards Dr. The church parking lot is the first right.

CHAPTER CHAT

DAR JEOPARDY

Don't forget to read up for our December meeting!

We're going to have some fun at our December meeting. To help your team win, make sure you read up! Our program will be based on the **September/October 2012 issue of the American Spirit magazine**, which can be found in the online archives here: http://services.dar.org/members/magazine_archive/download/?file=DARMAG_2012_09-10.pdf . You can download it and read at your leisure. Please let Alicia know if you have any questions!

Alicia Hillmer alicia7183@msn.com 540-287-2787

Naturalization Ceremony

Falls of the Rappahannock Chapter will be **the only chapter participating in the Naturalization Ceremony** on December 15, 2 pm at the Federal Courthouse in Alexandria, VA. Please contact Regent Susan Harvin 540-379-6184 or Donna Sayre 540-659-3830 if you could go.



Susan has asked that you please bring the 'pink sheets' that were given out earlier this year to help you keep track of your committee work, volunteer information and hours. This will be very helpful for us in doing the end of year reports.

If you do not have one, I have attached it to the email with the newsletter.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

December

Betty Brunton	7th
Christine Whelan	9th
Ginnie Storage	11th
Arabella Tallman	16th
Joycew Matherly	17th
Isabel Swift	25th
Donna Sayre	30th

Can't make a meeting? You can still participate!

On a trial basis, we are going to broadcast the chapter meetings for those who are geographically unable to attend as well as to those who are unable to make the drive in. We can have up to 1,000 participants, so no need to sign up.

For Audio: Conference call line: 641-715-0700

Access code: 664761

For video: <https://join.freeconferencecall.com/fotr>

Please let Alicia know if you have any questions. Alicia Hillmer alicia7183@msn.com 540-287-2787



Join us for the **15th Annual DAR Christmas Open House** on **Wednesday, December 7 from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m.** at DAR Headquarters, 17th and D Streets NW, Washington, D.C.

Spread the word to your friends and family – the event is **FREE** and **ALL ARE INVITED!** We particularly love introducing our building to those in the public who have never visited before, so please share this invite with those in your local community.



DAR Open House highlights include:

- In the spirit of the giving season, help us to help those less fortunate. Visitors are encouraged to bring new and lightly used children's books to donate to our DAR Open House book drive.
- Visit the National Christmas Tree across the street at the Ellipse then get out of the cold and join us for refreshments, cookies and a taste of history
- Experience the elegance and Christmas splendor of [Memorial Continental Hall](#), a Registered Historic Landmark
- Tour our [31 period rooms](#) depicting scenes of early American life, including some which will be decorated in historic holiday settings.
- Visitors touring the period rooms this year can also enjoy a special DAR Museum costume exhibit, “[An Agreeable Tyrant: Fashion after the Revolution](#).” The exhibition displays men’s and women’s clothing from 1780 to 1825 in a dozen period rooms throughout the DAR’s historic Memorial Continental Hall.
- View other smaller exhibitions on historic Revolutionary War documents as well as famous DAR members
- Enjoy Christmas music, including caroling from area choirs.
- Have a chance to win DAR door prizes
- Get a head start on Christmas shopping at the [Museum Shop](#) and [DAR Store](#)

For Kids—Santa is taking time out of his busy schedule to attend the Open House. Coloring books and crayons will be given out to children.

For more information about the event, visit the DAR Website at <http://www.dar.org/national-society/about-dar/open-house>

. For questions, email openhouse@dar.org or call (202) 573-0563.

DAR Wish Lists

The items on the Wish List directly help NSDAR achieve our mission. Your support of the items on this list allows us to honor, learn from, and preserve the past for future generations.

Funding these items helps us conserve objects in the [DAR Museum](#)’s extensive collection, acquire important texts for the [DAR Library](#) and Museum Library, reach out to people of all ages through educational programming, and keep our historic [National Headquarters](#) up and running.
<http://www.dar.org/giving/dar-wishlist>

Thank you for supporting the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution

State Regent to Visit

Mark your calendars! **Saturday, April 8, 2017.** We will be joining with other area chapters to host a visit by State Regent Judy Surber. The meeting will be at the Fredericksburg Country Club. As more details become available they will be included in the newsletter.

As you know, our April meeting is usually our Youth Recognition meeting on a Saturday. We want to encourage you to attend the State Regent's visit so we have moved our Youth Recognition meeting to our normal second Thursday night which will be April 13, at St. Matthias United Methodist Church.

I know these meetings are just a few days apart, but I encourage you to mark your calendars and try to attend BOTH. You will be enriched by meeting members from other area chapters, and April is the month we vote on our new officers so we need you to be at the regular meeting as well.

Thank you for all your support!

DAR Schools Clothing Donations

Donna will be sending clothes to the DAR schools soon. If you have anything to donate, please bring it to the meeting this week.

SERVICE TO AMERICA!

Our Chapter 2016 hours donated total as of
December 4

260

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.

Sonja Johnson will tell us a bit about District V Chapters, Cameron Parish and Dr. Elisah Dick.

District V Chapter Names—please volunteer to research a couple

While trying to plan our programs for this year, one of the things we thought would be interesting is to have a chapter member research and present a very brief history of the name for the other 27 chapters in District V. Susan felt, and we agreed, that it might give us more of a feeling of being connected.

Who was Dr. Elisha Dick? Where was Overwharton Parish? What were the Prince William Resolves? These are just a few of the more interesting names in our District.

There will be a sign up sheet at the meetings for members to pick a chapter they would like to learn more about. We will plan to do 2-3 per month and I will put your research in the newsletter the month following the meeting in which it was discussed.

President General's Message December 2016

Dear Daughters,

As we approach this season of holidays, I wish you all the blessings that one expects and none of the stress that one fears. May you find peace, rest and hope going into this year's end and next year's beginning.

The [15th annual DAR Christmas Open House](#) will welcome the public to our beautiful buildings for cookies, hot cocoa, a visit with Santa and a lot of holiday music and cheer. The building is beautifully decorated for the season. Garlands drape over the Library balcony, wreaths adorn the columns of the building, and a stately tree stands in the Pennsylvania Foyer decorated with unique ornaments, many fashioned by my own chapter member, Heather Siders. Numerous volunteers and staff members coordinate to make Headquarters festive and to make the Open House successful. A sincere appreciation is expressed to everyone who has given so much time and energy to make it happen. Learn more here: www.dar.org/openhouse.



As you are planning for the holidays and the end of the year, please keep in mind that DAR Headquarters will be closed for an extended time, from Saturday, December 24 through Sunday, January 1. DAR Headquarters will reopen on Monday, January 2. Be sure to conduct all your business with Headquarters (and get in your end of the year donations!) by Friday, December 23. Learn more here: <http://www.dar.org/national-society/media-center/news-releases/dar-headquarters-holiday-closures-and-year-end-giving>.

In just ten years, America will commemorate its 250th birthday! The nonprofit organization [USA250](#) has been created to organize, advocate, promote and coordinate celebration planning for the 250th anniversary and we are excited to be building a relationship with them. The National Society has established its own America 250! Committee to plan and execute our participation in this national celebration. We are in the initial stages but anticipate our celebration to begin with the Boston Tea Party of 1773 (i.e. 2023) through the Treaty of Paris in 1783 (i.e. 2033) Learn more here: <http://blog.dar.org/preparations-americas-250th-birthday-2026>.

Speaking of anniversaries and commemorations, I am also pleased to announce the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution is a Partner Organization with the United States World War One Centennial Commission. The Commission was established to commemorate the war through various programs, projects and activities. Learn more about what DAR did during WWI and what your chapter can do to get involved with the Commission: <http://blog.dar.org/world-war-one-centennial>.

If you are not receiving Today's DAR Blog regularly, you are encouraged to subscribe and read all of the posts. It is a great way to stay in touch with your 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 website often for [members' announcements](#). As the National Society has become more and more electronically focused, it is important for Chapter Regents to share online information during chapter meetings so those who do not access the internet can also stay current with all the exciting updates. The most current information is shared online and it is important to keep current on the news of the Society through the website.

May this season fill you with joy and may we continue to serve our communities by fulfilling our founders' vision to promote historic preservation, education and patriotism.

Moving Forward in Service to America,

Ann T. Dillon
President General

CONSERVATION

RESPECTING OUR PLANET

keeping it green

While No nonsense style is part of our very dcore, we are also committer to innovation and respecting the environment. Oujr pantyhose recycling program was the first of its kind.

Why recycle tights and pantyhose?

Pantyhose and tights are an integral accessory to the modern woman's on-the-go lifestyle. But have you thought about what happens to those stockings and hosiery once they go in the garbage? The same Nylon/Spandex blends that make legs look so firm and smooth are also the same materials that when placed in a landfill, will take 30-40 years to decompose. Pantyhose is made predominantly from Nylon, which is the first invented synthetic fiber ever created that is a non-biodegradable material. And since the hosiery industry is topping the \$1 billion mark in revenues, it is important that we take the opportunity to explore alternative solutions, beyond simply throwing our old stockings in the trash. While we love the way sheer hosiery and our stylish tights look on legs, we're not as thrilled to see them in landfills. At No nonsense, we're happy to announce the first pantyhose and tights recycling program. It's a step toward a greener planet, and one that you can help us take.

There's now life after legs.

Yes, we know people have found some inventive purposes for used pantyhose. Gardeners use them to tie tomato plants to stakes. And, of course, they make really scary Halloween masks. But used pantyhose (and even tights) can be turned into things such as running tracks, park benches, vehicle insulation, playground equipment and toys. The possibilities are endless. Who knew? As if transforming a pair of legs wasn't enough!

The No nonsense Pantyhose Recycling Program

No Nonsense has developed the first pantyhose recycling program that repurposes those materials and turns them into infrastructure such as park benches, running tracks, car insulation, and playground equipment. Children's toys can also be generated through this solution, furthering the incentive to be proactive when it comes to the pantyhose recycling program.

How do you take this step with us?

It's simple. First download a [mailing label](#). Now go round up your tights, pantyhose, nylon knee highs and box them up. We'll accept all brands. Take your box to the nearest shipping location and send it on its way. We'll collect all the products in one of our North Carolina plants and send it all to a recycling facility. Since stockings and hosiery are so lightweight, shipping a package of pantyhose will be inexpensive, and you will feel good, knowing that you are doing your part to offset your carbon footprint when you participate in the pantyhose recycling program.

Encourage Friends, Family and Your Community to Recycle Pantyhose

In an effort to increase awareness and to further offset the environmental impact of nonbiodegradable materials in landfills, it is always good practice to incorporate your friends and family into the pantyhose recycling program. By bringing awareness to your community and social sphere, you can exponentially increase your contribution to making this a much greener planet. Establish a place that your friends and associates can rely on to deposit their worn and tattered pantyhose. The impact may seem small at first, but every pair that you help to recycle is one less pair that's left to decompose in a stagnant landfill.

Packing tips

A single box costs less than several small boxes | A sturdy box prevents crushing | No need to place hosiery within a plastic bag inside the box.

Shipping options

USPS now offers Priority Flat Rate boxes and shipping. Check out their website for rates and options, or call 800-ASK-USPS for help. If using FedEx or UPS, choose Ground Service and check that you're mailing to a business for lower rates. Visit their websites or call FedEx 800-463-3339 or UPS 800-742-5877 for help.

Thanks for your help taking steps toward a better planet.

If you cannot attend on Dec. 16 but would like to contribute items please bring them to December FOTR meeting and Susan will arrange to deliver them.

• DAR SERVICE FOR VETERANS •

HOLIDAY GIFTS FOR THE AFRH

The John Alexander Chapter, NSDAR, looks forward to continuing our tradition of collecting **holiday cheer** for our Veterans who live at the Armed Forces Retirement Home.

THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY WILL BE
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16TH FROM 12:15 – 3:15 PM
AT THE AFRH, OFF NORTH CAPITOL ST IN DC

We will need people to bring desserts (both sugar and sugar-free) and help serve. RSVP at Johnalexandernsdar@gmail.com

TO ARRANGE A DONATION DROP-OFF

Email Amanda Murphy at amurphy02@gmail.com

Deadline for drop-off is December 1!

WISH LIST THIS YEAR:

• **SNACKS & BEVERAGES** •

Canned soda, chips, packaged cookies, candy (regular & sugar-free)

• **WRAPPING PAPER** •

• **HOLIDAY GIFTS** •

New clothing for men or women (e.g. robes, scarves, hats, gloves, socks, slippers, pajamas, sweaters, sweatpants, sweatshirts); jigsaw puzzles; word search books (regular and large print); throw blankets; large print books; toiletries, cologne/perfume; newer release DVDs; and cards/games/wood crafts

Please all gifts unwrapped.



The 75th Anniversary of the Attack on Pearl Harbor

Written By Mary Ellen Smith, National Vice Chair, 75th Anniversary of the Attack on Pearl Harbor

In Honolulu, final preparations are being made for the 75th Anniversary of the Attack on Pearl Harbor on Wednesday. This event is significant in American History because the surprise early morning aerial attack on December 7, 1941 killed or wounded 3400+ American service personnel, sunk or damaged 8 battleships, and destroyed hundreds of planes at nearby bases. After “this Day of Infamy” as President Franklin Roosevelt called it, the then neutral US Congress declared war on Japan with only one dissenting vote, and several days later, on its Axis partners Germany and Italy.

The 75th Anniversary of this event is especially poignant as it is likely to be the last commemoration to be attended by actual survivors of the event. The few remaining men are now in their mid-nineties. One who attended last year was age 102. The community will host numerous public and private events for survivors and their families, WWII veterans and the public.

Visit the Commemorative Events Committee page in the Members’ Section of the DAR website for information about the various events that will be held. These include band performances, tributes, commemorations, sunset memorials, movies on the beach, harbor tours, block parties and the interment of 2 recently deceased survivors at the USS Arizona site.

While most may be able to catch glimpses of some of these events on national news broadcasts, there will be live stream of the actual 75th National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day Commemoration. You may view the live stream on Wednesday, December 7th at 7:45 AM (Hawaii Standard Time) NOTE: This would be 9:45 AM PST and 12:45 PM EST:

This live feed of the 75th Annual Ceremony will have narration and TV hosts and will be on air 2 hours prior to the actual Remembrance Ceremony and will include historical footage of the attack and its aftermath:
<http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/pearlharbor>

The live feed of the 75th Annual Ceremony without hosts can be found on the official Pearl Harbor 75th Anniversary site here: <http://pearlharbor75thanniversary.com/live-feed/>

Upcoming Events Around Us

DAR Library - For those who are unable to travel to Washington DC, these lectures are available online also.

December 10, 2016, 1 pm. **Abductions in the American Revolution** by Christian M. McBurney
Please join the DAR Library for a free lecture with Christian M. McBurney, author of *Abductions in the American Revolution: Attempts to Kidnap George Washington, Benedict Arnold and Other Military and Civilian Leaders*.
To register please go to: <http://dardec10.eventbrite.com>

December 17, 2016, 10am. **Genealogy 101 - An Ocean Away: Immigration Records**
From sea to shining sea people flocked to America and continue to do so. In this class we will be going through the records kept on those folks flowing into America through time. You will be learning about what records were kept and where you can find records on your first American ancestors! Please register at <http://darDec17.eventbrite.com>
HELD IN THE O'BYRNE GALLERY ADJACENT TO THE DAR LIBRARY

Library of Virginia

Library of Virginia Reading Rooms to Close on Saturdays and Mondays Effective November 14
The reading rooms of the Library of Virginia will be closed on Saturdays and Mondays starting November 14, 2016. The move is a result of the drop in recent revenue projections, which led to Governor McAuliffe reducing the operating budgets for executive agencies by 5 percent for the current fiscal year. The Library had no option but to turn to staff cuts to absorb the 5 percent operating budget reduction. With the loss of 18 employees, the Library is unable to keep the reading rooms open six days a week. Effective November 14, 2016, the reading rooms will be open Tuesday through Friday from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM. For more see www.lva.virginia.gov/news/newsletter/stories/2016_11-november.asp#news1

Central Rappahannock Regional Library

Dec 14, 5:30-7pm Headquarters- **Colonial Christmas Open House**—Celebrate Christmas as they did in Colonial America with crafts, games and refreshments. Special guests include: Washington Heritage Museums, The George Washington Foundation, James Monroe Museum, Patowomeck Indian Tribe and Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Park. All ages. Drop in.