



Falls of the Rappahannock Chapter NSDAR



Chapter Officers: 2024 -2025

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Chapter Website:
www.fotrDAR.org

State website:
VirginiaDAR.org/members
(requires password)

National Website:
Members.dar.org
(requires password)



April 10, 2025

Ebenezer Methodist Church

Awards Banquet

6:00 Set Up

6:30 Meeting/Elections

7:00 Awards

Please bring a appetizer or dessert

Regent's Corner

Happy Spring!

Hopefully the longer days and warmer weather let you get outside to enjoy all the beautiful flowers emerging from the ground. I even ventured into DC to enjoy the Cherry Trees along the Tidal Basin. It is always a beautiful site.

Several of the chapter members enjoyed a great state conference in Williamsburg in March. The Friday night opening banquet had a visit from Martha Washington and she was one of the best historical re-enactors I have ever seen. We learned about her first marriage to Daniel Parke Custis and how she had to convince her future father-in-law that she would be a suitable wife to his son (who was 20 years older). Humorous, engaging, and knowledgeable she also spoke about how neighbors introduced her to the future first president of the United States, George Washington.

State Regent Laurie Nesbitt presided over her last state conference and we heard about all the projects Virginia daughters have been busy working on over the past year. Saturday night brought The President General Pamela Rouse Wright introduced by Virginia daughter First Vice President General Virginia Storage who spoke on "DAR Service and Friendship." Then we heard from the Regents of the 125 Virginia chapters on their best accomplishment of the year. Virginia Daughters have accomplished so much!! Our chapter received 3 awards during the Awards luncheon including "Supporting Units Overseas," "Superior Support of the National Defense Committee," and "Largest Monetary Donation to Seimes Technology Center" and I am sure we will receive a few more when our District Director hands out the rest of the awards.

I will be returning to Glacier NP for a five month seasonal position. I leave you in the capable hands of Vice Regent Pam Childs and our next Vice Regent Rachel Dowling as well as our fabulous board. There is a lot of work to run the chapter that goes on behind the scenes and I would like to thank each of the board for their hard work and dedication to DAR. It takes a great team to accomplish so much and Falls of the Rappahannock definitely has that!

At our April meeting we have our annual Youth Awards and also this year two community awards. **Please arrive at 6:30** so we can vote for next year's board and elect delegates to Continental Congress before the awards presentation.

As always, if you have a project, field trip, service organization, etc., that you would like our chapter to support, please let me or another board member know. We are always looking for new ways to support the DAR pillars of historic preservation, education and patriotism.

Continue to sparkle in DAR Service,
Tracy

April 1, 2025

Dear Daughters,

President General's Message

It's hard to believe April is already upon us! I recently visited our Headquarters in Washington, DC, to find the beautiful cherry blossoms in full bloom. Spring also brings many opportunities for DAR across the country and we hope that you will seek out ways to get involved with historic preservation, education, and patriotism in your local community.

April marks a special commemoration in the runup to America's sesquicentennial: the 250th anniversary of the Battles of Lexington and Concord. Known colloquially as the "shot heard around the world," these battles were the Revolutionary War's first armed conflict. Though outnumbered, Massachusetts militias successfully countered the British Redcoats. During the battles, 49 American Patriots were killed. The America 250! Committee is Celebrating Massachusetts from 14-15 April for its role in the success of the American Revolution. The celebration will feature a candlelight tour in Boston, historic sites visits in Lexington and Concord just days before the 250th anniversary of those first armed conflicts, an America 250 Patriots Marker dedication, wreath laying and more. From May 9-10, the America 250! Committee will Celebrate New York with a visit to Fort Ticonderoga.

Last week we were thrilled to unveil a new DAR Museum exhibition titled "Fighting for Freedom: Black Craftspeople and the Pursuit of Independence." On display from March 29 – December 31, 2025, this new exhibition highlights the creations, contributions, and legacies of African Americans as they fought for freedom. "Fighting for Freedom" spans the war years of the American Revolution through the present, and encompasses various mediums such as furniture, metals, ceramics, textiles, art, tools, and personal accessories. The exhibit will be accompanied by a variety of educational programs, including monthly virtual lectures, weekly family craft activities, and an annual symposium. Details can be found on the [museum page](#) on the DAR website.

From 5-7 May, we will host our annual DAR Genealogical Research Institute at our Headquarters in DC. Master class lectures will be presented by Stephen J. Little, Jr - AI Program Director for the National Genealogical Society (NGS), Judy Russell, JD, CG, CGL aka *The Legal Genealogist*, and Library of Congress Reference Librarians Heather Thomas and A J Aiséirthe. Attendees choose from a total offering of 18 DAR genealogy sessions on topics ranging from how to resolve the challenge of different Patriots living in the same place to techniques for researching female ancestors. We hope our genies have a wonderful time and consider sharing what they have learned when they return to their home chapters!

Finally, we hope you are ready to SPARKLE as we **Celebrate Stars and Stripes Forever!** at the 134th Continental Congress in June. Pre-registration will open on April 15th and runs through June 1st. We look forward to welcoming all members to our newly restored Memorial Continental Hall! Please check the [Congress Website](#) for featured events and the most up-to-date information.

Whether your passion is history, genealogy, or working in nature, we, as Daughters, are witness to an incredible moment in American history. As we commemorate 250 years of freedom, we each have a unique role to play in promoting patriotism, freedom, and honoring the sacrifices that our Patriot ancestors fought so hard to secure. Thank you so much for all you do for the National Society.

Let us Rejoice in our DAR Ties of Service and Friendship!

Pamela Rouse Wright
President General





State Regents' Tea

Please join us in honoring State Regent Laurie Nesbitt



• 31st •
May

• 10:00 •
AM

• **Fawn Lake Country Club** •
11305 Longstreet Drive
Spotsylvania, VA

Electronic Call will go out. •

Please register when you receive the call in your email.

American Indians Minute

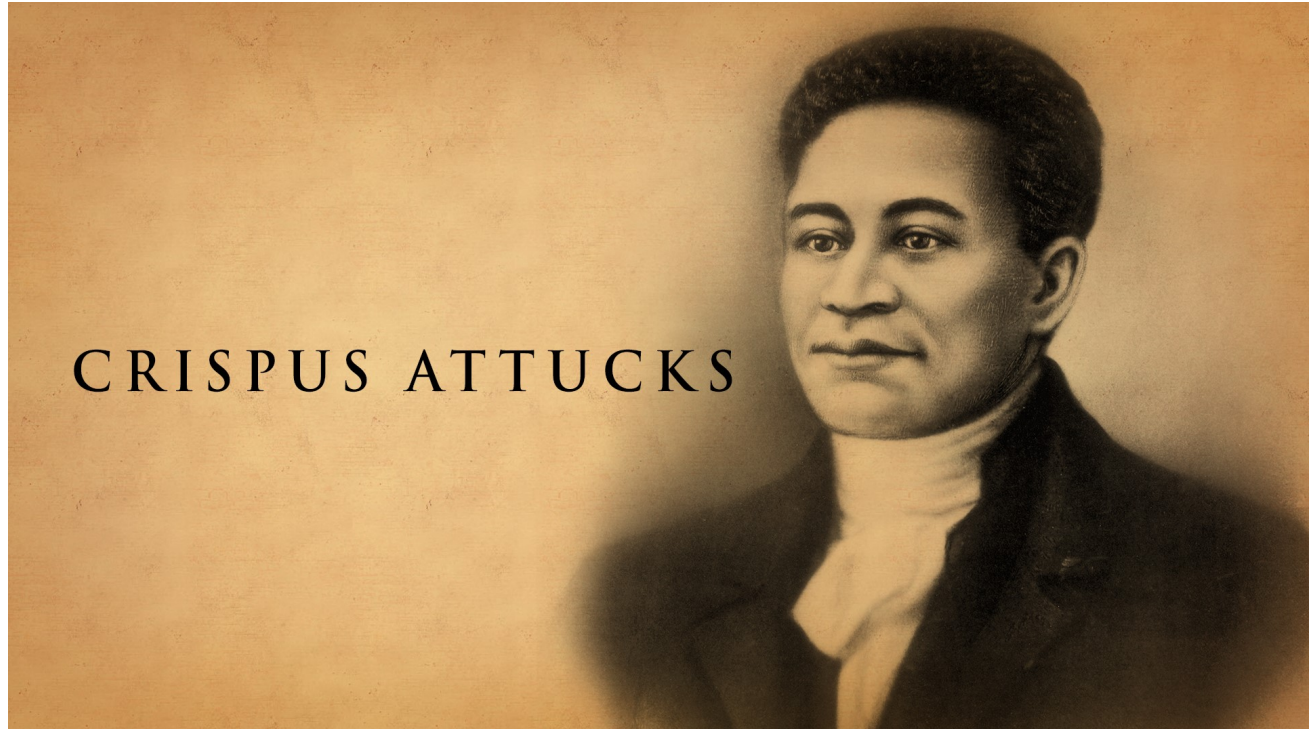
Crispus Attucks was an American whaler, sailor, and stevedore of African and Native American descent, who is traditionally regarded as the first person killed in the Boston Massacre, and as a result the first American killed in the American Revolution.

While he is widely remembered as the first American casualty of the American Revolutionary War, 11-year-old Christopher Seider was shot a few weeks earlier by customs officer Ebenezer Richardson on February 22, 1770. Historians disagree on whether Attucks was a free man or an escaped slave, but most agree that he was of Wampanoag and African descent.

Two major sources of eyewitness testimony about the Boston Massacre published in 1770 did not refer to him as black or as a Negro; it appears he was instead viewed by Bostonians as being of mixed ethnicity.

According to a contemporaneous account in the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, he was a "Mulattoe man, named Crispus Attucks, who was born in Framingham, but lately belonged to New Providence, and was here in order to go for North Carolina."

Attucks became an icon of the antislavery movement in the mid-19th century. Supporters of the abolition movement lauded him for playing a heroic role in the history of the United States.



LAFAYETTE MINUTES

Lafayette, whether a youthful major general or the Nation's Guest, was a man of honor.

He always spoke with respect to everyone: Congressman, soldier, servant or slave. He was known to ask Washington's slave cook, Hannah Till, to instruct him with his English. Imagine, a French Nobleman asking a slave for help.



Years later when he was making his Grand Farewell Tour of America in 1824, upon hearing that Hannah was to be evicted from her home in Philadelphia for want of payment of her mortgage, he would pay it in full.

He also never forgot a person or their accomplished deed so there were many a humble soldier and slave for whom Lafayette purposely stopped his carriage to embrace, often tearfully, during his Farewell Tour. He strongly opposed slavery and discussed it often with all of the Founding Fathers...minus John Adams who agreed.

And as you may all know, Washington was the only Founding Farther to eventually free his slaves. He ordered it to be done in his revised will, signed in June, 1799, 6 months before his death.

Many believe that he did so in a desire to please his "adopted son," Gilbert Lafayette. And it was this same tearful Lafayette who visited his "adopted father's" grave at Mt. Vernon on his Farewell Tour to America in both 1824 and 1825



Committee Reports

Insignia Minute -Susan Harvin

This lovely new pin commemorating your attendance at Continental Congress is only available for sale at Congress to those attending Congress. Cost has not yet been announced.



Units Overseas Minute -Susan Harvin

The Units Overseas Committee Facebook Group is transitioning to the Daughters Online Community. The Facebook page will no longer be accepting friend requests or posting new content.

DAR Flag Minute - Susan Harvin

An order form for Flags that have been flown over Continental Hall are available on line. These flags are accompanied by a certificate and are ordered thru the DAR store by the 1st or the month prior to the day to be flown. Flags may be ordered in honor or memory of groups or individuals.

Publicity Minute -Susan Harvin

Falls of the Rappahannock Chapter should have an article in the Virginia View which is scheduled to be published at the end of March.

Falls of the Rappahannock Chapter is scheduled to appear in the Chapter Minutes in the next Daughters Newsletter which is included in the mailing to DAR Daughters with a subscription to the DAR Magazine.

18th Century Tea and other Items

*The
Rappahannock Colonial Heritage Society
invites you to an 18th century Tea!*

Saturday, June 7, 2025, 1:00-3:00

*St. George's Episcopal Church
905 Princess Anne St., Fredericksburg, VA 22401*

Join our costumed hostesses for afternoon tea and entertainment!

\$25.00 per person

Make a reservation with Bettie at bbrezee14@gmail.com.

*Prepayment is required and must be
received by May 31, 2025.*



**TWO LIGHTS
FOR TOMORROW**

Two Lights for Tomorrow is a nationwide initiative to commence the celebration of the 250th birthday of the United States of America.

The famous ride of Paul Revere occurred overnight on April 18 – 19, 1775.

Two Lights for Tomorrow uses the imagery of that shining light as a unifying call to action today for our fellow citizens.

Everyone can participate!

All you have to do is display two lights in your home or business.



APRIL 18, 2025
TWOLIGHTSFORTOMORROW.ORG

DAR Museum Happenings

Virtual Tuesday Talk— Man Against the Machine: The Life of Tennessee Cabinetmaker Lewis Buckner, 1856-1924

Tuesday, June 10 at Noon

Lewis Buckner is considered one of Tennessee's premier cabinetmakers of the late 19th century. He lived at the foothills of the Smoky Mountains during a time in which both his craft and his rural community faced the rise of industrialization. Against these odds, this Black craftsman made a name for himself using his elaborate designs and fine craftsmanship. Speaker: Annabeth Dooley, Independent Scholar, Nashville, Tennessee. This event is taking place online only. The speaker will not be present at the DAR Museum.



Dresser by Lewis Buckner, 1889, Courtesy of the Tennessee State Museum.

Virtual Tuesday Talk— The Wilson Potters from Slavery to Reconstruction

Tuesday, July 8 at Noon

This talk tells the story of Hiram, James, and Wallace Wilson—Black potters who produced stoneware vessels near Seguin, Texas from the mid-to-late nineteenth century. When they arrived in Texas in 1856, they were enslaved and forced to learn the difficult art of ceramic production. The Wilsons soon threw pots, churns, and jugs into Edgefield-style vessels. After Emancipation, they launched their own successful H. Wilson & Company Pottery, where they innovated different glazing and throwing techniques.

The potters were not only entrepreneurs, but community-builders who founded the freedom colony of Capote and were active in grassroots religious and educational causes. Through both an overview of their history and a deep look at individual vessels, I show that these objects speak to the Wilson potters' ingenuity and survival from slavery, through Reconstruction, and beyond. Speaker: Ashley Williams, PhD Candidate in Art History, Columbia University. This event is taking place online only. The speaker will not be present at the DAR Museum.

STATE Conference 2025



Service To America

Remember to add your Service to America Hours each month

There will be four opportunities to feed our homeless neighbors in 2025. The first opportunity will be on Tuesday, April 29.

We implemented SignUpGenius for the last Homeless Community Meal, and it worked out very well. Here is the link to see what is needed for food or actual volunteering serving:

<https://signup.com/go/kPxwsUT>

The host site location is the Fredericksburg Masonic Lodge, 803 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22401 (enter through the Hanover Street side door). Arrive at 4 p.m. to set up; the meal is served at 5 p.m., and then clean-up starts at 6:30 p.m.

Carrie Morton Combs



Do you have an idea for Service in Seconds that our Chapter could participate in? Please send those ideas to our Regent.

SERVICE to AMERICA!

Our Chapter hours donated total as of April 10, 2025

Chapter goal is :2,250

517.75

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!

If you don't want to (or can't) enter your service hours, please send them to one of the officers and we will do it for you! Emails for officers are on the front page of the newsletter.

Dates to Remember

May 8—Chapter Meeting

May 17—RRRC Meeting

May 31 - State Regent Tea—Fawn Lake CC

June 25 – June 29, 2025 Continental Congress

June 27- Virginia Luncheon

July 18-19 Summer Summit Short Pump VA

Aug 2—District IX Annual Meeting—Fawn Lake CC

What to bring to the Meeting

Your Self!	Plastic Bags
Coupons	Coke Caps
Stamps for our Chaplain	Get Well/Birthday Cards
Aluminum Tabs	Donations for the Piggy Banks

Members Courses

The DAR Leadership Training Committee is proud to be the home for the Member Training Courses. The courses provide an opportunity for members to learn more about DAR and how to become active and engaged participants in DAR at all levels — chapter, state, and national. The courses have been designed to fit into anyone’s busy schedule of work, family, and play, through mostly online self-directed learning. Currently, the following courses are available:

- **Members Course** – Explore the many aspects of DAR and what it means to be a Daughter.
- **Committee Leaders Course** – Learn what it takes to be a more effective committee leader, from the chapter level all the way up to national chair.
- **New Horizons Course** – Build confidence and leadership skills as an aspiring or current DAR leader.

2024-2025 Programs

FALLS OF THE RAPPAHANNOCK 2024-2025 PROGRAM CALENDAR



Thursday, September 12, 7 pm
Mary Washington House, tentative
1200 Charles St. Fredericksburg
Program: Historic Dress

Thursday, October 10, 7 pm
7820 General Wright Dr.
Program: Lafayette in Fredericksburg
Please arrive no later than 6:45 pm. Gates are locked at 7 pm.

Thursday, November 14, 7 pm
Place TBD
Program: Women Veteran's: We Are Not Invisible

Thursday, December 12, 7 pm
8 Twinleaf Drive, Stafford
Virginia C.A.R. State President's Project

Thursday, January 9, 7 pm
12 Kinross Drive, Stafford
Units Overseas

Thursday, February 13, 7 pm
ZOOM
DAR Leadership Training

Thursday, March 13, 7 pm
Wild Birds Unlimited
1937 Carl D. Silver Pkwy., Fredericksburg
Wildlife Conservation with
Pollinator Gardens

Thursday, April 10, 7 pm
Ebenezer United Methodist Church
161 Embrey Mill Road, Stafford
Awards Recognition and Election of Officers

Thursday, May 8, 7 pm
Ebenezer United Methodist Church
161 Embrey Mill Road, Stafford
The Nuts & Bolts of Writing a Family History

Thursday, June 12, 7 pm
Place TBD
Installation of 2024-2025 Chapter Officers